

## John Woodside of Northern Ireland and Australia

John Woodside (1826-1918) was born in Ballyclare in County Antrim, Northern Ireland in 1826 and christened on 14 July 1826.

John Woodside came out to Australia arriving in Melbourne in December 1854 on the *Lincluden Castle* presumably at the suggestion of James Woodside. It is thought he owned the British Hotel at 108 Queen Street, Melbourne in about 1856.

His sister's husband, Daniel McIntosh died on 14 May 1856 at Queens Street, Melbourne (probably at the British Hotel) in his presence. The Victorian Electoral Roll of 1856 records John Woodside as a Licensed Victualler at the British Hotel at 108 Queens Street, Melbourne. Therefore, it appears that his sister possibly assisted him in running the hotel while John probably owned it.

### In May 1857, the Melbourne Age reported

*"John Woodside, British Hotel, Queen Street, was advised to enlarge his premises, or to remove to other; more suitable. License granted."*

### In September 1857, the Melbourne Age reported

*"William McCulloch was charged with stealing a dog, the property of John Woodside. The prosecutor indicated that two men entered his store at the rear of the British Hotel, Queen Street, on Sunday afternoon, quietly unloosed the dog, a small black terrier, and went off with it. The prosecutor saw them, pursued them, and caught the prisoner with the dog buttoned up under his coat. They pretended they had done it for a bet, but the prosecutor gave the man who had got the dog into the hands of the police. The other man, whose name is Giles Howarth, and who had been taking a very active part in the defense of the prisoner, and, by the evidence of the policeman, had also shown a strong desire to get the prisoner away when arrested, was now, by order of the Bench, placed in the dock by the aid of his companion, evidently very much to his surprise. Mr. Woodside said he was in the company of the other man the whole time, had known some days before where the dog was, and had been it tied up, and he believed him to be equally guilty. The prisoner Howarth said they had merely taken the dog up by way of a joke, and how could they have any intention of stealing it, when the other man had merely buttoned it up under his coat? Mr. Woodside, being recalled, said the prisoners were both together, paced up and down several times to see if anyone was looking, and then the first prisoner (McCulloch) buttoned the dog under his coat. The constable (O'Shea Massy, 20 C) proved that both were sober. The Bench found the prisoners guilty, and fined them both £6, or one month's imprisonment"*

### In March 1858, the Melbourne Age reported

*"British Hotel, Queen Street. Mr. Read supported the application, Mr. F. Stephen opposed, on the ground that the present occupant, a Mr. Woodside, wished to remove the license to another house. The applicant being sworn, said that he was himself in possession of the house, and Mr. Woodside was merely there on sufferance."*

It appears that John followed his older brother in moving from Melbourne to north-east Victoria in the early 1860s. On 28 October 1862, John Woodside took up land called the *Kiewa Run* (Station) in the Red Bluff/Sandy Creek area, a location about 45 km north-east of Happy Valley. It is thought the run was on the east bank of the Kiewa or Little river, east of Tangambalanga and north of Gundowring and Kergunya. This run was first occupied in about 1838 or 1839. The *Kiewa Run* was part of the subdivision of the *Tangambalanga Run*, which totalled about 20,000 acres and on 28 October 1862, was split into two runs, the Kiewa Run and the Tangambalanga Run. The Kiewa Run had an area of 13,000 acres in 1870 with a carrying capacity of 780 head of cattle.

## RENTS OF RUNS FOR THE SECOND HALF OF 1875.

IT is hereby notified to the Occupants of Runs that the half-yearly rents due in respect of the same on the 31st December 1875, for the six months ending on that date, and which are set forth in the following Schedule, will be receivable at the Treasury, Melbourne, or at any of the several offices of the Receivers and Paymasters in the country districts, on or before the above date; and it is further notified that, if default be made in the due payment of the same, the penalties provided under the 83rd section of *The Land Act 1869* will be enforced.

DUNCAN GILLIES,

Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey.

Lands and Survey Office,  
Melbourne, 28th December 1875.

NOTE: In the cases marked thus \* applications have been made under the 78th section of *The Land Act 1869* for reduction of the rent. In every case (except where the runs have been purchased under *The Land Act 1869*) £1 license fee for 1876 is included in the amount charged. If any transfer fee remains unpaid at the Treasury it must be added.

