

The following responding submission containing historical information was made by J. Poirier

In support of the inclusion of Ancestor Cecile McDonnell-Mawiskak

Email Correspondence from March 6, 2023

Re. “Marie Cecile McDonnell”

Source of info www.nosorigines Genealogies Quebec

James Poirier

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Re. Elaine Allan Mitchell, “The Camerons of Timiskaming”

A quick search on the internet and Marie Cecile McDonnell Mawiskak parents always come up as Allan McDonnell and Margret Cameron Daughter of Anease Cameron and a native women at Fort Timiskaming which is Algonquin Territory.

Also in a lot of documents it says Alexander McDonnell and Marie Cecil McDonnell Mawiskak are brother and sister.

Thank You

James Poirier

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Re. “Anease Cameron” materials

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Also in a lot of documents it says Alexander McDonnell and Marie Cecil McDonnell Mawiskak are brother and sister.

Thank You

James Poirier

[DORION – Census (proof of relation between Marie Cecile McDonell, MacDonell, McDonald dite Mawishk & Alexander McDonell)]

Marie Cecile McDonell, MacDonell, McDonald dite Mawishk & Alexander McDonell parents are (Allan McDonell a.k.a. Allan [Lundy] MacDonell & Margaret Cameron a.k.a. Dame Ann Cameron / McDonell)

Marie Cecile (McDonell, MacDonell, McDonald) dite Mawishk & Narcisse Pierre Dorion dit Lorion / Laurion and their children have all lived in Mattawa, Nipissing, Ontario, Canada at different times throughout their lives they are as followed **Marie**, Narcisse Jr., **Sophie**, **Marianne**, Daniel, Alexandre, Julie, Louise.

**** Marie Cecile (McDonell, MacDonell, McDonald) dite Mawishk & *Narcisse Pierre Dorion dit Lorion / Laurion and their children have all lived in Mattawa, Nipissing, Ontario, Canada you will find different records throughout my research which indicates that this family were recorded as having Indigenous – Aboriginal Native Indian blood line, Scottish Origin, French Origin and the 1891 Census of Canada in Mattawa indicates on the records of Marianne (Caroline) Dorion dit Lorion / Laurion, Marie Lorion / Dorion and Sophie Dorion that their mother (Marie Cecile (McDonell, MacDonell, McDonald) dite Mawishk) birth place was in Manitoba and this whole family were listed as Roman Catholic's except Marie Lorion / Dorion who later converted to Presbyterian – Methodist.**

The Camerons of Timiskaming

Page 23 Aneas Camerons daughter married
Allan McDonnell

by Elaine Allan Mitchell,
Toronto, Ontario.

The fur trade is well known for its families. Among others, Grants, McTavishes, Mackenzies and McGillivrays readily spring to mind and it is no coincidence that all these are Highland names. Indeed it seems clear that, prior to the union of 1821, family connections were more characteristic of the North West than the Hudson's Bay Company, for the Canadian ranks were filled with ambitious and adventurous Highlanders, most of them endowed with strong family loyalty and numerous needy, if capable, relatives.

The Camerons of Timiskaming are a classic example of this phenomenon, spanning as they do both the North West and the Hudson's Bay Companies, and no other fur trade family is so completely identified with a particular district. They have the added virtue of having preserved many of their letters, for which I am deeply indebted to the late Colonel Angus Cameron of Firhall, Nairn, Scotland. Together with the Hudson's Bay Archives relating to Moose Fort and its dependancies, which I have used with the kind permission of the Governor and Committee, they allow us to follow the Cameron fortunes in Canada.

Aneas Cameron was the first of the family to come to Montreal. Arriving in the spring of 1788 from Jamaica, where he had been unsuccessful in securing congenial employment, he engaged as a clerk with Dobie & Grant, the current owners of the Timiskaming posts, and took over the command of

Fort Abitibi. At this time the district comprised four posts, Fort Timiskaming at the narrows of Lake Timiskaming on the Quebec side, which was the depot and administrative headquarters, Fort Abitibi at the mouth of the Duparquet River, Grand Lac (now Grand Lake Victoria) in northwestern Quebec and Langue de Terre on Lake Mistinikon in northeastern Ontario. From these permanent stations the Canadians also maintained moveable outposts.

