

Welcome to:

## Gard's Grassroots Genealogy: MEDDAUGHS

Help me pull the weeds!



This is my main Meddaugh page. **ONLY UNDERLINED LINKS ARE ACTIVE** From here find:

[Early Meddaugh History](#)

My Haycock family

[Abram Meddaugh notes](#)

[Thomas Haycock notes](#)

[Elizabeth Sly's biography](#)

The Johnston Family

[George Washington Meddaugh notes](#)

The Woodard Family

[Jared Meddaugh notes](#)

Some unauthorized speculation, don't look

[Wm. Alexander Meddaugh's note on the family](#)

[O.E.Meddaugh notes](#)

**N.B.:** Most of the above are .pdf files to allow consistent printing; please use your browser's back button to return.

The Meddaugh family in Lake County came from Canada about 1885. I have traced the family back to the Ulster County area of New York State in the late 1700s but cannot make connection with the numerous Middaugh there. The original Meddaugh family were the Middags from Holland. They came to New York in the mid-1600s. Middaugh & Middagh are alternate spellings of the same name. The name was originally Middag, Dutch for mid-day (hey, Netscape's spell-checker agrees!), and the spelling Middach or Middagh seems to be the best phonetic one. Perhaps the present spelling was used to distance some families during the wars with the British; I tend to use Middaugh for Loyalists and Meddaugh for later.

Much information on this part of the family is available in the books "Grandmas and Grandpas of Yesteryear" by Catherine Meddaugh Deming and "Families of Ulster County, Volume II: The Meddaugh Family History" compiled by Jack K Middaugh as well as the links below.

Below is a quick history of what I call "the West Coast Meddaughs" who came to California from Oxford County Ontario. More will appear later when I get it together.

My G'Father, Oscar E. Meddaugh, was b. 6 Feb. 1863 in Tillsonberg, Oxford Co., Ontario. He came to Lake Co. Calif. about 1885. He married Mary Emmaline Haycock b.18 Sep 1869 in Tillsonburg, Oxford Co., Ontario, Canada.

His father was George Washington [G.W.] Meddaugh b. 14 Nov. 1836 in Blenheim Twp., Oxford Co., Ontario. G.W. m. Menila Woodard b. 3 May 1834 in Denmark, Watertown, New York.

G.W.'s father was Abram Meddaugh b.3 Oct. 1812 in Waterloo, Ontario [I'm not sure now if it was near Ft. Erie or present-day Waterloo, see below]. He m. Elizabeth Sly b. 21 Mar 1817 possibly in St. David's, Ontario altho Lockport N.Y. is also a possibility.

Abram's parentage is in question. Family chronicles have him as a son of James and Miss Sarah Cream; Wm. Alexander Meddaugh has him adopted "thus he was thrown into the world." And we have no proof of who James and Sarah were. However, speculation follows:

### Who is James??

Who is James? Well, we don't know but there are clues. Lets start with one of the chronicles [notes in the hand of G. W. [George Washington] Meddaugh probably from info from his father [more chronicles later in this note]:

I have written Wilard and Joal asking them to see Father and learn more perticulars I have no answer from them yet.... I will try and explain as far as I understand, let us take a walk along the Susqueanna River in New York State hear lives a man named Meddaugh he came hear from Holland Jermany he has family of 7 children. I cant give you date of time when he came neither the names of the children but one 4 of these children as sons came to Canada ))))) Now we will follow those 4 boys they came into Beverley Township as near as I can understand. At Queanston they separate and go their own way along the canall near St Catherans ))))) I now follow one of those 4 boys his name is James he married a miss Sarah Cream they were married in York State. I cant say whether they lived there after marage or not ))))) we now run up this family and see their names. the first is a Hannah. Polly. Daniel. James. Annia. Cornelious. Abram. Chathern now Oscar this will come to Fathers name in the family mentioned the name Abram is my Father and your GrandFather. he was born in 1812 and when a boy his mother died this shoved him out in the world he remembers but little about his fore fathers. if you want more persise I will go over and get what I can from him. GW & Menila.

First, some of these chronicles came about when G.W.'s son, O.E., became interested in his

background in the late 1890s after moving to California. Willard and Joel are sons of Abram's second wife; all were living near Yale, Mi. at that time.