## RENTS OF RUNS—continued.

Run.	Occupier.	Amount payable for half-year ending 31st Dec. 1875.
		£ s. d.
<b>BEECHWORTH DISTRICT—continued.</b>		
32. Gundowring ...	Chas. Henry Barber ...	47 17 6
33. Hurdle Creek ...	Richd. Robt. Woolcott and David Evans	274 7 4
34. Jallandoon ...	John Cox ...	94 15 0
35. Jerrimul ...	Sydney Grandison Watson	26 0 0
36. Jingellac ...	Bank of Australasia ...	88 10 0
37. Kangaroo Ground	London Chartered Bank	151 0 0
38. Kergunia ...	Francis Henry Shadforth	26 0 0
39. Keelangie ...	Wm. Jones Singleton ...	27 11 3
40. Kiawa ...	John Woodside ...	47 17 6
41. Lilliput ...	James Gulifer ...	11 13 9
42. Lockhart's Creek	W. Sloane and R. J. Jeffray	65 10 0
43. Mount York ...	Fredk. Roper ...	8 10 0

In later records, the property was called *Kiewa Station* and then *Red Bluff*. Sandy Creek today a locality about 45km north-east of Happy Valley. John Woodside was recorded as owning the land in 1879. Based on the valuation of Arthur Molyneux Woodside's property of about £3/3/0 per acre this would have meant the land was worth in the order of £40,000 or \$5.5m in 2008 values.

John's father, **James Woodside** died in Ireland on 16 May 1866, about 14 years after he had arrived in the Colony of Victoria. He had not seen his father or mother since leaving Ireland.

John Woodside built the homestead *Woodland* at Kiewa in about 1870, possibly just before he was married.



John Woodside circa 1870 from a photograph in the Burke Museum  
(Photograph courtesy of Burke Museum)

In about 2008 James Woodside of *Boree Plain* met a lady at the Junea Roundhouse who owned the homestead *Woodland*. John and Barbara Woodside visited the property in November 2008 and the house is unoccupied. It is on a hill just above the junction between the Lockhart Creek Road and the Sandy Creek Road as shown on the map following. The house was unoccupied and the garden very overgrown.

The house was a fairly modest house of red brick construction, but with nice views across the valley to the North. See pictures following.



*Location of John Woodside house at Kiewa*

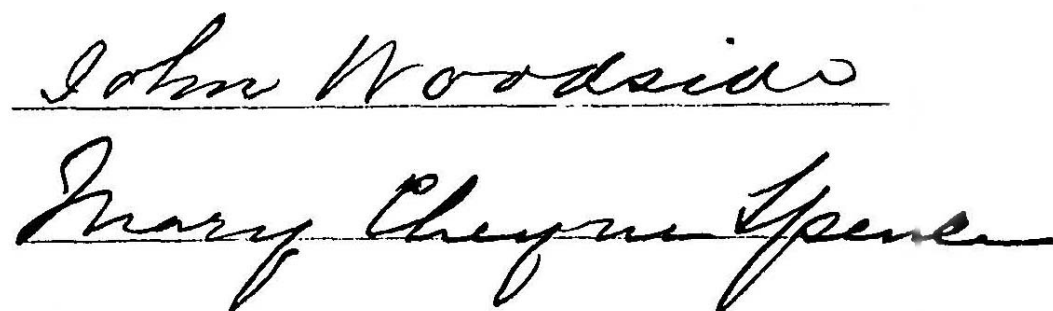


*The homestead, Woodland owned by John Woodside in 2008*

John Woodside was married late in life at the age of 45 years to Mary Cheyne Spence, a barrister's daughter from Tangambalanga in north-east Victoria on 27 March 1872. Mary was aged about 29 years.

**The Melbourne age of 6 April 1872 reported the following marriage**

*WOODSIDE-SPENCE, -On the 26th ult., at the residence of Thomas Mitchell, Esq., Tangambalanga, by the Rev. James Greig, John Woodside of Kiewa Station, to Mary Cheyne, second daughter of the late R. N. Spence, Esq., of Windhouse, Shetland Isles.*

The image shows two handwritten signatures in cursive script. The first signature, 'John Woodside', is written on a single horizontal line. The second signature, 'Mary Cheyne Spence', is written on two horizontal lines. Both signatures are dark and appear to be ink on a light background.

*The signatures of John Woodside and Mary Cheyne Spence at their wedding*

John's mother, Catherine Woodside, died in Ireland on 12 July 1876 about four years after he was married.

