

**JANET REED**  
**Harrison Oldfield0607 R6551**  
**22 August 2006**

***RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS***

**OBJECTIVES**

- Extend the Harrison and/or Oldfield lines.

**RESULTS**

- Conducted an area search for the christening of William Harrison but found no William, son of Robert. A William, son of Joshua, was christened in Prestbury, Cheshire in 1817.
- Conducted an area search for the christening of Mary Wheeldon but found no Mary, daughter of Samuel Wheeldon. Did find two other Mary Wheeldon christenings in or near Youlgreave, which was listed as her birthplace in census records.
- Found that John Oldfield married Mary Duffield 2 January 1820 in Prestbury.
- Found additional siblings for Emma Oldfield (children of John Oldfield and Mary Duffield).
- Found possible parentage of John Oldfield.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Search Cheshire marriage indexes for any other marriages of William Harrison to Mary Wheeldon (CD-ROM nos. 1097 and 2945).
2. Look into the possibility of searching Memorial Inscriptions for the Macclesfield area for William and Mary Harrison.
3. Search christenings of Sutton by Macclesfield, Cheshire from 1836–1844 for Oldfield. Also search registers of St. Michael, Macclesfield from Jan–Oct 1836, Jan–May 1843, all 1845 for Oldfield.
4. Search christenings of Holbrook, Derbyshire from 1799 to 1803 for Mary Duffield.

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***RESEARCH REPORT***

The objective of this research session was to extend the Harrison and Oldfield lines.

**Harrison/Wheeldon**

We first focused on extending the lines of William Harrison and his wife, Mary Wheeldon. As discussed in our previous report, we know William Harrison was born 8 February 1841 in Macclesfield, Cheshire, England, son of William Harrison, a silk weaver, and Mary Wheeldon. Since we had not yet found the family in the 1841 census, we searched for them in the newly available country-wide index and found the following record (document #1):

1841 census: William Harrison household, Georges Street, East Macclesfield, Prestbury, Cheshire, England

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Born in County</u>
William Harrison	25	S W J	Y
William Harrison	6 mos		Y
Mary Harrison	25		Y
Eliza Harrison	5		Y

It is likely this entry is ancestral, although we do not yet know the identity of Eliza Harrison, born about 1836.

As discussed previously, the only marriage of a William Harrison to a Mary Wheeldon took place in Manchester Cathedral 20 September 1840. This record stated William was the son of Robert Harrison, stone cutter, and Mary was the daughter of

Samuel Wheeldon, also a stone cutter. Both William and Mary were living within a few miles of Manchester at the time of their marriage. That same day, an Elizabeth Wheeldon was also married in Manchester (document #2):

20 September 1840, Cathedral, Manchester, Lancashire

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Condition</u>	<u>Occ</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Father</u>	<u>Father Occ</u>
John Coakley	full	Bachelor	Labourer	Denton	John Coakley	Joiner
Elisabeth Wheeldon	full	Spinster		Denton	Samuel Wheeldon	Coalminer

The next week, another Wheeldon was married in Manchester {document #3):

28 September 1840, Cathedral, Manchester, Lancashire

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Condition</u>	<u>Occ</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Father</u>	<u>Father Occ</u>
Joseph Wheeldon	full	Bachelor	Coalminer	Denton	Samuel Wheeldon	Coalminer
Sarah Harrop	full	Spinster		Denton	William Harrop	Hatter

The marriage of Joseph Wheeldon was witnessed by an Isaac Wheeldon. Denton is 7.7 miles from Salford, Mary's place of residence at marriage. All three (Mary, Elisabeth, and Joseph) listed Samuel Wheeldon as their father, but Mary said he was a stone cutter rather than a coalminer. Could they be siblings nonetheless? We sought to find Elisabeth and Joseph in census records and in the *International Genealogical Index* but found nothing conclusive (document #4-6).