AENEAS Cameron seems to have owed his introduction to the fur trade to his Grant relatives. He was born about 1757 in Strathavon in Upper Banffshire (said to be the most perfect glen in Scotland) to Alexander Cameron and his wife, Grace Grant of Glenloch. Grace's brother, John, was Chief Justice of Jamaica from 1783-90 and after his retirement bought Kilgraston in Perthshire. Her mother was also a Grant, of Inverloch, another small holding in the parish of Kirkmichael, and William Grant of Inverloch was by 1788 well known in the Canadian trade as William Grant of Three Rivers. AENEAS may also have been related to Dobie's son-in-law, John Grant, who was apparently a close connection of Chief Justice Grant and possibly William Grant's brother. Finally Dobie's partner, James Grant, also came from Kirkmichael and although his letters do not suggest any relationship to AENEAS, he may have been kin to William Grant.

AENEAS arrived in Montreal at a critical time for Timiskaming. Richard Dobie, one of the first "pedlars" to trade there after 1763, had acquired a respectable fortune by 1776, when he sold the posts to James Grant, but ten years later he was drawn back into the business, in partnership with Grant, after his son-in-law, who had an interest in the posts, went bankrupt. The fate of John Grant and his partners was at least partly due to the simultaneous opposition in Timiskaming of a Canadian interloper and the Hudson's Bay Company which, by 1785, had built Frederick House, on Frederick House Lake near Timmins. To meet the situation Dobie apparently needed a well-educated, dependable man to run the country side of the business, for James Grant, although a veteran trader, does not seem to have been the kind of manager a strongly-competitive trade required and he was, besides, less physically fit and growing older. If Cameron decided to remain, Dobie promised, he would, subject to James Grant's approval, offer him half his own shares in the concern.

By the summer of 1790 Dobie & Grant had routed its Canadian rival and could turn its full attention to the Hudson's Bay Company; there is even an indication that the partners considered settling at Moose Fort. But Timiskaming proved to be losing money and Dobie's health was failing, so in 1791 he sold all his Montreal interests to Grant, Champion & Co., of which

William Grant of Three Rivers was senior partner. Cameron found himself without a share in the trade and did not secure one until 1794 by which time, James Grant no longer being able to winter, he was in command of Fort Timiskaming.

Grant, Campion & Co. established two new Timiskaming posts, Frederick House in 1792 and Matawagamingue, on present-day Lake Mattagami, in 1794. They also made plans to go to Moose Fort. But they, too, were soon in financial straits, largely as a result of the war in Europe, and in 1795 they sold the posts to the North West Company agents, McTavish, Frobisher & Co., who were making a determined effort to consolidate the Canadian trade in their hands. In buying Timiskaming the agents had a second object in view, to push the trade vigorously towards James Bay and thereby induce the Hudson's Bay Company to agree to a division of territory. In this way, they hoped, they might confine the English to the vicinity of the Bay and keep them out of the northwest, particularly Athabaska.

In 1798 Aeneas Cameron became a partner in the North West Company. Besides commanding the Timiskaming District, he seems also to have advised the agents on the trade of the lower Ottawa and the St. Maurice and when, in 1800, the Nor'Westers settled on James Bay, by way of Timiskaming, he had a sizeable empire. Alexander McDougall of Fort Abitibi however, another North West partner and an enthusiastic promoter of the new adventure, was more directly concerned in carrying it out. Cameron, in contrast, never seems to have favoured it greatly and after paying two visits to James Bay in the summers of 1805 and 1806, was apparently chiefly responsible for the decision to abandon it. Unable to reach agreement with the Hudson's Bay Board for a right of entry into Hudson Bay, the Nor'Westers withdrew from James Bay in September, 1806.

Aeneas left Fort Timiskaming in 1804 and settled in Montreal where the agents employed him in a financial capacity. He became a member of the celebrated Beaver Club and his medal has been preserved with the Cameron papers. During the War of 1812 he was Captain and Paymaster of the Corps of Voyageurs raised by the Nor'Westers, of which William McGillivray was Colonel. After retiring from active life in 1815, he sold his one one-hundredth share in the North West Company to McTavish, McGillivrays & Co. for eleven thousand pounds. He never married although he apparently had a daughter at Fort Timiskaming who later married Chief Factor Allan McDonell.