John and Mary had one son, Robert Neville Woodside, born in 1873 and one daughter, Mary Cheyne Spence Woodside, born in 1878.

John's wife, Mary Cheyne Woodside died of septicaemia on 8 July 1878, three months after the birth of their daughter, aged about 35 years. They had only been married for five years. Mary Cheyne Woodside was buried in the St Kilda Cemetery and subsequently her son Robert Neville Woodside and husband John Woodside were buried with her.

**Thursday 11 July 1878, the Melbourne Age reported the death and funeral arrangements as follows.**

*WOODSIDE. - On the 9th inst., at Kiewa Station, Mary Cheyne, wife of John Woodside, and sister of Mrs. Henry Greer, Williams-road, Toorak.*

*THE Friends of HENRY GREER, Esq., Williams road, Toorak, are respectfully informed that the remains of the late Mrs. Woodside, Kiewa Station, will be interred in St. Kilda Cemetery. The funeral is appointed to leave Spencer-street railway station at 2 o'clock p.m. THIS DAY.*

John appears to own a block of land in Clarendon Street in Emerald Hill (South Melbourne), which he auctioned in December 1878.

John must have had assistance in bringing up the children and educating them in Sandy Creek.

John Woodside was appointed a justice of the peace in March 1888.

John Woodside appears to have been a successful grazier while living at the Kiewa Station (later known as Red Bluff) at Sandy Creek. He appears to be mainly running cattle as he sold cattle in the Melbourne markets. He sold his property on 20 April 1904 to William Turner, at the age of 78 years. It appears he moved to Myrtleford.

**In 26 July 1904, the Melbourne Age reported**



*MYRTLEFORD-Two dwelling houses in the main street were destroyed by fire on Sunday. Mr McQuilton, the owner of the smaller place had just gone to Gerraty's hotel for dinner when the outbreak occurred in the kitchen where a fire had been left burning. It quickly spread to the next dwelling, a two storied wooden house owned by Mr John Woodside which was unoccupied except for a few hours every Saturday. Mr McQuilton's house was uninsured but that owned by Mr Woodside was insured for £200*

John Woodside then appears to have moved from Myrtleford to Kiewa in Warragul Road in Oakleigh, Melbourne. His daughter lived with him at Oakleigh before she married in 1911. He then moved to Wattletree Road in Malvern.

He was known as John Woodside Snr probably because of his nephew also known as **John Woodside**.

His son Robert Neville Woodside was educated in Melbourne and became a doctor. In 1908, Robert Neville Woodside died while driving to attend a patient, only four years after John Woodside moved to Melbourne.

His daughter Mary Cheyne Spence Woodside married John Kinder Archer in 1911. John Woodside apparently did not approve of the marriage because Kinder was a bank manager. John Woodside may have led a lonely life in Melbourne with his only son dead, and only one daughter and a son-in-law of whom he did not approve.

John Woodside died in Melbourne on 29 March 1918 of old age. He is buried with his wife and son in the St Kilda Cemetery in Melbourne.

