January 2006

DUKE WILLIAM KENDRICK

Note:

The following information has been “culled” from many sources.

Primary document sources used include those held at the Provincial Archives of Ontario – various/many Upper Canada Land Petitions made by the mother of Duke William Kendrick, by those he made on his own behalf and those of his brothers and other family members, Upper Canada Land Grants and subsequent land transactions – deeds, land claims for War of 1812/13 service, St. James Anglican Church records, Upper Canada marriage bonds, War of 1812 military lists; as well as early Nova Scotia (New Brunswick) land records and British military muster rolls for the French Indian wars.


Actual birth dates for Duke William Kendrick and his family were provided by an ancestor of Duke William, who advised they were taken from handwritten notes made by Mata Stewart Moore, a 3 greats granddaughter and have not been verified/confirmed as far as I’m aware.

Regiment/Enlisted Date:

According to one of his Upper Canada land petitions he along with brothers John, Joseph and Hiram Kendrick served from the start of Revolution first as pilots navigating the St. John River so British Troops could bring in supplies and quell hostilities with some early settlers living in the area from Parr Town up the River to Gagetown and beyond who sided with the US. Later they were assigned to various units as required and were accorded the same status as those serving in the Provincial Corps.

UE Status:

Early Upper Canada land petitions by Duke William and his brothers John, Hiram and Joseph, as Loyalist’s were denied due to lack of supporting documentation. On 27 March 1829 his widow Susannah received her Order in Council after having him recognized as a Loyalist. (note – I do not know if the widow Kendrick produced the appropriate documentation or how/why Duke William was eventually accorded Loyalist status and not his three brothers or when, as Mata Stewart Moore has a death date of 23 January 1823 for Susannah)
Settled Before the War/Where Resettled:

The Kendrick family arrived at Grimross Neck, Gagetown, New Brunswick (then part of Nova Scotia) in 1767. After the Revolution their Gagetown land was awarded to other Loyalist’s and they were given land at Kingston, New Brunswick. In 1793 the Kendrick family was residing at Niagara (Newark) Upper Canada and they arrived in York around 1796.

Duke William received both a Town of York lot and 210 acres at Concession 1 West Yonge Street lot 7 which he patented in 1800.

Date of Birth/Place:

According to a petition made by his mother Dorcus Kendrick Duke William was her second son and born in 1766 in the “County of Bargain in the Jersey’s” (note – believed to be a mis-spelling of Bergin County New Jersey and not the Jersey Island’s as she states eldest son John was born in New York City 1764)

The birthdate provided by Mata Stewart Moore however was 5 December 1763.

Date of Death/Place:

1 January 1813 Barracks at Fort York Town of York Upper Canada

Given Name of Wife:

Susannah

Children:

Birthdates supplied by Mata Stewart Moore; names also by her as well as other sources as noted.

John born 19 February 1785

James born 15 May 1787

Rebecca born 7 April 1790 (relationship to Duke William confirmed by note attached to Upper Canada Marriage bond giving permission for her to marry; married William Walker 5 June 1806 St. James Anglican Town of York)

Frances born 15 July 1792 (married George Playter; order in council received 1 December 1836)

William Morrison Kendrick born 16 December 1795 York Upper Canada
Ann Eliza born 23 June 1798 (married to James McFarlane 1 December 1836; order in council received 1 December 1836)

Charlotte Augusta born 19 October 1800 (married Henry T.B. Gillet 14 March 1829; order in council received 1850)

Josiah born 5 March 1803 (order in council received 7 July 1836)

Jesse born 14 May 1805

Andrew born 20 November 1806 (order in council received 7 July 1836)

Susannah born 28 February 1810

Military Information:

During the War of 1812/13 Duke William served as a Lieutenant under Captain Samuel Ridout’s Company of the 3rd Regiment York Militia. At the time of his death he was on active duty at Fort York and he died from pneumonia.

Biography:

Duke William Kendrick was born to John and Dorcus Kendrick between December 1863 and 1866 probably in Bergin County, New Jersey. “Duke” is believed to be a nickname but is possible it is part of his proper first name, It is not a Royal title.

His father John Kendrick, served in the British military for about 30 years and was a member of the 22nd Regiment of Foot. He participated in the French Indian Wars both in the Caribbean and at Quebec.