Holland Germany only makes sense to me [and those I've asked] as Pennsylvania Dutch who were from German speaking areas of Europe. The Susquehanna river runs from Pennsylvania into New York thru an area known to have been inhabited by both Pennsylvania Dutch and Meddaughs. Another chronicle says family came before the war of 1812. Queenston Canada is on the Niagara river at Lake Ontario; there were no canals there at the time. Beverly Township was in existence since 1792. James Meddaugh was listed on the 1816 Beverley Twp. Assessment list, James Midaw was on the 1842 Beverley census<sup>1</sup>. Our elder James was on the 1851 Blenheim Twp. Ontario [ok, Upper Canada] census, taken in 1852, as b. ~1773 and living with son younger James. These James' in Beverly would seem to be our Elder James.

Meddaughs from Ulster Co. New York per the late Jack K. Middaugh<sup>2</sup> had drifted down the Delaware River into the Port Jervis area as well as New Jersey and Pennsylvania; some were in Bedford County including Towanda on the Susquehanna River. The Susquehanna River forms the western boundary of Lancaster County in Southern Pennsylvania so the above may mean something.

Altho Menila Woodard Meddaugh had Abram b. in Waterloo, Ft. Erie near Buffalo, N.Y., his wedding banns to his second wife had him from Waterloo Village, Upper Canada, a community founded by Mennonites from the Pennsylvania Dutch Mennonite community possibly from Lancaster County [ok, I'm simplifying]. Rootsweb's Waterloo Twp. page<sup>3</sup> says:

**Before 1830, the majority of settlers in Waterloo Township were Mennonites from Lancaster and Montgomery Counties in Pennsylvania.**

I haven't been able to identify elder James for certain but there is one candidate suggested by Jack K. Middaugh. He is Jacobus, b. 1769, son of Elder Jacobus who was hung as a British sympathizer [or agent] during the "Marbletown Disaffection"<sup>4</sup>. Younger Jacobus [often Jacob or James in English] was not heard of again; could he have gone to relatives around Bedford County [on the Susquehanna River]? The elder Jacobus lived in Marbletown Township, N.Y. Jack K. lists for him a family of 6, Henry, Jacob and John, Martha and Molly, and Mally [I don't know]; could there have been one more? One area in Marbletown is Lomontville; it is my opinion that the 1851 census entry for Elder James, which certainly seems to be Vermont [were there ever Middaughs in Vermont?] was voiced as "Lomont".

Elder Jacobus had siblings whose lives have been traced by Jack K. Middaugh and others. One was Neeltje who m. Henrich Bosch; another was Stephen who, with Neeltje and Heinrich and families, fled to Montreal for asylum; Neeltje and Heinrich died on the trip; Stephen with his and Neeltje's children settled in Flamboro Twp, Wentworth Co. near Beverly Twp. Stephen Middaugh's family were associated

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<sup>1</sup> Niagara Peninsula Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society; [1991]: 1816-1819 Assessments, 1825&1842 Census Beverly Township Gore District; St. Catharines, Ontario,

<sup>2</sup> Middaugh, Jack K. [1995]: *The Middaugh Family History*; Hurley, N.Y., Ulster Co. Genealogical Society

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~onwaterl/townships/waterloo-township.htm>

<sup>4</sup> Google will uncover much on the Marbletown Disaffection.

with Sipes, Babcock and others who were early in Beverly. A brother, or cousin, Jan Middaugh, moved to Dundas Co., U.C. with a Sipes; the Meddaughs in Beverly and Blenheim Twps were close with the Sipes who moved to Canada from Pennsylvania and younger James is said to have m. Catherine Sipes. Several surnames from Jack K.'s book show up in early Beverly Twp.

Both Wm. Alexander Meddaugh [above link] and Younger James commented that the family was from Pennsylvania.

