

**JANET REED**  
**OldfieldDuffield0701 R6551**  
**29 January 2007**

***RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS***

**OBJECTIVES**

- Extend the ancestry of Emma Oldfield.

**RESULTS**

- Found the correct children for John Oldfield and Mary Duffield.
- Found marriages for many of the children of John Oldfield and Mary Duffield, which gave us more information on John.
- Mary Duffield was buried in Hurdsfield, Cheshire, England in 1847.
- It appears after Mary's death, John's children were scattered to various locations and thus appear in several different households in the 1851 census.
- We were unable to find John Oldfield in census records and were also unable to find his burial. We currently do not know his year of birth and have found more than one possibility for his christening and parentage.
- Likely extended the Duffield line two generations.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Continue to search for John Oldfield in census and burial records.
2. Through correspondence, search Rainow overseer's accounts and bastardy bonds for Mary Duffield, daughter of Hannah Duffield, between 1799 and 1805.
3. Continue to extend the Duffield line.

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***RESEARCH REPORT***

The objective of this research session was to extend the ancestry of Emma Oldfield. We focused research on both her paternal Oldfield and maternal Duffield lines.

**Oldfield**

During previous research we had found reference to the marriage of John Oldfield and Mary Duffield in 1820 in Prestbury, Cheshire. We obtained the original marriage entry, which reads as follows (document #1):

Marriage 2 January 1820: John Oldfield of Macclesfield of this Parish, Silk worker, and Mary Duffield [signed with mark] of Macclesfield of this Parish, Spinster, were married in this Church by Banns.  
Witnesses: Joseph Reddish, Jonathan Millet

As discussed in our previous report, after searching St. Michael, Macclesfield christenings we found children for John and Mary from 1820 to 1835. We have not yet found Emma's christening but we know she was the sister of Ann, daughter of John and Mary, who was christened in 1820. We continued our search for Emma's christening during this session by searching Sutton christenings, 1836-1844, St. Michael, Macclesfield christenings, Jan-Oct 1836, Jan-May 1843, 1845 (thus now covering St. Michael, Macclesfield christenings 1815-1824, June 1826, 1828-1829, 1831-1845), Bollington christenings, 1834-1844, and Hurdsfield christenings, 1839-1844 (Hurdsfield began keeping its own christening records in 1839) (document #2a-b). Emma's christening record was not found nor were any additional children found for John and Mary Oldfield. As mentioned previously, we have not found a good match for Emma's birth

record in civil registration indexes either. We searched 1841 through 1844 registrations and again found no good possibilities (document #2a). Some possible entries are:

Dec Qtr 1843	Oldfield, Emma	Halifax District	About 34 miles from Macclesfield
June Qtr 1844	Oldfield, Emma	Leeds District	About 45 miles from Macclesfield
Sep Qtr 1844	Oldfield, Emma	Manchester Dist.	About 16 miles from Macclesfield

As we will discuss later in this report, we found that many of Emma's siblings married in the Macclesfield area, which indicates that the family remained in Cheshire and did not migrate north to any of the districts listed above. The Manchester birth was found through the *International Genealogical Index*—this Emma was christened in August of 1844 and was the daughter of Thomas and Sarah—so she cannot be ancestral. We also searched for the ancestral Emma's burial in Sutton by Macclesfield, which is where she was last found in census records, but no record was found. Since her husband, William, was in East Macclesfield in 1891 she may have been buried in that area. This search could continue in the future.

As discussed in our previous report, we found a John and Mary Oldfield with son, David, in Sutton by Macclesfield in the 1841, 1851, and 1861 censuses and believed these could be the parents of Emma. However, knowing John and Mary Oldfield had many additional children who should have been with the family in 1841, we decided to look at the family more closely. We know a son, John, was christened in 1835 and was enumerated with his sister, Mrs. Ann Johnson, in 1851. John was later found with a wife, Louisa, in subsequent census records. We searched for the couple's marriage through civil registration indexes and found reference to a marriage which took place in June Quarter 1864 in Macclesfield District (document #3). Since most of the marriages in this district took place in Prestbury during that time, we searched for their marriage in that parish and found it (document #5):

Marriage 9 May 1864: John Oldfield, age 28, Bachelor, Weaver, Res: Macclesfield, Father: **John Oldfield, Shoemaker**; Louisa Smith [signed with a mark], age 22, Spinster, Res: Macclesfield, Father: William Smith, Pointsman, banns. Witnesses: **William Johnson, Ann Johnson** [signed with a mark]

Since John's age matches and the witnesses at John's marriage were his sister, Ann, and her husband, it is extremely likely this marriage is ancestral. John named his father as John Oldfield, a shoemaker.

