

HISTORY OF THE MALCOLM FAMILY DOWN TO FINDLAY MALCOLM,
LOYALIST 1783, ST. ANDREWS N.B. by Professor Dean G. Taylor, U.E.

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On the island of Iona, a monastery was founded in the Sixth Century. The missionary Columba had many followers in the year 565 when he organized his church and they were known as followers of Columba or called "Mael Columbus"; thus, the origin of the Malcolm name evolved from this relationship.

As in the typical clan situation, they were frequently warring with other clans and even with themselves. Scottish history relates several kings had the name MALCOLM from the years 943 through to Malcolm IV in 1153.

Through family research, I have traced my MALCOLM connection by my great-grandfather, Egbert Malcolm, back to Duncan Malcolm who was born in Aberdeenshire in 1701. Marion Vail shares this family connection through Egbert Malcolm which consequently makes us cousins. John Karl Malcolm, through his research and as author of the Malcolm family book, has placed Duncan Malcolm as a likely descendant of these Scottish kings. In 1746, we find Duncan Malcolm at the Battle of Culloden giving his support to "Bonnie Prince Charlie" in his attempt to gain the throne. The Prince lost the battle and many prisoners were taken by the British. Duncan escaped from the London prisons and made his way back to Aberdeenshire and home.

He proceeded to dispose of his properties and some household effects and remove to America, escaping the repression in Scotland following the loss at Culloden Moor.

Duncan and his family of ten children arrived at Long Island in 1764 near Southampton east of Watermill. After the British won the Battle of Long Island they required all residents to take a new oath of allegiance to the King, promising to refrain from all revolutionary activities. Duncan, refusing this oath, took his family to Connecticut thereupon finding property at Saybrook.

One member of Duncan's family was Findlay who was born in 1751. I relate here, that it is unfortunate that the name of Duncan's wife is not known. In George A. Wheeler's book, "History of Castine" it is recorded Findlay Malcolm as living in Penobscot, Maine in 1769 with business conducted with his brother-in-law, Jeremy Wardwell. Both Duncan and Findlay had properties on lots 88 and 87 in the northern bay area of the Village of Penobscot.

Findlay met and eventually married Tryphenia Wardwell, daughter of captain Daniel Wardwell of York, Maine. Daniel was a grandson of Samuel and Sarah Wardwell who both suffered during the Salem witchcraft trials.

Findlay was a seafaring man and with his brother-in-law, Jeremy Wardwell, owned and commanded several ocean-going ships including sloops, chebacco (fishing vessel) and schooners. An earlier sloop owned by Daniel Wardwell named "Tryphenia" on a trading mission with

cordwood bound for Piscataqua in the year 1775, with the revolutionary war imminent, was seized on her return voyage by a British man-of-war ship, the "Lively". In 1780 Jeremiah Wardwell owned the sloop, "Enterprise". Findlay Malcolm and Jeremiah operated the schooner "Williams".

Barbara Naruta, another cousin through the Malcolm connection, assisted me in my research of this maritime information.

As the 1776 American Revolution raged, Findlay Malcolm remained loyal to King George. In Castine, Maine, near Penobscot, was located the British Fort George. This fort was occupied throughout the war by the British and a strong group of loyal Scots. Wheeler, in his book, refers to the Journal of Dr. John Calef, where he records that Findlay was the only civilian allowed to enter the Fort without a pass.

In 1783, Findlay dismantled his wood frame house, numbered the components, and with his wife, Tryphenia and family loaded all on one of his ships. His family included a son by the name of John Malcolm, born in 1776, of whom Marion Vail and myself are descendants. It is recorded in the Loyalist list of 1783, that all of these persons loyal to King George set out on an adventure by ship to St. Andrews, New Brunswick on the St. Croix River probably assisted by Findlay and his large Schooner.

As the Empire loyalists poured into what was at that time called Nova Scotia, not all converged on St. John. Findlay along with the majority of Penobscot people settled in St. Andrews. While waiting for their homes to be assembled they lost no time in creating a maritime trading center. Passamaquoddy Bay became a post war haven for the loyal refugees took their enterprises to the bay area and St. Andrews. Findlay drew his lot for 100 acres overlooking the St. Croix River and became involved in maritime trade with England and the West Indies. At St. Andrews, farmers, sailors, woodsmen and businessmen all contributed to the community's growth and prosperity. Soon the town had more ships, homes and sawmills than any other part of the, now named, Province of New Brunswick. Findlay, without a doubt, had a sincere business relationship with Dr. Calef and through all these connections in real estate and maritime trade, he did extremely well trading lumber to England.