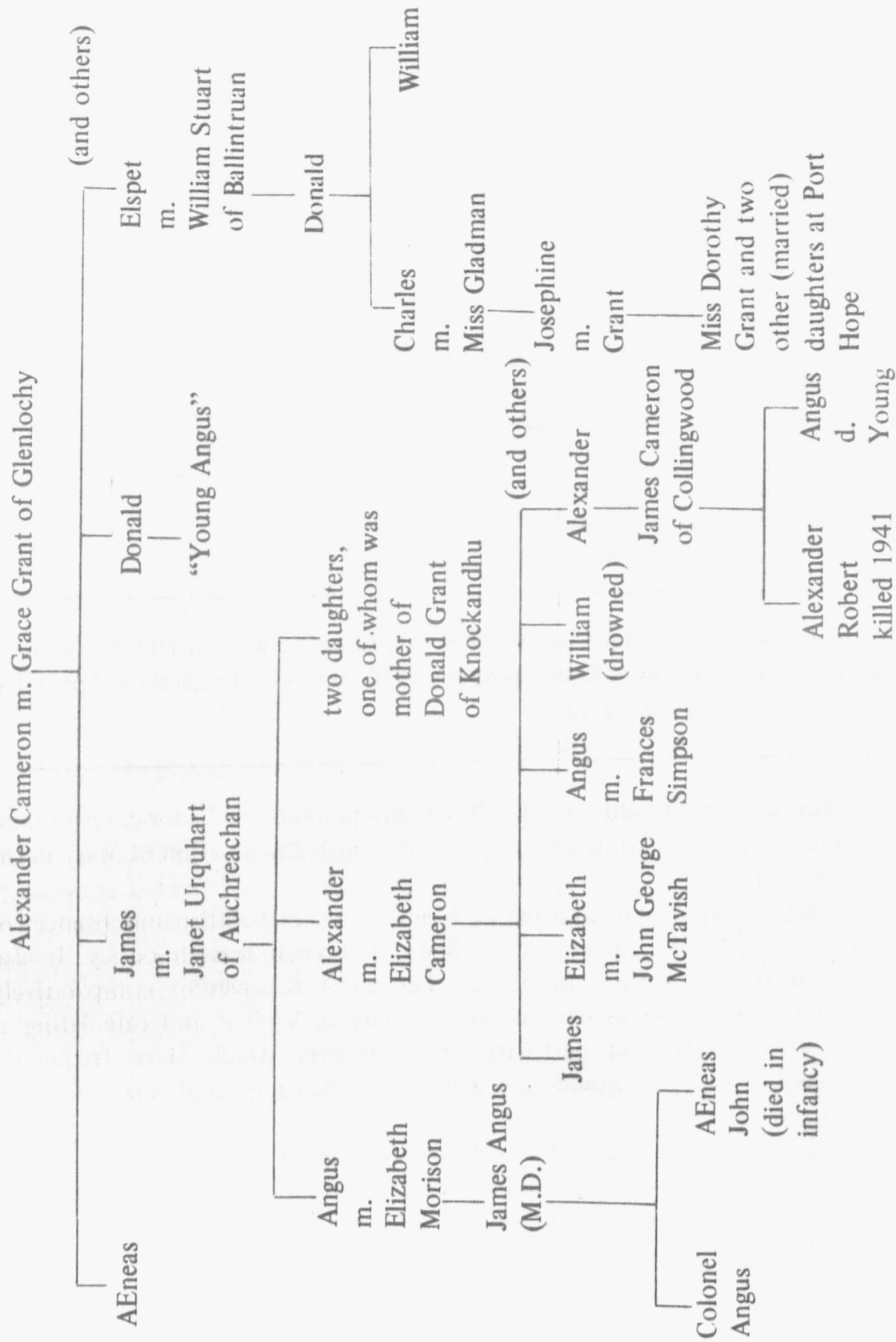
Aeneas died in Montreal on September 8, 1822, at the age of sixty-five. His will is in the Montreal Court House, signed in a shaky hand on June 24, 1818. He left generous bequests to his brothers, sisters, nephews and nieces in

Scotland and a legacy to the daughters of three of his fur trade friends, Ann McGillivray, Editha Hallowell and Helen MacLeod. He also bequeathed a hundred pounds currency to the poor of his native parish of Kirkmichael and twenty-five to those of the St. Gabriel Street Presbyterian Church, of which he was a member. To his nephew "Angus Cameron now of Temiscamingue Indian Trader, a Partner in the North West Company", he left five thousand pounds outright and made him residuary legatee.