Sarah Cream still a mystery and may remain so. On the record of 3 of her and James' children's weddings, parents were listed as "James and Sarah". G.W.'s statement about Abram: "**when a boy his mother died this shoved him out in the world he remembers but little about his fore fathers**" and Wm. Alexander's comment about Abram taking the name Meddaugh makes it sound like James might have later married a widow or have taken in her son. Jack K.'s book has, of course, several references to Meddaughs but also many references to the name Krum, Krom or Crum [crippled I believe] which could have been the source of Cream. An aside, on the 1783 victualing lists from Niagara<sup>5</sup> there is a James Middaugh and a reference to Sarah Crumb in the U.S. who was a daughter of William Crum; the men were members of Butler's rangers. My understanding is this James d. in Niagara in 1839 and Sarah later m. John File and had a large family in Barton.

Altho other chronicles are ambiguous as to whether they refer to Abram's own family, the above states Meddaugh. Could elder James have come to Canada with Abram's family??

I have several instances of James, Abram and James living near and occasionally intermarrying with families from the Mennonite communities of Penn. and Waterloo area as well as the Ulster Co. N.Y. which imply something but prove little [yet!].

Notes [chronicles] from G.W. Meddaugh due, I believe, to O.E. Meddaugh's questions of G.W. in the 1890s:

This is from G.W.'s pink notebook and sounds like Abram's narrative. The Jacobus's were definitely Dutch [from the Netherlands].

**Fathers Relatives  
my Father is a Holander  
came to New York State  
along the Suskahanna River  
and 7 children. 4 boys came  
to Canaday just before the  
war of 1812. My Father name  
was James. he married  
a Miss Sarah Cream. they married  
in York State. they had 8  
children. Hannah, Polly,  
Daniel, James, Annia,  
Cornelius, Abram, Catherine  
Hannah mar E. Parks  
Polly R. Dines  
Daniel moved to Big Rappids I no  
nothing since  
James married miss C. Sipes  
Cornelus went to the massasippa River  
Boating  
Annia married John Miller. She is ded  
Abram married E Sly  
Chatheran marrried Norman Ingals**

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<sup>5</sup> The Ontario Register, Vol.1, 1968; edited and published by Thomas B. Wilson.

on a scrap of paper:

I will give you on this slip about  
Fathers Brothers and sisters  
Hannah married Ellis Parks  
Polly married R Dines  
Daniel moved to Big Rapids I know  
nothing since  
James married Miss C Sipes  
Carnelus went to the the Massassippi  
River boating. I know nothing since  
Annia married J Miller. She is ded  
Abram married Miss E Sly my father  
and mother  
Catherin ))))) Norman Ingals

a note on foolscap:

Fathers relatives  
the old man from Holland is Father  
Grand Father he settled along the  
Susquannah River 4 of this old mans  
boys came to Canada. one of witch  
was my Grand Father. the other 3 I  
cant say where they went. now I  
will take one of those 4 his name is  
James and is your Great Grand father  
and my Grandfather. this man I will  
write about he is my Grandfather.  
his name is James he married miss  
Sarah Cream Married in York State.  
Had a family of eight Children as  
follows. Hannah, Polly. Daniel.  
James Annie. Carnelus. Abram.  
Catheren. Hanna Married E Parks.  
Polly R dines. Daniel went to Bid  
rapids I no nothing since. James  
married Miss Sipes. Carnelus went to  
the Massippi River boating Anie  
married Hohn Miller. Abram E Sly.  
Cathern med N Engles.

Elder James' children will be expounded on in the section on Early Meddaugh History. Abram's descendants will be covered in his biography.

This page will be expanded when I find out more.

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7 children:        Jooris                Jacob

## Descendants of Abram MEDDAUGH

I like outlines as they help put things in perspective. Both the indent and the indices indicate how far the individuals are from Abram. I list about as far as my interests extend but check [back?] for links.

Abram MEDDAUGH (b.03 October 1812; d.1860 naaa, we now know better) We now know more about Abram. He shows up in Menila's list as being born in "Waterloo, Ft. Erie" just south of Niagra Falls. My biography of Abram Meddaugh linked to above, Early Meddaugh history also. Family records list Abram's death as 05Oct.1860 but why?? His obit from the Yale, Mi. paper is in his bio.

sp: Elizabeth SLY (b.21Mar.1817; m.06Dec.1835; d.05Oct.1866) We don't know enough about Elizabeth; She was said by Menila to have been b. in St. David's which is just above Niagara Falls. occasionally she is said to be from N.Y. In 1851, an Edward Sleigh is living with them; more about him and Eliz. in Abram's bio.

