

APPENDIX VIII  
THE KING FAMILY

THE KING FAMILY OF SCOTLAND

Archibald King was the maternal Grandfather of Kenneth Genn, father of David Genn, author of this work.

Archibald King was born in Scotland in late 1853 or early 1854. A Bible given to him by his friend, Robert James Muir in January 1865 discloses a reference in the back cover to "Carrick (Ayrshire) 7 March 1869", which may have been Archibald King's place of birth or schooling.

Archibald King met and married Mary Delmage in the late 1870's probably in Winnipeg. Their children were Grace Jane King, born, according to an entry in her bible in her mother's hand, 10 November 1880 in Winnipeg, and Archibald Arthur King, born 16 July 1887, also in Winnipeg.

The 1881 census for Winnipeg recorded Archibald King, age 27 born in Scotland, Presbyterian, of Scotch origin, and a printer by profession. His wife Mary D. King was recorded as age 26, born in Ontario, and of Irish origin. No children were recorded in the census for the King family. It is not yet determined where their daughter Grace Jane King, age about six months, was at the time of the census. A news clipping recorded the Winnipeg address of the King family as McDermott Street.

Archibald and Mary King and their children Grace and Archibald Arthur moved to Victoria in the early 1890's, where Archibald took employment as a compositor for the Victoria Daily Colonist. The following chronology was taken from various city directories for Victoria, giving the year, name, occupation and residence:

- 1892 - King, Archie; printer, Colonist; rms, 5 Princess
- 1893 - King, A.; printer, rms 4 Gordon St. (west side)
- 1894 - King, Archibald; compositor, Colonist
- 1895 - King, Archibald; comp. Colonist; res. 6 Douglas

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1897 - King, A.; printer; cor. Parry & Michigan Sts.

1898 - King, Archibald; compositor, Colonist; hl Perry

1899 - King, A.; Compositor, Prov.Pub.Co.; 1 Parry St.

Archibald King's picture appeared with the editorial staff of the Victoria Daily Times in the issue of 09 June 1905.

Archibald King eventually retired from the printing trade and operated a cigar stand on Broad Street in Victoria.

The city directory for 1918 records the following:

King, A.; prop. Kent Hotel Cigar Stand, 1111 Broad St.

Mary (Delmage) King died in Victoria, 03 May 1904 (age 48), and was buried at Ross Bay Cemetery (Block P, 100 W of I). Her husband, Archibald King died 06 July 1932 (age 78), and is also buried at Ross Bay Cemetery, sharing the same grave as his wife. His last residence was recorded as Chambers Street, Victoria.

Grace Jane King attended a school on Quebec Street in the James Bay area. To get to school she had to cross the lagoon, now the site of the Empress Hotel. A rowboat ferry was provided for the crossing. In her teen years, Grace sang in the choir of the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church located at the corner of Douglas and Broughton Streets.

Grace Jane King married Reginald Genn, 01 February 1905 at St. Barnabas Church, Victoria. They resided at 51 Princess Avenue, Victoria.

Archibald Arthur King followed a career at sea, his many voyages taking him to Alaska, England, Russia and Japan. He was one of the few survivors of the sinking of the SS. Clallam off Victoria, 08 January 1904. Some 54 lives were lost. The Ss. Clallam was a ferry steamer operating between Seattle and Victoria and Archie, age 16, was cabin boy.

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By 1927, Archibald Arthur King was resident of Port Alice, BC, and operator of the wireless station, which was, for the people of Port Alice, the only link with the outside world.

He married Skulfridd (Freda) Wilhelmina Davis. Freda was born near Fargo, North Dakota, 06 June 1892, daughter of a Norwegian immigrant who had changed his name from Davidson to Davis on being admitted at Ellis Island. Archie and Freda had one child, Archibald David King, born 25 August 1920.



**ARCHIBALD KING OPERATING THE WIRELESS  
STATION, PORT ALICE, BC**

A library card, no. A7135, issued by Victoria Public Library to A. A. King (Archibald Arthur King), shows his address as 420 St. Charles Street. This is the home of Reginald Genn, and Grace J. Genn, sister of A. A. King. The card was used on or about 31 August 1932. It would appear that Archibald Arthur King's tenure at Port Alice, 1927 to 1952 may not have been continuous. Alternately, his presence in Victoria may have been due to the death of his father on 06 July 1932.

Archibald Arthur King died in Port Alice, 15 May 1952, age

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64, last residence, 303 First Avenue, Port Alice, BC Freda King died at Oak Bay (Victoria, BC), September 1963.

Grace Jane Genn (King) died 11 October 1957 (age 76), and is buried at Royal Oak Burial Park (I-86-14). Her last Residence was 1269 Union Street, Victoria.

In 1964, Archibald David King married Nancy Jane Illsley (born, Watertown, N.Y., 13 March 1940). They live in Nepean, Ontario, near Ottawa. Their children are Christopher Harold King, born 04 February 1966 and Douglas David King, born 05 August 1968.

Revised: 15 November 2009.