#### **The Age of 1 April 1918 reported his death as follows**

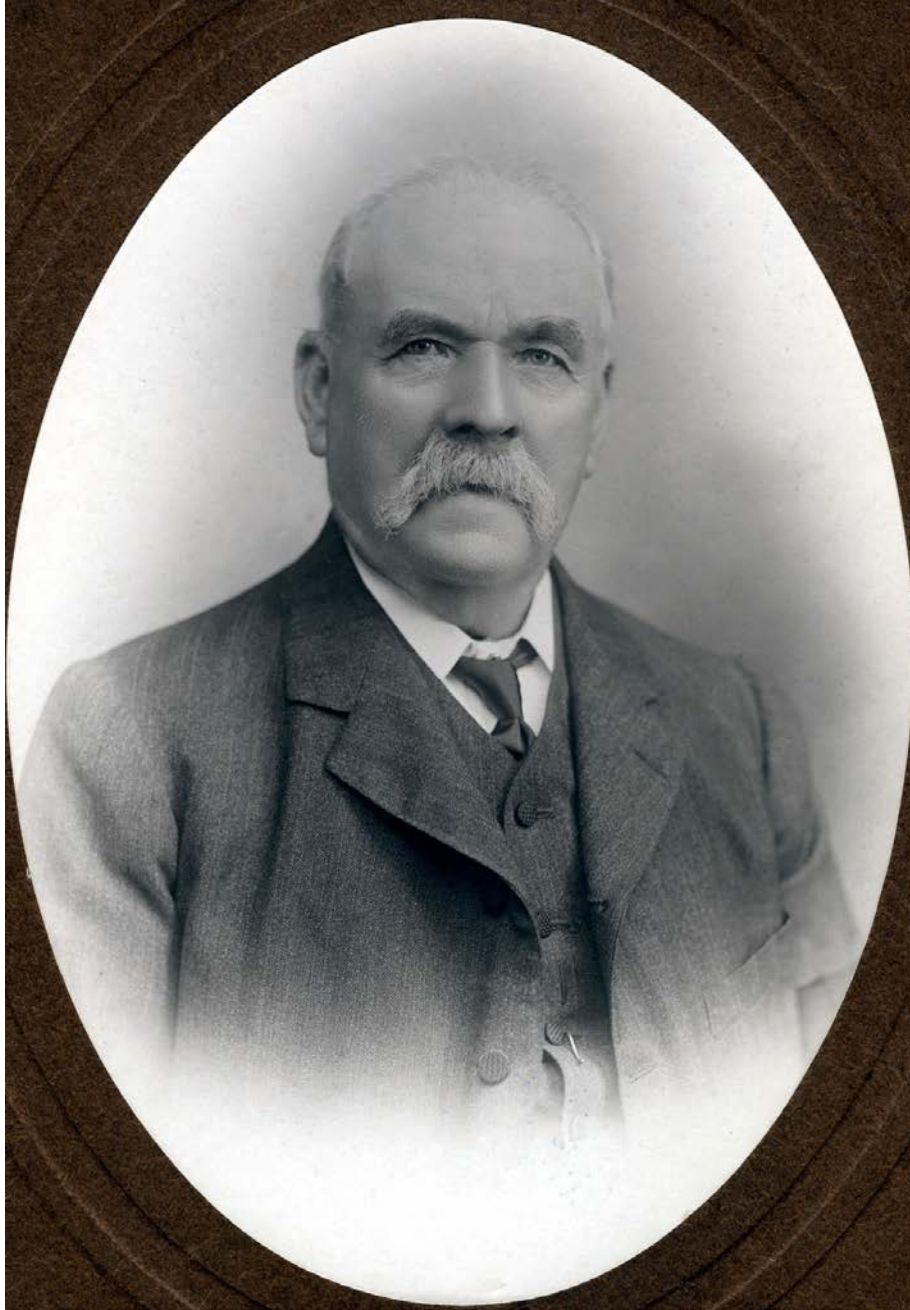
*WOODSIDE.- On the 29th March, at the residence of his son-in-law, J. Kinder Archer, Kiewa, Wattletree road, Malvern, John Woodside, late of Kiewa, Huon. (A colonist of 64 years.)*

He left an estate of £10,146/4/- (about \$0.6m in 2008 values) as approved for probate. In his will, he left his money to his daughter's children with the interest from the monies to his daughter Mary during her lifetime. As Mary and Kinder Archer had no children, John Woodside's will could not be settled until Mary died in 1971. John Woodside's will then was unable to be fulfilled, as it was intestate. It appears that John Woodside's will was some source of friction within the family, as it was known this would occur. It was only the persistent efforts of Ethel Ingram, a daughter of Catherine Woodside, that led to the distribution of some of the monies from the estate in the early 1970s.

A sum of money of about \$17,845 was available from John Woodside's estate for distribution to the various surviving members of Woodside family. The ravages of inflation and the estate being invested in interest-bearing government bonds had largely reduced the estate to a nominal amount after 1918. The executor company used the 1917 distribution from David Woodside's Irish settlement to distribute funds to the members of the Woodside families in Australia.

The estate of my grandfather **John Woodside** (1857-1934) then received the magnificent sum of \$1,487.22. This sum in turn was distributed in accordance with his will and passed to his younger son, my father, **John Woodside** (1906-1968) who by then was also dead so it again was distributed in accordance with his will. Probate should have been paid by two estates but because of the small sum involved, the time delay, and the fact that Consolidated Revenue would get the bulk of the estate, these legal requirements were conveniently ignored.

