

CALDWELL

Family File

The origin of the Lincoln County, KY Caldwell family is shrouded in mystery. Oral tradition tells that they came to KY from Ireland by way of VA. There is a Castle Caldwell in Northern Ireland, so this is a possibility. One point of confusion is that "Caldwell" is not a Celtic name, so it is unlikely that the family originated in Ireland. The name is clearly of Saxon origin meaning "by the cold well". In the early 1700's the English crown did grant large estates to English and Scottish families in Northern Ireland as a way of populating the area with Protestants. After several generations, these people considered themselves to be "Irish", however they were never considered Irish by the native, Catholic Irish. This is the beginnings of the strife in Northern Ireland between the "orange" (Protestant) and the "green"(Catholic) which is still in evidence today.

1st Generation

HUGH CALDWELL – d 1807 Garrard Co, KY

The first Caldwell we find in the area is a very shadowy character. He appears in Garrard Co on the tax lists. He seems to own several properties and most of the lots on Lancaster Square. His wife appears to be MARY "POLLY" (Birth name unknown) b ca 1774. During this time individuals christened or baptized "Mary" often went by the name of "Polly" but we can not be sure with the "Mary Caldwell" and "Polly Caldwell" we have found if we are dealing with the same person, or two different people.

JOSIAH CALDWELL – b ca 1774 - d 1836, Lincoln Co, KY

We have not yet been able to attach Josiah and Hugh to each other. It is possible they were brothers. Adding to the confusion, Josiah was also married to POLLY (Birth name unknown).

1. Eliza M. Caldwell b ca 1809 m Melton Jones
2. Nancy Caldwell b ca 1810 m Greer Jones
3. Phebe Caldwell b ca 1811 m William Duncan
 - a. Eliza C. Duncan b ca 1828
 - b. Ellin M. Duncan b ca 1831
 - c. Mary R. Duncan b ca 1836
 - d. Phebe A. Duncan b ca 1838
 - e. Gideon B. Duncan b bef 1846
 - f. Logan H. Duncan b bef 1846
4. David R. Caldwell b ca 1815 m Margaret Jones

2nd Generation

HUGH CALDWELL – b 28 Feb 1802, Garrard Co - d 6 Aug 1870, Lincoln Co

We are guessing this Hugh is the s/o the above Hugh only because of the name. He may also have had a sister named (what else) MARY b 1798. She appears to have married JESSE BARNETT b 1797 on 20 Oct 1820. Hugh married CHARITY BARNETT b 1799-d ca 1826 on the same day. Interestingly enough, one month later, 9 Nov 1820 a POLLY H. CALDWELL m EDDY BARNETT. This is possibly Hugh's widowed mother marrying his new father-in-law! Charity was the d/o EDDY BARNETT and JANE WOODSON. The Barnett and Caldwell families were very close as there are several marriages between these two families. Hugh seems to have lived on a farm which, today, is located on South Fishing Creek Rd. He is buried on this property in a family plot known as the Hugh Caldwell Family Cemetery. The farm passed out of Caldwell hands long ago. During the 1950's this was known as the Bates' Farm. The Barnett's seem to have lived at the next farm down the creek. This farm is now known as the Walter Caldwell Farm. It was owned by a Caldwell for over 100 years and is still owned by a Caldwell daughter. It is estimated from court records that Eddy Barnett held this farm from around 1790. The current owner is a descendant of Eddy's, making this farm in the possession of the same family for over 200 years! Hugh and Charity had the following children

1. Henry William Caldwell 1821-1892
2. Millie V. Caldwell b 1822
3. Charlotte C. Caldwell b 1823
4. Edward Barnett Caldwell b 1824

5. Levicey Jane Caldwell b 1825

Charity seems to have died ca 1826 and Hugh m MARY POLLY REYNOLDS b 1811. It appears that she was the older sister of Henry's wife Lusinda as they are both daughters of PERRY REYNOLDS and NANCY SINGLETON. So now Henry's father, Hugh, is also his brother-in-law. Hugh and Polly had the following children

1. Hugh Huffman b 1843
2. Susan Caldwell b 1846
3. Commodore Perry G. Caldwell b 1847
4. Sarah (Sally) Ann Caldwell b 1850
5. Ermine Caldwell b 1852
6. Cynthia Ann Caldwell 1856 -1925

3rd Generation

HENRY WILLIAM CALDWELL (Hugh, Hugh) b 8 May 1821- d 8 Jul 1892

Henry was a prominent member of the Waynesburg community. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge and served as its Worshipful Master for many years. Henry m 2 Feb 1844 LUSINDA REYNOLDS b 3 Mar 1822 – d 22 Nov 1907 the d/o Perry and Nancy Reynolds. He lived in Waynesburg. He and Lusinda are both buried in the Double Springs Baptist Church Cemetery.