We also searched for marriages for other known children of John and Mary—Lucy, George, Hannah, James, and David—but found no good matches for them at this time. Knowing only David was listed with John and Mary in the 1841 census, we searched for these other children in census records. As mentioned in a previous report, we had found a possible family in Hurdsfield in 1841, although the father was not with them at the time. The family is as follows (document #6):

Locality	1841, Pleasant St., Hurdsfield, Macclesfield, Cheshire, England (indexed at Ancestry.com as Bollington)				
Name	Age & Sex		Occupation	Born in County	Foreign Birth
Mary Oldfield		40		Y	
Ann Oldfield		20	Silk peicer [sic]	Y	
Lucy Oldfield		15	Silk peicer [sic]	Y	
Joseph Oldfield	15		Stone Mason	Y	
Mary Oldfield		10	Silk peicer [sic]	Y	
John Oldfield	5			Y	
Sarah Oldfield		3		Y	

Children in this census match with the christenings we found for Ann, Lucy, and John. The family was not found in 1851.

Since we have additional Oldfields from this census—Joseph, Mary, and Sarah—we decided to also look for their marriages to see who was named as their father. Joseph’s marriage was found in Prestbury and states the following (document #7):

Marriage 22 October 1843: Joseph Olfield [signed with mark], Age: Minor, Bachelor, Stone Mason, Macclesfield, Father: **John Oldfield, Weaver**; Rose Hannah Martin Meadowcroft [signed with mark], Age: Minor, Spinster, Macclesfield, Father: Benjamin Meadowcroft, Silk twister, banns. Witnesses: James Marsden, Anne Martin Meadowcroft

Since the Joseph of the 1841 census was age 15-19 at that time, it is very possible he could have been of minor age (under 21) in 1843. His occupation matches in both records. We could not find Joseph and Rose/Hannah in census records at this time.

We also found Sarah Oldfield's marriage in Prestbury (document #9):

Marriage 5 October 1858: Thomas Rowbotham, age 22, Bachelor, Weaver, Macclesfield, Father: George Rowbotham, Weaver; Sarah Oldfield [signed with mark], age 21, Spinster, Macclesfield, Father: **John Oldfield, Shoemaker**, banns. Witnesses: Nicholas Burns, Ann Barnes [signed with mark]

Thomas and Sarah were found in census records from 1861 through 1901 and these indicated Sarah was born in Hurdsfield or Macclesfield (document #10-14). It is interesting that we found no civil registration entry for Sarah's birth just like the situation for Emma's; however, since civil registration began in 1837 it is possible Sarah missed the cut-off, in addition to the fact that it was not well enforced in the early years.

Through the above marriage records we believe the father of the family found in 1841 was indeed the ancestral John, since children in that census named him as their father in their marriage records.

Knowing Sarah was the daughter of John Oldfield (and thus Emma's sister) makes the following 1851 census entry appear even more likely to be ancestral (document #17):

Locality	1851, King Edward St., West Macclesfield, Cheshire, England					
Name	Rel	Age & Sex		Status	Occupation	Birthplace
Martha Tunnicliff	Head		29	U	Silk Winder	Staffordshire
Hannah Smith	Lodger		24	U	Silk Winder	Cheshire, Macclesfield
Sarah Oldfield	Lodger		13		Silk Winder	Cheshire, Macclesfield
Emma Olfield [sic]	Lodger		8		Scholar	Cheshire, Macclesfield

Through research thus far we know that Emma's older siblings and their mother were in Hurdsfield when the 1841 census was taken. By 1851, the family appeared to be split up, with brother, John, staying with his sister, Ann Johnson, and with Sarah and Emma staying in West Macclesfield together. John's occupations have been listed as the following:

1820: Silkman  
1820: Cordwainer (shoemaker)  
1822: Silkman  
1829: Cordwainer  
1835: Weaver (probably of silk)  
Sep 1843: Weaver  
Oct 1843: Weaver  
1858: Shoemaker  
1862: Shoemaker  
1864: Shoemaker

Since John was never recorded as “deceased” on any of the marriage records we have found for his children, it is likely he did not die before 1864 (the last marriage found for someone in the family). However, we searched burial and cemetery records for both him and Mary in an effort to determine what happened to the family as well as to determine John’s age at death and thus his approximate year of birth.