We conducted an area search for the christening of William Harrison, who according to census records was born 1817 in Macclesfield, Cheshire, and who was likely the son of Robert Harrison, a stone cutter. Christening records from 1815 to 1820 were searched in parishes within five miles of Macclesfield (document #7-9):

Adlington  
 Bosley  
 Capesthorne  
 Gawsworth  
 Macclesfield, Christchurch  
 Macclesfield Forest

Macclesfield, St. Michael  
 Marton  
 Pott Shrigley  
 Prestbury  
 Rainow (Bishop's Transcripts)  
 Rainow with Saltersford  
 Rainow Holy Trinity (index)  
 Saltersford  
 Siddington

We found no christening for William, son of Robert Harrison, in any of these parishes. We did, however, find the following in Prestbury (document #9):

Chr 21 September 1817 Prestbury: William son of Joshua and Hannah Harrison of Adlington, husbandman

This entry cannot be ancestral if we have indeed found the ancestral marriage of William, which states his father was Robert. Searching for Robert Harrison, we found only one possibility in census records (document #10):

1841 census: Cornhills, Bollington, Prestbury, Cheshire

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Born in County</u>
Robert Harrison	80	Farmer	N
Martha Harrison	85		Y
John Swann	25	M S	Y
Benjamin Millward	15	M S	Y

Robert and Martha would have been in their fifties when the ancestral William was born if they are his parents; however, Bollington is near Macclesfield.

We also performed an area search for Mary Wheeldon. Christenings from 1815 to 1820 were searched in the following parishes, which are within five miles of Youlgreave, Mary's birthplace according to census records (document #11-12):

Ashford  
 Bakewell

Beeley  
Edensor  
Elton  
Monyash  
Sheldon/Harrington  
Winster  
Youlgreave

We did not find the christening of a Mary, daughter of Samuel, but did find the following (document #12):

Chr 29 October 1815 Youlgreave: Mary daughter of Thomas and Esther Wheeldon,  
Youlgreave, Blacksmith  
Chr 15 February 1820 Bakewell: Mary daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Wheeldon of  
Bakewell, Labourer

We searched *Boyd's Marriage Index* for marriages of Samuel Wheeldons in Derbyshire and found (document #13a-b):

Marr 1805 Ilkeston: Wheelden, Sam & Sarah Hunt [20.7 miles]  
Marr 1806 Derby St. Alk: Whieldon, Sam & Sarah Blood [8.1 miles]  
Marr 1798 Derby St. Wer: Wheildon, Sam & Reb Blood [8.1 miles from Youlgreave]

None of these entries are great possibilities for the marriage of the ancestral Mary's father.

In the future, we should search Cheshire marriage indexes just in case we missed another marriage for William Harrison and Mary Wheeldon (CD-ROM nos. 1097 and 2945).

## **Oldfield**

Our focus next turned to learning more about John Oldfield, father of Emma Oldfield. We searched a Cheshire marriage index and found the following (document #14):

Marr 2 January 1820 Prestbury: Oldfield, John, silk worker & Duffield, Mary, spinster

We obtained this couple's original marriage record (document #15):

Marr 2 January 1820 Prestbury: John Oldfield of Macclesfield of this Parish Silk worker and Mary Duffield of Macclesfield of this Parish Spinster, Banns. Witnesses: Joseph Reddish, Jonathan Millet

We also searched St. Michael, Macclesfield records and found (document #8a-b, 16-18):

Chr 14 May 1820: Ann daughter of John and Mary Oldfield, Rainow, cordwainer  
Chr 24 February 1822: Lucy daughter of John and Mary Oldfield, Hurdsfield, Silkman  
Chr 25 December 1824: George son of John and Maria Oldfield, Sutton, cotton spinner  
Chr 2 June 1826: Hannah daughter of John and Maria Oldfield, Hurdsfield, Miner  
Chr 4 October 1829: James son of John and Mary Oldfield, Hurdsfield, cordwainer  
Chr 9 October 1833: David son of John and Maria Oldfield, Macclesfield, cotton spinner  
Chr 4 October 1835: John son of John and Mary Oldfield of Hurdsfield, weaver

As discussed previously, John was listed on the marriage certificate of Emma as a shoemaker. A cordwainer was a type of shoemaker. It appears that all of the above children belong to the same couple and that Ann, christened 14 May 1820, was the same Ann with whom we found the ancestral Emma in 1861. Thus it appears we have found many additional siblings for the ancestral Emma Oldfield. We searched St. Michael, Macclesfield christenings 1815-1824, June 1826, 1828-1829, 1831-1835, Nov 1836 – Dec 1842, June 1843 – Dec 1844 but found no additional children for John and Mary/Maria (a continuous search was not performed because going through records for this parish is very time-consuming). Since Emma was supposedly born 10 June 1843 in Macclesfield, it is likely the couple began christening their children in a different parish after 1835, but we could search the gaps we left in the future in case Emma's known birth date is incorrect.