1. Edward Barnett (E.B.) Caldwell 1844-1912
2. Charity Barnett Caldwell 1848-1894
3. George A. Caldwell b 1850
4. Daniel Webster Caldwell 1852-1927
5. Elizabeth Milley Caldwell 1855-1944
6. Henry Hardin (Henny) b 1858-1931
7. Susan Alice Caldwell b 1860-1943

MILLIE V. CALDWELL (Hugh, Hugh) b 1822 m Daniel Skidmore

CHARLOTTE C. CALDWELL (Hugh, Hugh) b 1823 m Eddy Barnett

EDWARD BARNETT CALDWELL (Hugh, Hugh) b 1824

This Edward, sometimes known as Edward Barnett, Sr served as the Sheriff of Lincoln Co during the dark days of the Civil War. His brother, Henry, would sometimes serve as his deputy. He m Elizabeth Myers

COMMODORE PERRY G. CALDWELL (Hugh, Hugh) b 1847

He m MARTHA A. (Birth name unk) Commodore appears to have lived on Hugh's farm on Fishing Creek as some of his children are buried in the family graveyard with Hugh

1. Lillie O. Caldwell 1871-1888
2. Felix Caldwell 1874-1882
3. Ida Caldwell b 1877
4. Infant daughter b/d 1881
5. Tully Barrett Caldwell 1889-1966

CYNTHIA ANN CALDWELL (Hugh, Hugh) b 26 Feb 1856 d 17 Dec 1925

OK, here's where it gets weird...Cynthia m DANIEL WEBSTER CALDWELL the s/o Henry Caldwell and Lusinda Reynolds. Since Daniel is the son of her half-brother Henry, that makes Cynthia the half-aunt of her husband Daniel. They built a large house next to the railroad tracks in Waynesburg. The house still stands today and is known as the Mason Caldwell House.

1. Matalvin Caldwell 1879-1899
2. Minnie Caldwell 1880-1915
3. Middleton Caldwell 1882-1908
4. Melvin Caldwell 1883-1967
5. Maude Caldwell 1884-1918
6. Mary Caldwell 1886-1963
7. Millie Caldwell 1888-1959
8. Mason Caldwell 1892-1943
9. Marion Caldwell 1896-1938

I know what you're thinking...somebody liked the /m/ sound !!

4th Generation

EDWARD BARNETT (E.B.) CALDWELL (Henry, Hugh, Hugh)

b 07 Dec 1844 d 01 Mar 1912

Edward continued his father's legacy as a very prominent member of the community. The tax lists are full of property owned by either Henry or E.B. including properties in Crab Orchard, Waynesburg, on Fishing Creek, Dix River, Buck Creek and many others. Edward also followed in his father's footsteps by becoming the Worshipful Master of the Waynesburg Lodge. E.B. purchased the Fishing Creek farm from his mother's family, thus becoming the first Caldwell to own the property. He m on 27 Sep 1866 SARAH JANE MCKENZIE b 17 Mar 1847 d 06 Jun 1888 d/o JAMES MCKENZIE and JANE FLOYD. Family lore states that Sarah Jane was not very healthy and would "get sick" sometimes. The girls would ring a large dinner bell which E.B. and the boys could hear from the field and they would know to come to the house. It is unknown what the nature of this "sickness" was. It seemed to occur on a regular basis because of the routine of ringing the bell. She was healthy enough to have seven children, but she died at the relatively young age of 41. The bell is currently in possession of a descendant. E.B. and Sarah Jane are both buried on the Walter Caldwell Farm in a family cemetery.

1. Arad Keith Caldwell 1867-1920
2. Luther Davidson Caldwell 1870-1951
3. Erlou Wilkerson Caldwell 1872-1959
4. Ora Caldwell b 1875
5. Eva Caldwell b 1876
6. Estil Caldwell 1880-1900
7. Olo Caldwell b 1882
8. Infant daughter b/d 26 Jun 1884
9. Infant son b/d 22 Mar 1885

CHARITY BARNETT CALDWELL (Henry, Hugh, Hugh)

b1848 d1894 m Madison Reynolds

GEORGE A. CALDWELL (Henry, Hugh, Hugh)

b Dec 1850 m MARY LOUISA LEE.