We first searched a database of Cheshire memorial inscriptions (cemetery records) and found two possible grave entries (document #18a-b):

Death June 1849 St. Paul, Macclesfield: John Oldfield, no age. Also in grave: James Oldfield, d. June 1849,  
no age  
Death Jan 1884 Holy Trinity, Rainow: John Oldfield, age 79. Also in grave: Mary Oldfield, d. Dec 1887,  
age 62

We found additional information on the Rainow burials as follows (document #19a-b):

#### Burials

3 February 1884: Oldfield, John, Macclesfield, age 79  
14 December 1887: Oldfield, Mary, Macclesfield, age 61

#### Monumental Inscriptions

In memory of John Oldfield of Crompton Road, Macclesfield who died Jan 30 1884 aged 79 years Also  
Mary wife of the above who died Dec 11 1887 aged 62 years

John’s 1849 burial was not found in St. Paul, Macclesfield, so it must have been recorded elsewhere. It appears that the Rainow burials are not ancestral due to Mary’s age, unless she was a second wife and not the one found in 1841. It is likely this John is the younger one who fathered David. We also searched burials of Rainow from 1841 to 1852 but found no entries

relating to the immediate family (document #19a, 20a-c). A search of Hurdsfield memorial inscriptions yielded a few Oldfield entries (document #19b). One entry of interest is as follows:

Hurdsfield Holy Trinity Memorial Inscriptions: In loving memory of Mary Oldfield who died March 10 1881 age 79 years

It appeared this entry could be ancestral, although also listed on this inscription was a Caleb Oldfield, born 1834/35, who was likely Mary's son. We next searched Hurdsfield burials from December 1839 to 1862 and found two entries of interest (document #19a, 21):

Burial 25 April 1847: Mary Oldfield of Cuckstool Pit Hill, Macclesfield, 46 years  
Burial 26 August 1850: Lucy Oldfield of Chester Road, 28 years

Both ages at death fit very well with what we know of Mary and her daughter, Lucy. If the ancestral Mary died in 1847, it appears her husband, John, lived until at least 1864 but was unable to care for their children alone and so by 1851 they were all living elsewhere. Since John may have remained at either Cuckstool Pit Hill or Chester Road in 1851, we searched these streets on microfilm for the 1851 census but did not find him, although there were a few other Oldfields found (document #22).

We sought to find John Oldfield in the *Estate Death Duty Registers* and searched these lists from 1864-1871 and from 1884-1885 but did not find him. Only one Oldfield from the area was found (document #23):

Court of Probate, 1884: Oldfield, Mary Ann of Rainow. Executor: Jno. Oldfield, no. 1836, Chester Court, will, folio 481

This will was not searched during this session. To follow up with other references to wills found in previous research sessions, we searched the wills of John Oldfield (administration) of Macclesfield, 1826/1828, Thomas Oldfield of Hurdsfield, 1830/1831, Betty Oldfield of Bollington, 1852/1853, and George Oldfield of Sale, Chester, 1823, but obtained no information about the ancestral family (document #24).

The best possibility found for John in the 1851 census was the following (document #25):

Locality	1851, Jordan Gate, Macclesfield, Cheshire, England					
Name	Rel	Age & Sex		Status	Occupation	Birthplace
John Oldfield	Head	63		Widr	Silk Twister	Chester, Macclesfield

This John was likely the one christened 3 January 1787 at St. Michael, Macclesfield, son of Thomas Oldfield and Betty. According to other christenings found in our last research session, the other likely possibility for the ancestral John's christening took place 7 October 1800 at St. Michael, Macclesfield, son of Benjamin Oldfield and Ann. We searched Cheshire marriage indexes to find other John Oldfield marriages and found the following (document #26-27c):

21 February 1808 Prestbury: John Oldfield, twister of Macclesfield, and Hannah Walker, of Macclesfield  
 2 January 1820 Prestbury: John Oldfield, silk worker, and Mary Duffield, spinster, both of Macclesfield  
 6 January 1822 Stockport (10.6 miles from Macclesfield): John Oldfield, spinner, and Hannah Shrigley  
 7 December 1823 Astbury (8.6 miles from Macc.): John Oldfield, cotton spinner, and Maria Townsend