He was, however, concerned that his sons might take to his seafaring ways, this fear spurred him to leave the east coast and move to richer lands and greater opportunities in Upper Canada. It is documented that Findlay liquidated several lands and businesses. While travelling along the St. Lawrence River, his sixth son, Duncan was born during the summer of 1798.

After arriving in Burlington, Ontario and travelling overland, he reached what is now known as Oakland, Ontario and spent three to four years establishing farms and mills. Findlay took out a patent for his home which is two miles west of Oakland. He built his home in 1802. By now, Findlay and Tryphenia had a growing family of six sons and four daughters. Two eldest sons, John and Findlay, had Oakland farms and on their pond they developed a grist mill. This began a rich enterprise which eventually extended into five mills along the Oakland and Scotland creek. Because of this development, the area became known as "Malcolm Mills" before it was renamed

Scotland, Ontario.

Findlay's homestead established the Village of Scotland which overlooked the valley to the east. He established a farm here and a large fruit orchard south of the homestead. Settlers for miles around bought from his fruit farm, which eventually included a large cider mill. Then Tryphenia gave birth to twins, a daughter and a son; over the next few years she bore three more sons bringing the number of children to fifteen. The family now had support from the children to clear the land, work the farm, operate the mills, and work on other aspects of pioneer life.

The children's names were: John, Daniel, Findlay Jr., Hugh Peter, Duncan, James, Catherine (Twins), Eliakim, Charles, George, Sarah, Margaret, Tryphenia, and Janet.

John, from whom I am descended, had his farm in Oakland which extended across the pond south of the Mill. John and Findlay Jr. who owned the Mill sold it to John Vivian who had married Sarah Malcolm, the daughter of John Malcolm (1770) and Mary Chapin Eddy. John's first wife was Eunice Miller, his first cousin, whom he married in 1801. His daughter Belinda was born late in 1801. John's second wife was Mary C. Eddy who died in April 1828. Their children were: Norman, Lewis, Otis, Tryphenia (married John Vivian) and Harriet (married John Haviland). John's third wife was Sarah Vannater (widow of John Silverthorn). From this union came Robert and Mary (Polly). We will return to Robert and Polly later as Robert left Oakland to settle in Otterville.

Returning to John, Findlay Jr. and father Findlay Sr., their quiet peace was interrupted again by the flames of war during 1812-1814. Brigadier General Duncan McArthur led a savage raid into Upper Canada in 1813 and the Malcolm family was in the thick of it. During these military campaigns, John and Findlay Jr. did extremely well selling flour and whiskey. Officer Alex Stewart signed an 1813 receipt which read, "Received from Findlay Malcolm 10 gallons of whiskey". Obviously, the troops were happy on their marches. It is interesting to note that Findlay Senior (1750-1829), Findlay Jr. (Lieutenant) and John (Captain) all served in the Oxford Militia. A full discussion of this last battle with the USA on Canadian soil could be the subject of another complete talk or paper, but one more detail is worth noting. The Americans surrounded John's Oakland Mill and in front of Mary and her five children threatened to hang John for his military participation with the Canadians. With quick thinking, John realized the American officer was a mason, gave him the Masonic distress signal and the US officer released him on his honor as a brother to keep the peace. The Americans then torched the mill to the ground but John later received government money to rebuild. After the war, he again returned to prosperity. John and Findlay, as brothers in arms, would have to wait until the Rebellion of 1837 to once again shoulder arms together.

At Malcolm's Mill, Oakland Village in Brant County, the last land battle in Upper Canada of the War of 1812 was fought. The upper Canadian militia, vastly outnumbered by the well-equipped American infantry were defeated. The Americans continued their scorched-earth policy to Lake Erie but were forced to retreat to Detroit due to lack of reinforcements at the lake.