1. Alonzo (Allie) Caldwell b 1876
2. Lola Caldwell b 1880
3. Arthur Caldwell b 1883
4. George A. Caldwell, Jr b 1888

DANIEL WEBSTER CALDWELL (Henry, Hugh, Hugh)

b Apr 1852 d 15 Aug 1927 m 12 Aug 1878 CYNTHIA ANN CALDWELL

These children have already been listed in Cynthia Ann's listing above. Dan was a Mason at the Waynesburg Lodge. In Dan's time the Masonic meetings were held during full moon cycles so the men could see at night as they rode their horses to Lodge. Dan would stand outside the Lodge blowing a large hunting horn which could be heard for miles calling the Masons to Lodge. He served the Lodge as its Tyler and sat outside the door during meetings. After one such meeting, the Brothers came out to find he had passed away quietly performing the duty that he loved. Dan and Cynthia are both buried in the Double Springs Cemetery.

ELIZABETH MILLEY CALDWELL (Henry, Hugh, Hugh)

b 24 Jan 1855 d 15 Aug 1944 m 16 Jul 1872 TIPTON SIMS 1850-1936

HENRY HARDIN (HENNY) CALDWELL (Henry, Hugh, Hugh)

b1858 d 1931 m 08 Jan 1880 SUSAN A. SINGLETON b1865 d 1949

He was always called "Henny" and she pronounced her name "Suzanne". Every Memorial Day during the 1930's and 40's, the church members of Double Springs Baptist Church would visit the cemetery to lay flowers on the graves. Family members, who were children at the time, recall Aunt Susan "holding court" under a large tree with people bringing her drinks of water and visiting with her and her telling the children where to place the flowers. The tree is still there and dear Aunt Susan and Henny are buried just beyond it.

1. Bessie Caldwell b 1892
2. Rachel Caldwell b 1910

SUSAN ALICE CALDWELL (Henry, Hugh, Hugh)

b21 Aug 1860 d 29 Jan 1943 m 24 Nov 1885 WILLIAM SINGLETON

TULLY CALDWELL (Commodore, Hugh, Hugh)

b 30 Sep 1889 d 13 Feb 1966 m EMMA BURTON b9 Apr 1895 d 5 Apr 1992

1. Clara b 1913
2. Cecil b 1916
3. Martha B. b 1918
4. Eliza b 1922
5. Francis b 1923
6. Lois b 1925

5th Generation

ARAD KEITH CALDWELL (E.B., Henry, Hugh, Hugh)

b 06 Nov 1867 d 11 Jul 1920 m 21 Oct 1902 MILDRED GAYE SWEENEY b 18 Oct 1881 d 12 Apr 1966

There is much to tell about him. He graduated from the University of Louisville Medical School in 1897. He returned to the Waynesburg community and served as its physician. He was called "Doctor" by everyone, including his wife. He built a large white house in Waynesburg next to the railroad track. He built a small doctor's office at the edge of the property. It is still owned by the family and is known as the A.K. Caldwell House. Like his father and grandfather before him, he served as the Worshipful Master of the Waynesburg Lodge. He was much loved by everyone in the community. His wife was known by the names "Minnie" and "Minnie Doc". Doctor rode a horse to visit the sick and he had a special saddle he could tie his doctor bag to. When this writer was a child during the 1970's, my cousin and I once put this saddle on one of our horses and tried to ride with it just for fun. There was only the thinnest fraction of leather between our bum and the saddle tree and we felt like we were riding on a tree branch. To my knowledge, the saddle remains the property of my cousin. Doctor's medical bag is in the possession of another cousin who is a Registered Nurse. He signed his father, E.B.'s, death certificate as the attending physician. Doctor died in 1920 during the national influenza epidemic. At the time, his boys were aged 12, 9 and 6. Minnie remarried when the youngest was 12 year and built a house near where the Barnett Funeral Home stands today. This marriage lasted about seven years. After the divorce, Minnie returned to live with her now married sons, A.K. and Walter. Doctor's deathbed wish was that all three of his boys would join the Masonic Lodge when they came of age. Doctor and Minnie Doc are both buried together in Double Springs Cemetery.

1. Edward Barnett 12 May 1905 – 27 Aug 1907 diptheria
2. Infant daughter Caldwell b/d 10 Feb 1907
3. Edwin Caldwell 1908-1954
4. Arad Keith (A.K.) Caldwell, Jr 1910-1991
5. Walter Carroll Caldwell 1913-1966