In 1767 his father John Kendrick was awarded 300 acres of land at Grimross Neck Gaetown Nova Scotia (now New Brunswick) due to his service to the Crown and the family took up residence there.

During the Revolution, Duke William and his brothers – John, Joseph and Hiram served as pilots for British troops/supplies on the St. John River and carrying out other duties as directed of them by British officers such as defending that part of Nova Scotia (now New Brunswick) along the St. John River that had some settlers who were patriot sympathizers.

Duke William Kendrick arrived with his immediate family as well as widowed mother and brothers in Upper Canada around 1793 after living in New Brunswick. Initially they lived at Newark (Niagara) and were residing in the Town of York by 1796. The family, including Duke William made numerous land petitions and Duke William was granted both a Town Lot and 210 acres being located on Yonge Street Concession 1 West lot 7.
His brothers were also granted lots in the Town of York and acreage next to his on Yonge Street. – John received lot 9, Joseph lot 6, and Hiram lot 8. Lot 6 was located around what is currently Lawrence Avenue and their holdings went north to approximately Hogg’s Hollow at York Mills with the current day Bathurst Street being their western property boundary.

His widowed mother Dorcus, also petitioned for and received 200 acres. It is interesting to note that when her land grant was approved there was a notation by the officials that the location of the land be “anywhere but Yonge Street”, so she ended up receiving land in Scarborough.

By 1797, Duke William had built himself a small “house” on his Town Lot and was a constable for the Town of York. He established a potashery on his property on Yonge Street and on December 7 1799 placed an ad in the Upper Canada Gazzette - York advising the public that his business was about to open and what prices he would pay in merchandise at cash prices for ashes delivered to him.

He patented his Yonge Street property in 1800 and had some livestock on the property as records indicate the distinguishing mark for his animals was “a hole in each ear”. It appears that his potash business (believed to be the first business enterprise on Yonge Street) was not a great success as he sold most of this Yonge Street land to Joseph Herschmer soon after.

Duke William then turned his energies to running an inn and along with his brothers became involved in the building trades, piloting schooners and plying the waters out on Lake Ontario in their own boat – The Governor Hunter. He along with his brothers were so well known for their love of sailing and the water that they were often referred to as “The Water Dogs”.

Duke William and his brothers were active in the church and were original pew-holders at St. James Anglican Church in York. They were also very active in Masonic affairs and were members of the Rawdon and Harmony Lodge warranted in 1796.

Duke William was a Lieutenant in the 3rd Regiment of York under Captain Ridout. While on active duty he died 1 January 1813 in his barracks at Fort York leaving his wife Susannah and several children.
**Family History & Genealogy:**

*Children and Grandchildren of John Kendrick and wife Dorcus*

**Children:**

- John Kendrick Jr. born approx 1764 New York City
- Duke William Kendrick born approx 1766 Bergin County, New Jersey or 01 December 1763 (same place)
- Joseph Kendrick born about 1768 Nova Scotia (now New Brunswick)
- Mary Kendrick twin of Joseph Kendrick born 1768 Nova Scotia (New Brunswick)
- Hiram Kendrick born approx 1771 Nova Scotia (New Brunswick)

**John Kendrick Jr.**

Like his brothers, John Kendrick Jr. made several petitions for land, A 1796 petition states he had a wife and five children and had been upwards of 3 years in the Newark/Town of York area. He was awarded a Town Lot as well as 210 acres on Yonge Street – Lot 9 Concession 1 West Yonge and Lot 35 Concession 3 Markham Upper Canada.

In 1801 he sold the Markham land to Jacob Miller who patented it in 1805 but he stayed on the Yonge Street property and patented the land May 24 1805.

John was high constable for the Town from 1800 – 1803 and like his brothers an original pew holder and member of the Masons.

Some publications state that brother John Kendrick Jr. died in 1805 when a schooner ran aground and sunk off the Quinte shoreline. This conclusion was based on an Upper Canada Gazette article reporting the accident and subsequent death of a John Kendrick.

This does not appear to be the case as brother John Kendrick was around in 1808 to make land petitions with his brothers as well as take out an ad in the Gazette stating that his wife Mary had left him and he would not be responsible for any debts incurred by her. So, it would appear that the John Kendrick who died was a son of one of the brothers.