We also searched Prestbury parish registers for marriages 1818-1824 and 1831-Oct 1833 but found no additional possibilities (document #28). Since someone born in 1787 would be 21 in 1808 we thought it likely the 1808 marriage pertained to the John Oldfield discussed above. Sure enough, we found that he and a wife, Hannah, were living at Jordan Gate, Macclesfield in 1851, so the above 1841 census entry is not ancestral (document #29). Thus we do not know where the ancestral John was in 1851 (or in 1841 when his wife was still living). Since the John christened in 1787 likely married someone else, it appeared most likely the ancestral John was the son of Benjamin and Ann Oldfield, christened 7 October 1800 (he was likely not buried as a child). Searching the *International Genealogical Index* and Cheshire marriage indexes, we found that Benjamin and Ann christened children at St. Michael, Macclesfield from October 1789 to 1811 and married in Prestbury in April 1789 (document #27a, 30). Benjamin was from Harthill when he married (document #27a). The couple's youngest child, Lucy, was likely married in 1830 and could be the namesake of the ancestral John's daughter, Lucy, who was christened in 1822 (document #27b). However, we also found an additional possibility for John's christening through searching St. Michael, Macclesfield registers (document #31):

Chr 27 August 1797: John son of Francis and Elin Oldfeild, Hurdsfield

This christening may very well be ancestral because it fits better with an 1820 marriage and the parents, unlike Benjamin and Ann who were from Macclesfield (document #31), were from Hurdsfield, where many of John's children were later born. It appears there was more than one Francis Oldfield christening children at this time and we have not yet found all of the children of Francis and Ellen (document #31). Additional work is required before the Oldfield line can be extended.

## **Duffield**

Our efforts next turned to extending the ancestry of Mary Duffield, wife of John Oldfield. According to research thus far, Mary was born 1800/1801 in Cheshire and was living in Macclesfield when she married in 1820. The most likely christening found for her is the following (document #32):

Chr 29 March 1801 Rainow: Mary daughter of Hannah Duffield, Rainow

This Mary was likely not buried as a child. No possible christening for Mary was found at St. Michael, Macclesfield. The only reservation we have with the christening above is that if Mary was christened soon after her birth she would have been only eighteen at the time of her marriage and should have been listed as a minor but was not. In the future, we should have overseer's accounts and bastardy bonds searched for Rainow in order to determine roughly when Mary was born.

Since Hannah Duffield was single when Mary was christened we searched for a marriage for her some time after Mary's christening. We found only one possibility (document #33-34):

Marriage 12 June 1810 Prestbury: Samuel Oakes [signed with a mark] of Rainow, cotton spinner, and Hannah Duffield [signed with a mark] of the same place, spinster, banns.  
Witnesses: Saml Haywood, John Hale

Whether this marriage pertains to Mary's mother is currently unknown. Samuel and Hannah christened children Samuel and Nancy in 1812 and 1819, respectively, at St. Michael, Macclesfield (document #35). Through a search of memorial inscriptions, we found that Samuel Jr. could have been born as early as 1809, so perhaps Hannah generally christened her children late and such was the case with Mary (document #36).

We next searched for Mary Duffield marriages in the Prestbury area in order to determine whether there were other Marys contemporary with the ancestress. We indeed found two Prestbury marriages during the same time period (document #33):

2 January 1820 Prestbury: Mary Duffield, spinster, and John Oldfield, silk worker, both of Macclesfield  
25 November 1821 Prestbury: Mary Duffield, spinster of Rainow, and William Taylor Leah, silk worker of Hurdsfield

We felt that the Mary married in 1821 could definitely be a contender for the 1801 Rainow christening. However, we located this Mary in the 1841 and 1851 censuses and found that she was born 1804/1805 and was thus probably the Mary christened in Macclesfield in 1804 (document #37-38).

It appears that the ancestral christening of Mary Duffield was indeed the one which took place in Rainow in 1801. We also found a likely match for the christening of Mary's mother, Hannah (document #40):

Chr 25 August 1782 Rainow: Hannah Dau of Joseph & Hannah Duffield

Rainow burials are not available for this time period. In the future, we suggest searching Duffield wills for additional insight into the family.

In summary, this session has been successful in learning a great deal more about Emma Oldfield's siblings and parents. We have also been successful in extending her maternal ancestry. Extending the line of John Oldfield requires additional research, since there are at least two current possibilities for his christening and parentage. It has been a pleasure to assist you in

researching your family history and we look forward to continuing research according to your instructions.

JMT

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