My mother as executor of my father's estate then distributed it equally to herself and the four boys and we all got about \$300 each, a real windfall! Unfortunately, the bulk of John Woodside's estate could not be distributed and the remaining money reverted to the Crown. Perhaps the greatest distribution was the fact that if it were not for the executor company contacting my mother in the early 1970s, none of this would have been known.



*John Woodside circa 1905*  
(Photograph courtesy of John Woodside)



Grave of Mary Cheyne (Spence) Woodside, Robert Neville Woodside and John Woodside in the St Kilda Cemetery November 2006  
 (Photograph courtesy of John Woodside)



**Robert Neville Woodside** (1873-1908) was the oldest son of John Woodside and Mary Cheyne (Spence) Woodside and was born on 26 April 1873 at Kiewa Station near Sandy Creek in north-eastern Victoria. He died in Melbourne on 29 August 1908 aged only 35 years.

His mother had died in 1878 following the birth of his sister, when he was about five years old.

He probably moved from Sandy Creek to Melbourne in the late 1880s, presumably for his education. Nothing is known of his early life in either Sandy Creek or Melbourne.

He was educated at Scotch College at East Melbourne from 9 October 1886 and left at the end of 1890. In 1889, he sat for a pass for his matriculation at the University of Melbourne in Latin, Algebra, Geometry, English, History, French, Arithmetic, Geography and Elementary Physics<sup>1</sup> and passed in all subjects except French, which he failed.

He attended Melbourne University from 1891 to 1896 and was a resident of Ormond College, Melbourne University, with the conferring of the degrees of M.B. (Bachelor of Medicine) from the University of Melbourne on 6 November 1896 and a B.S (Bachelor of Surgery) on 20 March 1897. He gained a H2 honour in February 1897.<sup>2</sup>

The *Blue Book*<sup>3</sup> lists Woodside RN in 1891 as a resident of Ormond College. Ormond College had been formally opened in 1881. It has a very distinguished record of men and women who have passed through it including Australian governor-generals, Victorian governors, Rhodes scholars, Nobel Prize winners, academics and professional people. Ormond College would have been a men's college when Neville attended.



*Ormond College circa 1930 viewed looking south-west*

(Photograph courtesy of John Woodside)

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<sup>1</sup> History of Scotch College Melbourne 1851-1925, 1926.

<sup>2</sup> This information on his scholastic career was sourced from the University of Melbourne's archives by Ormond College on my behalf.

<sup>3</sup> The Blue Book 1950 was published by the Ormond College Students Club for the edification of freshmen.



Neville was a witness at the marriage of William (Willie) Woodside, his cousin, to Annie Grant Hay on 29 April 1896 at Kew in Melbourne. He was 23 years old and in his final year of medicine.

The Wodonga and Towong Sentinel of 13 November 1896 stated that the degree of bachelor of medicine was on Friday, at the Melbourne University, conferred on Robert Neville Woodside. The recipient of the degree is a son of Mr J. Woodside, J.P., of Huon Lane.

In 1889, he appears to have moved to Adelaide where he was employed at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. At a meeting of the Medical Board, held on September 7 1889, he was registered legally qualified medical practitioners of South Australia:— Dr. Robert Neville, Woodside, BM, Melb., 1886, BS. Melb., 1897

***The Advertiser of 9 of October 1889 reported the following***  
CHLORODYNE POISONING.

*At the Adelaide Hospital on Saturday morning, the city coroner, Dr. Ramsay Smith, held an inquest on the body of Benjamin Franklin Langford, .....*

*Robert Neville, Woodside, resident medical officer at the Adelaide Hospital, said deceased had been admitted to the hospital on Thursday evening last in an unconscious state. He lived only about two hours and did not recover consciousness.*

Neville subsequently spent two years in London under Sir Thomas Cheyne, a near relative (possibly his uncle), studying medicine or surgery, but we have no details of this.

On 29 August 1908 while driving to attend a patient in Melbourne, his gig overturned and he sustained injuries which proved fatal. He was 35 years old when he died.

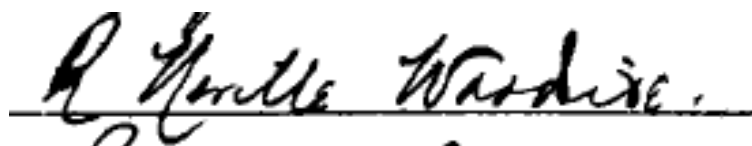
**The Age of Monday, 31 August 1908, reported his death as follows**

WOODSIDE. —On the 20th August, 1908, R. N. Woodside, M.B., B.S., of Pyramid Hill. (Result of an accident.)