LUTHER DAVIDSON CALDWELL (E.B., Henry, Hugh, Hugh)

b06 Jan 1870 d 31 Dec 1951

Luther was born, lived and died on the Fishing Creek farm. He never married. Luther was much loved by his great-nieces (nephew Walter's children) who lived on the farm in his later life. He was full of knowledge about planting and folk medicine. A favorite family story is about "Luther and the Icebox." Soon after electricity came to Waynesburg, the family bought a new electric refrigerator. Electricity was quite an expense for a farm family, but Walter felt the refrigerator would be a good thing to have. A few days later, the family headed into town to attend church. When they returned, after a few hours, they were astonished to find Luther sitting in front of the refrigerator with the door wide open and muttering to himself. "Dat burn thing", he said. "It's gonna use up all yer 'lectricity. Ya can' afford ta keep tha' thing." When Walter asked what the problem was, he replied, " This here light won' go off. Ever time ya open the dat burn door, this here light's on. Holdin' this here button's the only way ta keep the light off." The poor man had sat and held the light off for 2 hours to save the electricity!! He had not realized, of course, that when the door was shut the light was off. Technology has zoomed right past this uncomplicated farmer. Luther is buried in the family cemetery on the farm.

ERLOU WILKERSON CALDWELL (E.B., Henry, Hugh, Hugh)

b29 Feb 1872 d 06 Jun 1959

Erlou also lived his entire life on the Fishing Creek farm. After his brother (Doctor) died, Erlou felt it was his responsibility to raise Doctor's three young sons. He filled the role of grandfather to the young great-nieces on the farm. There are many stories of the old gentleman playing with the girls in whatever role they wished him to take. He was also well versed in planting lore. It is from these two brothers, Erlou and Luther, that we have many of the stories from the earlier Caldwell generations. One of the most poignant family stories concerns Erlou himself. It tells that Erlou was engaged to be married to a woman named May. When

Doctor died, Erlou broke off the engagement because he felt his responsibility was to his three fatherless nephews. He never married and he continued to love May the rest of his life. She married another man, but he would always ask about her when the family went to town. After he died, one of his great-nieces found a wallet May had given to him many years before. He had never carried it, but kept it as a cherished keepsake of his lost love. His selfless devotion and sacrifice of his own happiness are traits seldom found today. He is buried in the family cemetery on the farm.

ORA CALDWELL (E.B., Henry, Hugh, Hugh)
b 1875 m 21 Oct 1897 C.C. GOOCH

EVA (EVIE) CALDWELL (E.B., Henry, Hugh, Hugh)
b Jun 1876 m WILLIAM JACKSON

Evie did not have a full thumb on one of her hands. The children learned very quickly to stay out of Aunt Evie's way because she used to try and pinch them with her half-thumb. She seemed to think this was great fun, but every child on the receiving end of this did not enjoy it as much as she did! My own mother said the bone was very sharp and it really HURT.

1. Clarence Jackson
2. Buck Jackson
3. Litz Jackson

ESTIL CALDWELL (E.B., Henry, Hugh, Hugh)
b20 Feb 1880 d 05 May 1900

Estil was considered a great beauty. She died, tragically, of typhoid at the age of 20. It was a devastating loss to the family.

OLLO CALDWELL (E.B., Henry, Hugh, Hugh)
b 1882 m LILA TODD

1. Doris Caldwell
2. Bulah Caldwell b 1911
3. Barbie b 1913

ALONZO (ALLIE) CALDWELL (George, Henry, Hugh, Hugh)
b 1876

Allie was a bachelor his entire life. He lived in a house on Ellison Ridge which still stands today, although it is in bad shape.

ARTHUR CALDWELL (George, Henry, Hugh, Hugh)
b 18 Jan 1884 d 30 Jun 1970 m Josephine (Birth name unk) b12 May 1887 d 2 Apr 1951
They are buried in the Pilot Cemetery..

1. Barrett Caldwell b 1907
2. Burnice Caldwell b 1910
3. Edna Caldwell b 1912-1930
4. Clyde Caldwell b 1914
5. Chester Caldwell 1918-2006
6. Alfred Caldwell b 1924

MELVIN CALDWELL (Daniel, Henry, Hugh, Hugh)
b 29 Jun 1883 d 10 Mar 1967 m SARAH (Birth name unk)

1. Clarence Caldwell b 1906
2. Christie Caldwell b 1910
3. Catherine Caldwell b 1923

MARY CALDWELL (Daniel, Henry, Hugh, Hugh)
b 05 Feb 1886 d 12 Oct 1963 m DAVID NEWTON PERRY

MILLIE CALDWELL (Daniel, Henry, Hugh, Hugh)
b 18 Apr 1888 d 29 Oct 1959 m CHARLIE SINGLETON

MASON CALDWELL (Daniel, Henry, Hugh, Hugh)
b 21 Mar 1892 d 03 May 1943

Mason lived in the large white house in Waynesburg that his father Daniel had built. He worked on the railroad. He was responsible for throwing switches to direct the trains to designated tracks. One night, he was working at the signal in King's Mountain. He threw the signal to red so that the next train would have to stop. Then, for reasons unknown, he shot himself in the head right next to the track. The next train stopped at the signal exactly as he had planned and found his body. The reason for Mason's suicide is a complete mystery. There are no accounts of him suffering from depression and there is no known event which would have triggered a depressive state.