The family of Findlay and Tryphenia matured over the years. They married, worked on the farms

and helped in the building of the areas of Oakland and Scotland into prosperous rural towns. Janet married Giles Miller and moved to Middletown, Connecticut. Findlay's son, Eliakim, contributed greatly to the area by becoming the first warden of Brant County. He also was a major figure in the rebellion of 1837. Hugh was killed in a barn raising accident in 1828 at the age of 39 years. Tryphenia married Dr. Chapin and a cousin of mine, Barbara Naruta from Port Huron, Michigan is a descendant from this union. John Karl Malcolm's book wonderfully profiles all these Malcolms. Findlay Jr. set aside one acre of land on his farm in the town of Oakland. Today on this northeast corner of the farm, cemetery head stones are arranged in an arc shape which are known as the Oakland Pioneer Cemetery. Many pioneers are laid to rest here, including Findlay, Tryphenia, and John Malcolm.

The Mackenzie Rebellion of 1837 brought the rural population in the area to take up arms against the family compact/current government at this time. Eliakim showed a strong leadership ability in assisting Dr. Charles Duncombe in this uprising. Eliakim and other rebels assembled at Scotland but Sir Allan McNab, with a force of militia from Hamilton, soon arrived and dispersed them.

As McNab's strong militia occupied Scotland, one of the officers discovered a chest buried on Eliakim's property. It contained lists of all those involved in the insurrection including the names of the leaders. Eliakim escaped to Michigan for three years, was eventually pardoned and returned to Scotland. John, James, Findlay 3rd and Norman were all put in jail. A reward of 250 pounds was offered for the capture of Eliakim and James. Findlay 3rd along with eight others who were captured were held in jail at Fort Henry in Kingston and were to be sent by way of England to be banished in Van Diemen's Land, Australia. While held in custody in Liverpool, England, a writ of "Habeus Corpus" was issued. The Queen's Bench freed them and they returned to Canada. It is interesting to note that Dr. Duncombe made his escape to the USA via Marine City dressed as an elderly farmer's wife and received courtesy from gentlemen on both sides of the border. The doctor, acting as a friendly lady, tipped several of the guards. He made his way to California where he lived out the rest of his life, never returning to Canada again.

One may ask, where was Robert Malcolm during this 1837 rebellion? It appears he was quietly farming in Otterville. Findlay 3rd, after his release from England, returned to Ontario, married Mary Ardelof (1820-1898) and settled at Springfield. I obtained a copy of the will of John Malcolm which revealed that Belinda, the daughter of his first wife Eunice, tried through the courts to obtain all of John Malcolm's estate. Eliakim was a witness during the proceedings, but Robert was assured a portion of the farm in 1846.

John and Sarah are buried in Oakland; John is in the pioneer cemetery and Sarah is in the plot for John Silverthorn. As Robert was assured of a portion of John's estate, he married Martha Bailey in Norwich Township in 1848. They were married at the home of Egbert Stover at Spencerville, Ontario by W. F. Clarke, congregational minister. They had eight children who were: Sarah, Hortense, Egbert (born June 9, 1852), Amanda Malvina, Margaret, Penelope, Robert, Orphelia (married Michael E. Siple 28 Sept. 1881). One interesting note is that after 60 years of marriage, Robert and Martha passed away in the same year 1912. Hortense is the connection with Edward Phelps, archivist and cousin and to make the family history more interesting, she is reputed to

have been keen about the mysteries of witchcraft.

Robert Malcolm and Martha had a prosperous farm. He also did leather harness work, probably in Otterville in the shop of Asa Durkee. He supplemented his crops by farming Lot 18, Concession 7, south of Norwich Township, Oxford County. After some years, he retired to a fine home which is still standing in Otterville. Robert and Martha Malcolm are both buried in Otterville cemetery honoured with a lot monument, a testimony to a long, loving happy marriage. Egbert, born June 9, 1852, was primarily a blacksmith and exceptionally strong man who died October 1932. He married Victoria Smith, who was a Windham girl and whose mother was Mary Brown and father Jessie Smith. This is a key connection between Marion Vail and myself as Egbert Malcolm was our great grandfather. Egbert and Victoria had two children, Herbert, Marion's grandfather and Alice, my grandmother. Alice married Donald Kenneth Ross and these were my mother's parents. My mother was Donna Jean Ross. Herbert married Margaret Elizabeth Edwards but unfortunately died at a very young age. Herbert and Margaret had one daughter, Helen Herbena who married Samuel Wilfred Ellenor. Marion is her family's archivist and could comment more along this lineage.

This paper has simply been a presentation of the lineage of John Malcolm. This leaves many more interesting tales to hear. As does each family, the Malcolm story continues and each day adds to the history and interest to the field of genealogy.

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