The Angus Cameron of Aeneas' will was the elder son of his brother, James Cameron of Inverchabet (later of Ballinlish) and his wife, Janet Farquharson of Auchreachan. When Aeneas went home on leave in the autumn of 1798, the agents commissioned him to look out for suitable young men to become clerks in the North West Company, more particularly for Timiskaming, and although his nephew lacked two of the specified eighteen years, Aeneas was apparently willing to take him to Canada. For some reason, however, his youth perhaps or his interest in farming, Angus did not come out until the spring of 1801 and then on his own account; the famine years of 1799 and 1800 in Scotland may have upset his plans. He signed his agreement as clerk in the North West Company on June 2 and his uncle did not even know he was in the country until he arrived at Fort Timiskaming with the brigade. The delay was unfortunate, Aeneas pointed out to his brother, since he had filled the Timiskaming vacancies with Canadian clerks who would be Angus' seniors; but "let not this matter", he added, "concern you in the smallest degree, rely upon it that what weight I have in the North West Compy.—will always continue to lean in his favor".

After a few months at Fort Timiskaming Aeneas sent his nephew to assist Donald McKay at Matawagamingue and when McKay went to the Fort in 1804, Angus became master of the post. "I have not seen him for rather more than eighteen months", Aeneas told James in September, 1803, "but have letters from him twice every summer. He keeps his health and the country agrees with him. I understand he has grown taller and stouter than ever you were yourself a sign that he does not starve. I am sorry to find him but an indifferent scholar and not very eager to improve himself, in every other respect he gives me entire satisfaction."

Although Timiskaming was always somewhat of a backwater in the Canadian trade, being off the main route to the northwest, it was one of the Nor'Westers' most valuable districts, particularly noted for the quantity and quality of its beaver. A measure of its worth is to be found in William McGillivray's statement to John George McTavish that even as late as 1821, the combined Lake Superior and Timiskaming returns were valued at 20,000 pounds.¹



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Personal Name Authority

Cameron, Aeneas (ca. 1757-1822)

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Biographical Sketch or Administrative History

Aeneas Cameron (ca. 1757-1822) was born in the parish of Kirkmichael, Scotland, to Alexander Cameron and Grace Grant. Aeneas Cameron came to Montreal in spring 1788 after spending two years in Jamaica. Once in Montreal, he worked with several other fur traders, including Robert Dobie and William Grant, until he was offered a share in the North West Company in 1798. Aeneas was in charge of Temiscamingue District until he left in 1804, but did not retire to Montreal until 1806. Aeneas never formally married, but had at least one daughter, Margaret, with an Aboriginal woman at Fort Temiscamingue. Aeneas passed away in 1822 and left the bulk of his estate to his nephew Angus Cameron.

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Archival records linked to this creator

- [19775](#) Aeneas and Angus Cameron fonds

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Although Cameron seems to have left Fort Timiskaming in 1804, he probably did not retire to Montreal until 1806, after his return from the bay. He became a member of the Beaver Club in 1807 and until 1812, although never a partner of McTavish, McGillivrays and Company, he served the firm in a financial capacity, probably in the accounting and supplying of the Timiskaming business. During the War of 1812 he was captain and paymaster of the Corps of Canadian Voyageurs raised by the Nor'Westers and in 1815 he sold his hundredth share as a retired partner and all his interests in the NWC to its agents for £11,000. He had never formally married but he had at least one Indian wife at Fort Timiskaming. Margaret, who became the wife of Chief Factor Allan McDonell*, was apparently his daughter.

Email Correspondence from March 7, 2023

Morning

Not sue if its allowed but here is my DNA results for my family tree linking Marie Cecile McDonnell and Alexander McDonnell as siblings, I am 3rd-4th cousins with descendants from Alexander McDonnell.