1. George Washington (Wash) MEDDAUGH (b.1836;d.1906) G.W. was primarily a farmer but worked as a carpenter and perhaps a wheelwright to bring in change. He moved to Lakeport about 1900 and lived with his son. His bio. Is linked to above.
  - sp: Manila WOODARD (b.1834;m.1862;d.1905) Link to Woodards is above.
  - a. Oscar Edson (O.E.) MEDDAUGH (b.1863;d.1927)
    - sp: Mary Emmaline HAYCOCK(b.1869;m.1886;d.1921)Haycocks are linked to above.
    - i. (Edwin) Stuart MEDDAUGH (b.1891;d.1951)
      - sp: Madaline PAGE (b.1891;m.1916;d.1969)
    - ii. (Ila) Jean MEDDAUGH (b.1893;d.1957)
    - iii. (George) Wallace MEDDAUGH (b.1898;d.1959)
      - Sp: Thelma Eleanore LARSON (b.1901;m.1926;d.1948)
    - iv. Oscar Edson "Bob" MEDDAUGH (b.1901;d.1982)
      - sp: Otha Leonora "Lee" STANLEY (b.1900;m.1929;d.1979) Stanleys are found here.
      - sp: Florence May FRENCH (m.1927); this is O.E.'s second wife, a daughter of Jared's.
  - b. Mary E. MEDDAUGH (b.1867;d.1878)
  - c. Emeline R. MEDDAUGH (b.1875;d.1878)
  - d. Alwilda MEDDAUGH (b.1872;d.1879) *the three daughters and perhaps a baby died in a diphtheria epidemic around Christmas, 1878.*
2. Jared K. MEDDAUGH (b.04Oct.1838) I have more info on Jared and his family here.
  - sp: Charlotte Grace WALKER (b.1847;m.1863;d.1907) more on Jared's page.
  - a. Laura Meddaugh (b.1867) m. Everett? Fetterly
  - b. Emory Meddaugh (b.1870 d. young?)
  - c. Florence Mae Meddaugh (b.15Jan.1872, d.1954) m. William H. French and later m. O.E. Meddaugh above. This is the line of Barbara Gage who supplied almost all of the information on this family.
  - d. Everett Meddaugh (b.28June1874) m. Annie Gould

- e. Ida Elna Meddaugh (b.21Sept.1875) m. Thomas Hillard Clark
  - f. Myrtle E. Meddaugh (b.7June1892) m. Clarence Smart, Joseph Amon
3. Mary Ann MEDDAUGH (b.1841; d.18 Feb. 1888 in Blenheim Twp., Oxford Co. These dates are suspect tho the d. is from cemetery records.)
  4. Sarah Jane MEDDAUGH (b.18 May 1843 in Blenheim Twp., Oxford Co. ;d.21 Nov 1868 in Sombra [on St. Clair River])
    - sp: Samuel BERFS (b.1840;m.1864) This is no doubt Sam BERSS;
  5. Henry William MEDDAUGH (b.1846;d.1848)
  6. Rebecca MEDDAUGH (b.2 Nov 1848; d.10 Feb 1896 in South Norwich, Oxford Co., Ontario, Canada)
    - sp: John C. SMART b.14 DEC 1845 in Dereham Twp., Brant County, Ontario
    - Married: 7 APR 1867 in Oxford County, Ontario as per Oxford County, Marriage Register 1856 - 1869, Volume 26, page 125
    - a. Mary Ann SMART b: 1868
    - b. Clarence SMART b: ABT. 1872 m. Myrtle E. Meddaugh above.
    - c. Bertha M. SMART b: 1873 in Ontario. I met her about 1948 at my folk's in Oakland. She worked in O.E.'s store as she was on the 1910 census living with O.E. & Mary as "clerk".
    - d. Edith SMART b: ABT. 1877
    - e. Lorne SMART b: 18 DEC 1883 in Ontario as per 1901 census
    - f. Elsie SMART
    - g. Velma SMART

the above from the pages of Elizabeth Archer of Barrie Ontario

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