WOODSIDE. —On the 29th August, 1908, at private hospital, R. N. Woodside, only son of John Woodside, of "Kiwa," Warragul-road, Oakleigh.

The paper of the time reports, “The deceased medico was remembered by many people in Tallangatta, where he has acted as locum tenens occasionally for the resident doctors. His sister, Nurse Mary Cheyne Woodside was also well-known hereabouts”.<sup>4</sup>

Robert Neville Woodside was buried in the St Kilda Cemetery on 30 August 1908 alongside his mother.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R. Neville Woodside", written in dark ink on a light background. The signature is written over a horizontal line.

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<sup>4</sup> Upper Murray & Mitta Herald, Thursday, September 10, 1908



***To the Memory of Dr R Neville Woodside as a mark of esteem from his Pyramid Hill Friends***  
(Photograph courtesy of John Woodside)

***The Argus of 24th of October 1908, had the following advertisement.***

*NOTICE to CREDITORS. - All creditors or other persons having any claims against the estate of ROBERT NEVILLE WOODSIDE, late of Pyramid Hill, in Victoria, medical practitioner, deceased, intestate, who died the 20th day of August, 1908 are hereby required to SEND PARTICULARS in writing of any CLAIMS to the administrator, John Woodside, care of the under- signed, on or before the. 23rd day of November, 1908, after which latter date the administrator will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased amongst the persons entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which he shall then have had notice. Dated The 22nd day of October, 1908. HICKFORD and PALMER, 418 Chancery Lane Melbourne, proctors for the administrator.*

From this Robert Neville Woodside had not made a will and his father was the administrator of his estate.

**Mary Cheyne Spence Woodside** (1878-1971) was the only daughter of John Woodside and was born on 26 June 1878 at Kiewa Station, Sandy Creek in the north-east of Victoria. Her mother died in 1878 following her birth.

She probably moved from Sandy Creek to Melbourne in the late 1880s to be educated. Nothing is known of her early life in either Sandy Creek or Melbourne. It appears she trained as a nurse.

She married John Kinder Archer, son of John Kinder Archer and Eliza Jones Palmer on Tuesday 4 April 1911 at the Presbyterian Church at Oakleigh in Melbourne at the age of 32 years. The reception was at her father's house, *Kiewa* at Warragul Road, Oakleigh and her niece Meta Woodside attended. As noted previously, her father John Woodside apparently did not approve of the marriage as Kinder Archer, possibly because he was a bank manager and was considerably older than Mary.



*Mary (Woodside) Archer circa 1910*  
(Photograph courtesy of Glenis Kirk)

The Archers went overseas to Europe for several months, possibly for their honeymoon, and Duncan Macdonald has a letter from Mary Archer to Barbara Woodside from Nuremberg in Germany.

As of 18 May 1920, the Archers were living at *The Waldorf*, Fitzroy Street in St Kilda.



She and Kinder built a house called *Kiewa* at Campbell Street at Barwon Heads in the early 1930s and she lived there for the rest of her life.

She died on 21 Aug 1971 at Barwon Heads at the age of 93 years. Mary Archer used to gamble on the racehorses every Saturday and loved playing cards.



*A later picture of Mary Archer*  
(Photograph courtesy of Duncan Macdonald))

The death of Mary Cheyne Spence (Woodside) Archer in 1971 with no issue, ended this branch of the Woodside family who had emigrated from Ireland and settled in Australia so many years before.

## **Descendant Indented Chart - John Woodside of Ireland**

**John Woodside** (258), b. Jul 1826 at Ireland, d. 29 Mar 1918 at Vic, Australia

+**Mary Cheyne Spence** (259), b. 1843 at Shetland Isles, Scotland, m. 26 Mar 1872 at Vic, Australia, d. 8 Jul 1878 at Bogong, Vic, Australia

└─ **Robert Neville Woodside** (261), b. 26 Apr 1873 at Vic, Australia, d. 29 Aug 1908 at Vic, Australia

└─ **Mary Cheyne Spence Woodside** (260), b. 26 Jun 1878 at Vic, Australia, d. 21 Aug 1971 at Vic, Australia

+**John Kinder Archer** (277), b. 1868 at Tas, Australia, m. 4 Apr 1911 at Vic, Australia