This through Ancestry DNA .ca

James Poirier

Relationships ☰ List



Margaret^m Cameron
4th great-grandmother
1790-1885

EVALUATE



Cecile o C MacDonell
3rd great-grandmother
1809-1875

EVALUATE



2 DNA Matches



Alexander McDonell
3rd great-granduncle
1813-1847

EVALUATE



3 DNA Matches



Marianne (Lorion)
2nd great-grandaunt
1845-1916

EVALUATE



Alexander Dorion
2nd great-grandfather
1849-

EVALUATE



France Lapensee
1st cousin 3x removed
1880-1966

EVALUATE



Rose Anna Dorion
Great-grandmother
1899-1910

EVALUATE



Joseph N Lapensee
2nd cousin 2x removed
1902-1969

EVALUATE



Malvina M Lapensee
2nd cousin 2x removed
1911-1989

EVALUATE



Wilfrid Lamirande
Maternal grandfather
1919-1991

EVALUATE



Rheal Lapensee
3rd cousin 1x removed
1942-2021

EVALUATE



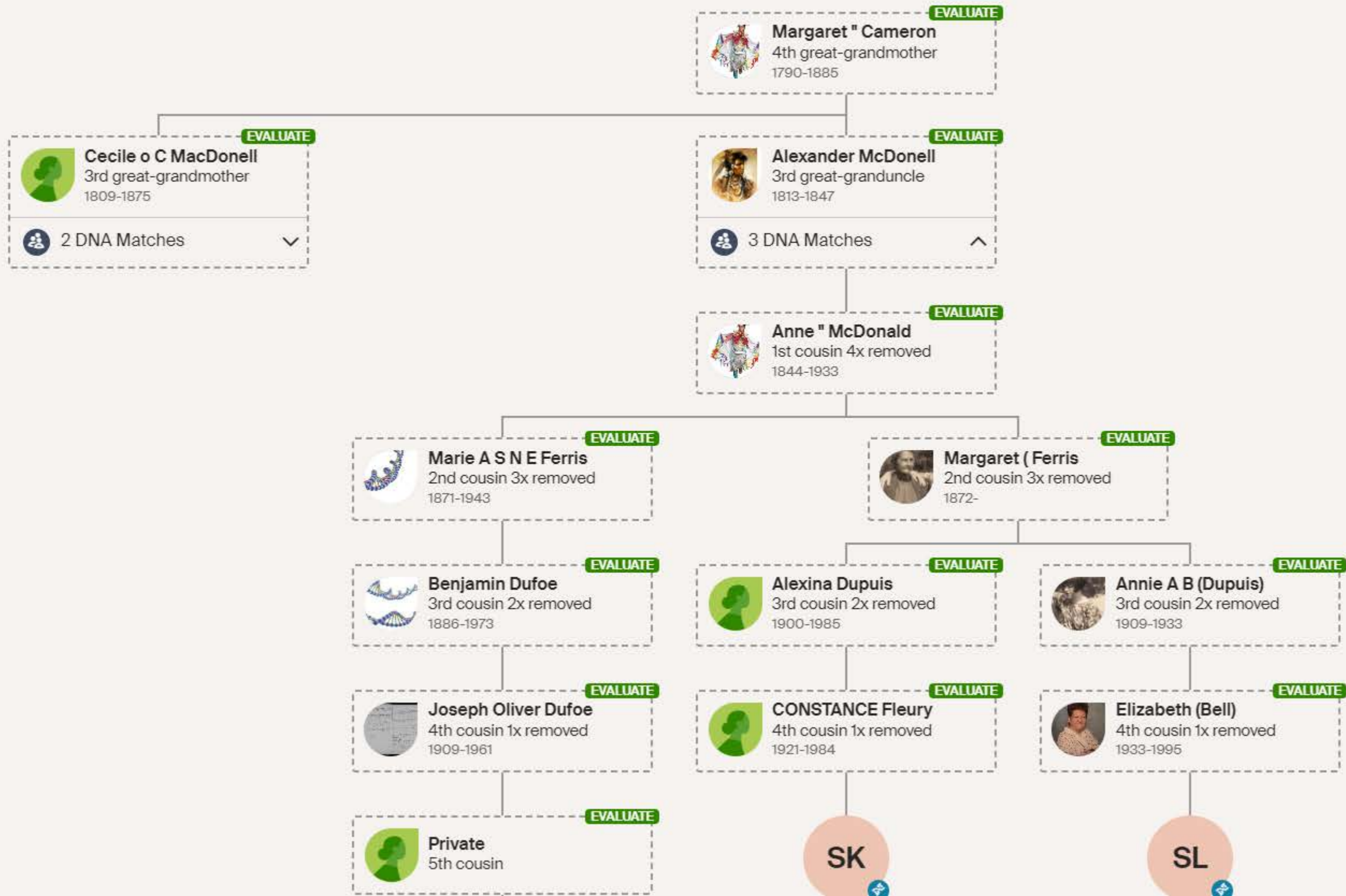
Ronald J Belanger
3rd cousin 1x removed
1934-2004