6th Generation

EDWIN NOEL CALDWELL (Doctor, E.B., Henry, Hugh, Hugh)

b 19 Jan 1908 d Jun 1954 m ANNE WHEELDON

Ed was a member of Waynesburg Lodge. He received a college degree in chemistry from Centre College in Danville, Ky. He taught school in Lincoln Co until WWII broke out. He then went to work for the US Government in Oak Ridge, TN. He taught himself to equally use both his left and right hands because he always feared losing a hand in a chemistry accident. His nieces recall several visits by train to his house in Oak Ridge. This was a top secret facility during the war and the entire town was behind guarded gates. As history now tells us, the Oak Ridge facility was the birthplace of the atomic bomb. Ed and his co-workers never knew exactly what they were working on. They were given specific chemistry experiments to conduct, but they did not know what others were doing on the overall project. On the day the news flashed around the world that a bomb had been dropped on Hiroshima, Japan. Ed recalled knowing instantly that this was the project he had been working on in secret. The following day, his entire department at Oak Ridge was informed that they indeed had been the creators of the world's first atomic bomb.

ARAD KEITH (A.K.) CALDWELL, JR (Doctor, E.B., Henry, Hugh, Hugh)

b 14 Sep 1912 d 29 Aug 1991 m LIVING

A.K. lived in Waynesburg all of his life. He inherited doctor's house and also owned several properties throughout the Waynesburg area. He was a cattleman and made his living dealing in livestock. Sometime in the 1970's, he suffered a stroke which affected his speech. He was extremely proud of his heritage and enjoyed talking about the family. This writer has fond memories of Uncle A.K. taking several of us cousins for drives all over Lincoln County. A.K. is buried in Double Springs Cemetery.

1. Living Male Caldwell m VIOLET MARIE STONE 1937-1983 (7th Gen)
 - * 8th Gen – 4 children
 - * 9th Gen – 4 living children
 - * 9th Gen – Galen Stephen Caldwell 1975-2001
 - * 9th Gen – Ricky Dee Bussell 1986-2003
2. Marston Caldwell 1933-1964 m LIVING (7th Gen)
 - * 8th Gen – 3 children
 - * 9th Gen – 5 children
3. Jerry Caldwell 1936-2005 (7th Gen) m LIVING
 - * 8th Gen – 4 children
 - * 9th Gen – 6 children
4. Living Male Caldwell m LIVING (7th Gen)
 - * 8th Gen – 2 children
 - * 9th Gen – 2 children
5. Richard Lee Caldwell 1949 - 1994
6. Michael Caldwell b/d 1954

WALTER CARROLL CALDWELL (Doctor, E.B., Henry, Hugh, Hugh)

b 27 Jul 1913 d 16 Dec 1966 m EMMA RAE SMITH b18 Feb 1915 d18 Feb 1915

Walter took possession of the Fishing Creek farm and it is there that he raised his family. His two uncles, Erlou and Luther lived there with the family. One of Walter's daughters owns the farm today. In addition to farming, Walter worked for the state in the Division of Weights and Measures. One of his responsibilities was to drive to gas stations all over the area and certify that the pumps were dispensing gasoline in the correct volume that the customer was paying for. He also certified the scales at the tobacco warehouses prior to the yearly sales. Walter was instrumental in bringing electricity to southern Lincoln County. He worked to secure rights-of-ways for the utility poles and even helped clear land along roads for the poles to be erected. His driving force was that all four of his girls receive college educations. He was successful in that they all did receive their degrees from Eastern Kentucky University. Walter was a member of the Waynesburg Lodge and served as Lodge Secretary for nearly 30 years. He was also an active member of Double Springs Baptist Church. Walter and Emma are buried in Double Springs Cemetery.

1. Living Female Caldwell m GUY WASHINGTON WILLIAMS, JR 1928-1995 (7th Gen)

- * 8th Gen – 2 children
- * 9th Gen – 4 children
- 2. Living Female Caldwell m LIVING (7th Gen)
- * 8th Gen – 1 child, 2 adopted children
- * 9th Gen – 4 children
- 3. Living Female Caldwell m LIVING (7th Gen)
- 4. Living Female Caldwell m LIVING (7th Gen)
- * 8th Gen – 4 children
- * 9th Gen – 9 children