Knowing John and Mary/Maria had a son christened in 1833 helped us find the correct couple in the 1841 census (document #19):

1841 census: Cow Lane, Sutton by Macclesfield, Cheshire, England

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Born in County</u>
John Oldfield	35	Cotton Spinner	Y
Maria Oldfield	35	Maker up of Twist	N
David Oldfield	8		Y

The family was also in Sutton in 1851 (document #20):

1851 census: West St., Sutton by Macclesfield, Cheshire, England

<u>No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Rel</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
122	John Oldfield	Head	Mar	45	Lab	Cheshire, Hurdsfield
	Maria Oldfield	Wife	Mar	50		Derbyshire, Holbrooke
	David Oldfield	Son	U	18	Silk Dyer	Cheshire, Sutton

We found them again in 1861 (document #21a-b):

1861 census, 2 West Street, Sutton, Cheshire, England

<u>No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Rel</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
94	John Oldfield	Head	Mar	57	Gardener	Cheshire Macclesfield
	Maria Oldfield	Wife	Mar	62	Housekeeper	Derbyshire
	Louisa Talbot	Lodger	Mar	36	Soft Silk Piecer	

We searched Sutton christening records from 1831 to 1835 but found no children for John and Mary/Maria therein (document #16). We could search additional years in the future.

From the 1851 and 1861 censuses, we know John Oldfield was likely born between 1804 and 1806 in Hurdsfield (thus likely christened in Macclesfield since Hurdsfield did not begin keeping its own records until 1839) and Mary/Maria Duffield was born between 1799 and 1801 in Holbrook, Derbyshire.

In the future, we should continue to seek Emma's christening record in order to obtain proof that she belongs with this couple; however, through circumstantial evidence it appears very likely we have found the correct couple.

Research next turned to finding parentage for John and Mary/Maria. We searched the *International Genealogical Index* for John Oldfield and found the following christenings, all of which took place in St. Michael, Macclesfield (document #22-28):

Chr 3 January 1787: John son of Thos Oldfield and Betty  
Chr 19 February 1792: John son of Thos Oldfield and Betty [buried 28 October 1792]  
Chr 11 Sep 1793: John son of Francis Oldfield and Ellin, born 1790 [buried 10 March 1796]  
Chr 7 October 1800: John son of Benjn. Oldfield and Ann  
Chr 26 August 1804: John son of Geo Oldfield and Alice  
Chr 1 May 1808: John son of Rowbotham Oldfield and Sarah  
Chr 30 April 1809: John son of Mary Oldfield

We searched burials from 1792 to 1816 and found the burials noted above (document #29). Noting John's approximate year of birth and naming patterns, it appears most likely his christening was the one which took place in 1804. We looked up this original christening and found the following (document #16):

Chr 26 August 1804: John son of George and Alice Oldfield of Hurdsfield

Since the 1851 census stated John was born in Hurdsfield it appears even more likely this christening is correct. However, in the future, we should also look up the 1808 and 1809 christenings in case they mention whether John was older than an infant when christened.

We found reference to the following Oldfield probate records which could be searched in the future, especially those involving George Oldfield (document #31):

Mary Oldfield	Macclesfield		1803
George Oldfield the elder	Sale	Blacksmith	1823
John Oldfield	Macclesfield	Whitesmith	1828
Thomas Oldfield	Hurdsfield	Collier	1831
Betty Oldfield	Bollington	Widow	1853
George Oldfield	Macclesfield	Coal Proprietor	1855
George Oldfield	Macclesfield		1855

Prospects for continuing to extend the Oldfield line in the future look very promising.

We know from census records that Mary Duffield was born between 1799 and 1801 in Holbrook, Derbyshire. Christening records for the time period have not been extracted for Holbrook and are thus not found in the *International Genealogical Index*. In the future, we should search the records of this parish for Mary Duffield.

In summary, during this session we sought to find the parents of William Harrison and of Mary Wheeldon but were unsuccessful. In the future, research should return to their marriage to determine whether there was any other marriage of a William Harrison to a Mary Wheeldon. We have been very successful in learning more about the John Oldfield family and have found his likely parentage.

It is a pleasure to assist you in researching and documenting your family history. We look forward to continuing research according to your instructions.

JMT

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