EVALUATE



Mary Ann Lamirande
Mother
1955-

EVALUATE



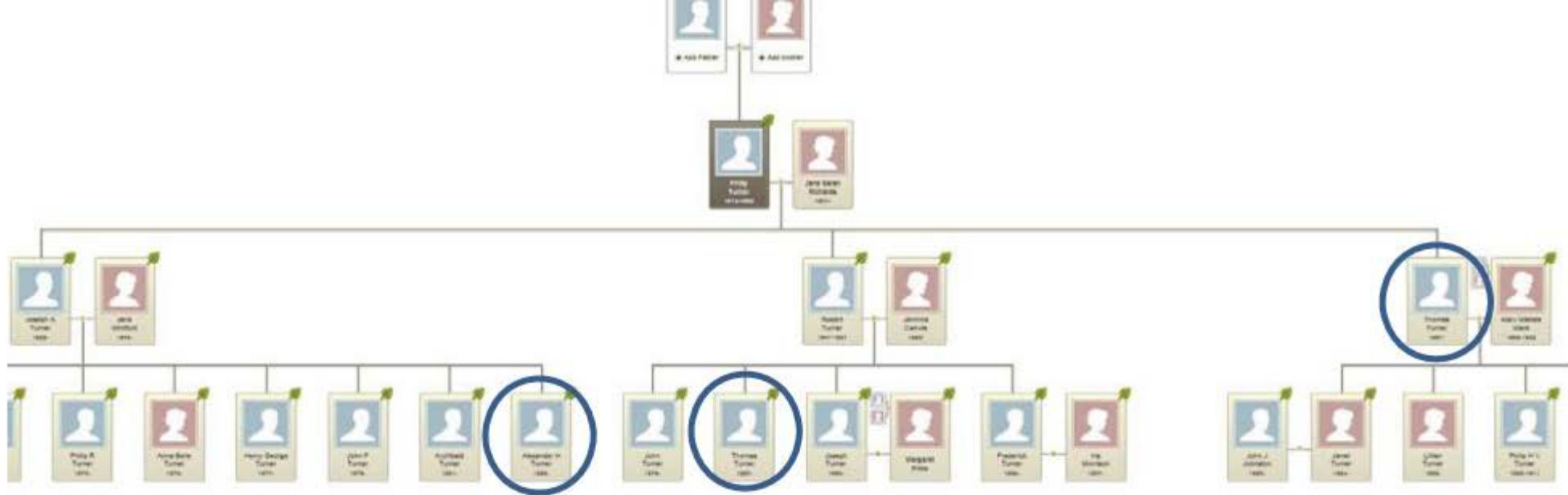


Figure 2 The Turner Family Tree. Circled in blue are guides, Thomas Turner, Alexander H E Turner, and Joseph Turner

Another example of the acquisition and transmission of essential guiding skills can be seen in the extended McDonnell family. Annie McDonnell (G0109), daughter of noted canoe maker Alexander McDonnell (give his ID number), married Walter Ferris (G0130), who was one of 1905 guides accredited by the editors of *Rod and Gun*.¹⁹³ Antoine Colton (G1061), who was married to Sophia Dorion (G0927)—Annie McDonnell’s cousin, also appears on the list.¹⁹⁴