**Issue of John Kendrick Jr. and wife Mary:**

- Mary Kendrick – married Leonard Marsh SUE (Loyalist William Marsh Sr.) 20 November 1804 St. James marriage records Town of York
- 3 other daughters and 1 son; 2 of the daughters may have been Hester who married William Barber 14 September 1810 and Fanny who married Ethan Allen Dagett 24 December 1807 (both in the Town of York) and the son may have been James who married Jane Ann Kingston

Note: due to lack of information in the available documents it has been difficult to sort out the children belonging to Joseph and John Kendrick. It is believed that Hiram
Kendrick did not have children but this may not be so. Also as stated earlier not all of Duke Williams children have been documented with primary evidence.

**Joseph Kendrick**

In the book, Glimpses of the Past – History of the River St. John there is the following note regarding the missionary Reverend Wood – “The next day the missionary sailed up the river, visiting the settlers in their homes as he proceeded. At Gagetown he baptized Joseph and Mary Kendrick, twin children of John and Dorothy Kendrick. Mr. Wood says the children were born in an open canoe on the river, two leagues from any house, a circumstance that illustrates the exigencies liable to arise in a region so sparsely inhabited as the valley of the River St. John was”. The year was 1768.

Joseph also petitioned for land and received a Town Lot in York and 210 acres on Yonge Street – Lot 6 Concession 1 West. He patented the land in 1800 and sold the entire acreage to Duncan Cameron in 1804. In 1813 he then re-purchased the entire 210 acres from Duncan Cameron.

From the available records Joseph appears to have spent most of his time out on the water as a mariner. He was the captain of the schooner Peggy and sailed between Newark, Town of York and Kingston bringing to the town such goodies as Madiera wine, Jamaica spirits, Rappie Snuff and the best Spanish “Segars”.

Joseph is recorded as being in the Provincial Marine during the War of 1812/13 and served on the Prince Regent during the War with the Americans.

The Kendrick’s boat the Governor Hunter was commandeered and later destroyed by the Americans during the War of 1812/13 but because she was a private vessel, Joseph was compensated with 300 pounds payment out of the provincial treasury, which had fallen into the American’s hands.

The name of Joseph’s wife was Sarah. She too made petitions for land stating that she was a descendent of Admiral George Brydges Rodney. Sarah’s request was approved and she was given a grant of 200 acres.

Apparently, Admiral Rodney did have a daughter named Sarah but it is unknown if the Sarah married to Joseph was the same person. The Admiral was in charge of battles fought in the Caribbean during the French Indian Wars in the same areas as Joseph’s father, John Kendrick Sr. had been.

**Issue of Joseph Kendrick and wife Sarah:**


Note: none of these children has been confirmed through primary documentation as far as I am aware.
Mary Kendrick

As stated above, Mary and her twin brother, Joseph, were born in an open canoe out on the St. John River in 1768. She does not appear to have accompanied her mother and brothers to Upper Canada.

She married George Morley who was born prior to 1776 in Sydney – unknown if this was in Newfoundland or Nova Scotia. He was a sailor and from 1776 to 1882 lived in Massachusetts….and he was a member of the Continental Army fighting against the King and England for 6 years, serving as a soldier in the 6th Massachusetts Infantry. He apparently had a change of heart around 1782 and deserted his regiment.

Although George had been disposed of his land at Sydney he was given another land grant at East Bay Cape Breton Island Nova Scotia in 1785.

Issue of Mary Kendrick and George Moreley:
- Ann, Dorcus, George, John, Lucy, Frederick, William Thomas and Ruth (names supplied by a descendant of Mary Kendrick without source documents stated)

Hiram Kendrick

Hiram was born around 1771 at Parr Town Nova Scotia (now St. John New Brunswick).

He received Lot 8 Concession 1 West Yonge consisting of 210 acres and patented the land in 1802. Records show that Hiram sold the entire Yonge St. holdings to Seneca Ketchum in 1804 however they also show he makes additional transactions on the land in 1814/15 selling some land to William Walker. Perhaps the first sale was not for the entire 210 acres and a recording error was made.

Records indicate that Hiram left York at some point and returned to New Brunswick. The name of his first wife was Catharine Forbes. He was back in York by 1807 when he married for a second time to Esther Vanderburgh 14 July 1807 at St. James in York.

At this point in time it appears that Hiram Kendrick did not leave issue.

Submitted by Terrilee Craig UE
(direct descendant of John Kendrick Sr. and wife Dorcus through son John Kendrick Jr.)