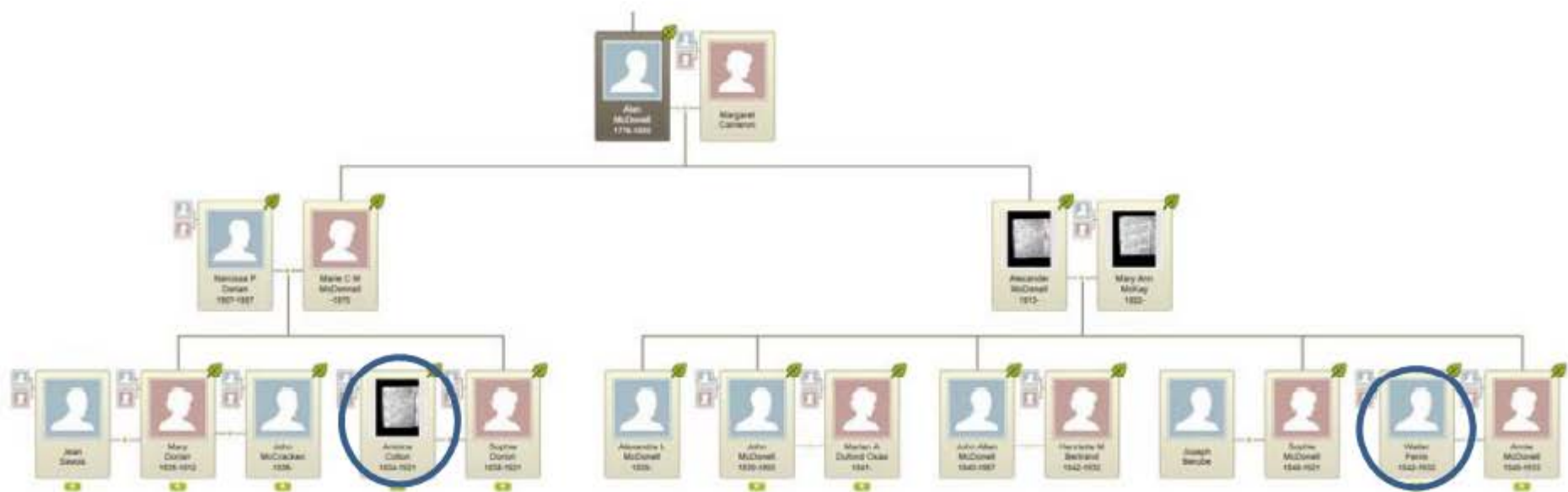


Figure 3 The McDonnell Family Tree. Circled in blue are guides, Walter Ferris and Antoine Colton

Another example of this family's guiding skills is seen in the different family

Email Correspondence from March 9, 2023

Some more supporting information that Cecile's Parents were Allan McDonnell and Margret Cameron and the brother of Alexander McDonnell.

Information taking from the Research Report On The Metis Community Mattawa and Ancestry .com

J Poirier

prosper from their established connections. McKenzie convinced another "Countrymen" employee from the Timiskaming district, Alexander McDonnell, to move to Mattawa and join his commercial enterprise when he retired in 1846. Narcisse Pierre Laurion/Dorion, McDonnell's brother-in-law, also accompanied him as part of an extended family group. McDonnell knew the area well because he had led canoe brigades between the two posts and Roderick McKenzie had been a colleague of relatively the same status within fur trade society. McDonnell, however, never severed his ties completely with the HBC because he occasionally worked on construction projects around the post; tasks similar to those he had performed earlier in his life at

Canadian Biography, vol. 7, University of Toronto/Université Laval, 2003–, accessed July 18, 2014, http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/lefebvre_de_bellefeuille_louis_charles_7E.html, P0338; C. Gordon Winder, "LOGAN, Sir WILLIAM EDMOND," in *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, vol. 10, University of Toronto/Université Laval, 2003–, accessed July 18, 2014, http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/logan_william_edmond_10E.html, P0339.

¹⁶² Elizabeth Arthur, "SIVERIGHT, JOHN," in *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, vol. 8, University of Toronto/Université Laval, 2003–, accessed July 18, 2014, http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/siveright_john_8E.html, P0341; Elaine Allan Mitchell, "McDONELL, ALLAN," in *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, vol. 8, University of Toronto/Université Laval, 2003–, accessed July 18, 2014, http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/mcdonell_allan_8E.html, P0340.

¹⁶³ "Official reports to the Governor and Committee in London, Simpson to the Governor and Committee Lachine 16 October 1826," MG20-D4, Correspondence books outward, volume D4/89, file F 111, microfilm reel HBC 3M44, HBCA, LAC, A1422; Arthur, "McKenzie, Roderick," *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, accessed July 14, 2014, http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/mckenzie_roderick_8E.html, P0337; Mitchell, *Fort Timiskaming*, 189, P0022; Charles Ed. Poiré, "Relation d'une Mission faite en l'Ete de 1839, le long de la Riviere de l'Outawa jusqu'au Lac de Témiskaming, &c.," *Rapport de l'association de la propagation de la Foi, établie a Montréal*, no. 3 (1841): 10, P0308.

¹⁶⁴ "The Hon. McKenzie, Sir," *Fort William and Lake Huron*, 1841, 1841, "MG20-D5, G," accessed July 14, 2014, http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/mckenzie_roderick_8E.html, P0337.

6.12 DORION

Root Ancestors

Narcisse Pierre Dorian (G0919) and Marie Cecile Mawiskak McDonnell (G0502) are the root ancestors of the Dorion family tree. Narcisse Pierre Dorian is the son of Bernard Lorion (G0924) and Catherine Chalifou (G0923), born in 1807 in Montreal. Narcisse Pierre Dorian is baptised in Pointe-aux-Trembles, Quebec in 1807. He is married to Marie Cecile Mawiskak McDonnell in Mattawan in 1837. On their marriage record the word “metisse” is used to describe Marie Cecile Mawiskak, according to an article published by the *Metis Voyageur*.²⁶⁹ Marie Cecile Mawiskak McDonnell is the daughter of Alan McDonnell (G0500) and Margaret Cameron (G0501), and is connected to the McDonnells. Marie Cecile Mawiskak McDonnell appears in both the 1861 and 1871 census in the Nipissing District and Mattawa respectively, noted as “Scotch” in the later. Contrastingly Narcisse Pierre Dorian appears in the 1871 census as “French.” They have two children, Mary Dorian and Sophia Dorian.

Descendants

Sophia Dorian and Antoine Colton

Sophia Dorian (G0927) is the daughter of Narcisse Pierre Dorian and Marie Cecile Mawiskak. Sophia Dorian is baptised at Mattawa in 1839, and her godfather is Charles Lepage, the first postmaster at Mattawa.²⁷⁰ She is married to Antoine Colton (G1061) marriage date unknown, and appear together in the 1861 census with the note of “These are also mixed up with Indian, more or less.”²⁷¹ Antoine Colton shares a common root ancestor with the Bastien family. Marie Josep Sibikwe (G0241), mother of Antoine Colton, was born in 1811. In a document created by the Indian Office in 1910, it is noted that Antoine Colton’s father is Charles Colton (G1067), but following his death Marie Joseph Sbukwe

John McDonell and Marian A Dufond Osaabikwe

John McDonell (G0107) is the son of Alexander McDonnell and Mary Ann McKay, and according to his death record was born in Red River. He and Marian A Dufond Osaabikwe (G0323) are married in Mattawa in 1863. Marian A Dufond Osaabikwe, b. 1841 in Mattawa, is connected to the Dufonds. Her father, Amable Jon Bon Dufond (G0309), is named in a petition from “des sauvages de Mattawa” in 1865, and described as “Indien” by Pere Simonet.²⁹¹ Marian A Dufond Osaabikwe is described as “Indian” in the 1871 census of Mattawan. John McDonell and Marian Angelique Dufond Osaabiikwe appear in Mattawa continuously from 1863 and 1893. John McDonell is described in the 1871 census as “half breed.” Their children marry into the Ferris’, in fact their cousins.

Marie Cecile Mawiskak McDonnell and Narcisse Pierre Dorian

Marie Cecile Mawiskak McDonnell is the daughter of Alan McDonell and Margaret Cameron. She and Narcisse Pierre Dorian (G0919) are married in 1837 in Mattawan, and in her marriage record she is described “metisse.”²⁹² The couple appear together in a number of census records including 1861, and 1871, residing in the district of Nipissing and Mattawa North respectively. In the 1871 census origin for Narcisse Pierre Dorian is indicated as “French”, Marie Cecile Mawiskak McDonnell as “Scotch.” They have two children, Mary Dorian (G0666) b. 1835 and Sophia Dorion (G0927) b. 1838.

Mary Dorian and Jean Savoie, and John McCracken

Mary Dorian was born in Rupert’s Land. She is married twice, to John McCracken (G0665) b. 1836, and to Jean Savoie (G0922). Mary Dorian is married to John McCracken in 1888 at Mattawa. John McCracken’s death date is unknown, however he last appears in the 1901 census record in Mattawan. Mary Dorian and Jean Savoie were likely married prior to 1861, as their only child, John B Savoie (G0921), is born around this time. John B Savoie and his later descendants appear as “Sauve.” He appears in the 1891 and 1901 censuses in Mattawa and Mattawan respectively, with his ethnicity recorded as “French”.

Sophia Dorion and Antoine Colton