

This document is the history of the Hamden Nichols, the ones who settled in Terry Clove and Gregory Hollow. It was written, as it says, by Wilma Nichol, I'm guessing in the sixties or seventies. The way I got involved is, I grew up on the old John Nichol homestead, and started re-searching its history several years ago. I hope this makes a lot of peoples' research a little easier. It sure was a treasure trove for me, when I found it. --*Kristina Plath, February 7, 2006*

The Nichol Family

James Nichol was born in Roxburghshire, or Langholm, a district of Dumfriesshire, Scotland, about 1780. He died and is buried at Bentpath, Scotland about 1840. He married Jennet Wells, who was born in 1785 in Roxburghshire. She died on April, 16, 1872 at Hamden, Delaware County, NY. After her husband's death, she with six of their nine children set sail for America, in 1842. They settled at the head of Terry Clove, Town of Hamden, NY. There was a high clerked peak behind the house, from the top of which one might see a beautiful view of the Delaware Valley with the little village of Delancey nestled in the foothills. In the old Delaware County Atlas, and by the "old-timer," this height of ground was known as the "Nichol Height." In later years, another Scotchman, fresh from the old country, made it his home. His name was James Fyffe, so the height in later years was known as Fyffe's Cobble. He was a staunch friend of the Nichol Family.

Mrs. Nichol's older son, Tom, remained with his mother on the farm, while the other members of the family scattered about the country making new homes. Mrs. Nichol and Tom were known for their generous hospitality. Several families who were less fortunate were given food and shelter for months at a time. For this reason they never acquired much in worldly goods but left a multitude of friends to mourn their passing.

The Nichol family descendants are as follows:

1- James born about 1808 or 1809 in Scotland. She nor any member of her family ever came ot this country to our knowledge. She married Andrew Ingles, a joiner (carpenter) by trade.

A-John

B-Jim

-all born before 1846.

C-Tom

D-Andrew

2- Tom born in Roxburghshire, Scotland, March, 1810; died at Sarah Nichol More's at Hamden, NY, Sept. 30, 1877. Before coming to America he worked at the Langholm grist mills, driving horses. He never married, but stayed on the farm with his mother and sister Nellie. Soon after his mother's death they has an auction, selling the farm and most of their personal property, as their generous nature had placed them in debt. Tom and Nellie moved to a small place over the hill on the Delancey Road, to what is known as the Triffany Farm. After Nellie's marriage, Tom made his home with his sister, Sarah, where he died, a broken-hearted old man, at 67.

3- John was born in Scotland in 1811, died April 18, 1895 at his farm home on Platner Brook near Delhi, NY. Before coming to America with his mother in 1842, he had mar-

ried Jennet Oliver, who was born in Scotland in 1815. She died at the farm house on Platner Brook, August 18, 1886. They are buried at the Flats Cemetery, Delhi, NY. Jennet and her two sons, Tom and Jim, joined her husband in America a few years later. John cleared the land and built a log house in Upper Gregory Hollow about 1849, where the family lived until March 1857. The parents moved the family and some household goods to their new home on Platner Brook. They left a young man in charge of the children and returned to Gregory Hollow for the remainder of their possessions. During the night the house on Platner Brook burned, trapping three of the children. Another house was built and the farm remained in the family for 86 years.

A- Thomas born in Scotland in 1840; burned to death March 9, 1857 in an attempt to rescue his sister.

B- James born in Scotland in 1841, died at farm home on Platner Brook, Feb. 27, 1915. He and his sister Maggie made a home together as neither married.

C- Jennie born in 1847, died in 1922 at Platner Brook home. She married David Salton who was born in Terry Clove, Hamden, NY in 1849 and died at Platner Brook in 1916. They are buried at River View Cemetery, Hamden.

I- James born at Platner Brook 1880, died at Oneonta NY (hospital) in December 1943. He married Laura Hogg, born Delhi NY, 1880, died at Delhi NY, 1950.

a- Margaret born at Platner Brook 1910, married Lawrence Leal. They later divorced.

D- Chirstina born in 1843 in America, burned to death when new home burned on March 9, 1857.

E- Elizabeth born in Gregory Hollow, Hamden, NY 1849. Died when home burned March 9, 1857.

F- Margaret (Maggie) born at Platner Brook in 1854, died at home farm April 4, 1915. She never married. She and Jim made their home together.

4- James was born in Scotland died in Iowa. He married Elspeth Jackson of Andes, NY. He cleared the land and built a log house near the head of Gregory Hollow, Hamden, NY. In 1865 five of their children died, four from a fever. About 1868, they moved to Iowa to start a new life.

A- James born in Gregory Hollow, Hamden, 1845. Died and buried at Petersburg, VA, April 3, 1865. Civil War vet.

B- Nettie born 1847, died Dec 9, 1865.

C- Elizabeth born in Gregory Hollow, died at Downsville NY. She married Rufus Conklin, born in Gregory Hollow died in Downsville. "Lib" was the only of James's family left in the east.

I- Nettie born (?) died at Downsville 1915, married Will Elliot. No family.

II- Irvin born (?) died at Downsville. Married Mary Chalmers, who died July 3, 1956, buried at Downsville, NY.

a- Hazel Margaret
married Homer Bull, deceased
married Roger Neff

1- Elizabeth M. Bull, married Otis Vernold

2- Homer C. Bull

3- Margaret H. Neff

4- John Conklin Neff

5- Anne M. Neff

6- Roger E. Neff, Jr

7- Harold A. Neff

b- Elizabeth M., married Earl Johns

1- Jean, married Richard Briggs

A- Martin R Briggs

2- Edna

3- Raymon

c- Harold Rufus (not married)

d- Christina Nichol Conklin, married Elmer Doig.

1- Joice

2- Louise

3- Paul

4- Roland

e- Helen Nichol Conklin (twin of Christina), married George A. Tingue.

1- Virginia M., married Donald Sweet.

A- Martin

B- George, deceased

C- Dale

2- James E. Conklin Tingue, married Bessie Butler

a- Earl R. (has four children)

b- Howell

c- Marian

D- Donald born in Gregory Hollow, Hamden, 1854, died Nov. 8, 1865

E- Fannie, born Gregory Hollow, died March 2, 1865

F- Tammie P. born Sept. 1860 in Gregory Hollow, died Oct. 29, 1865

G- John was probably born in a western state. Lived in Nebraska, later Iowa where he died.

H- Wat

I- Bart -All lived in Iowa

J- Georgianna

5- David born in Roxburghshire, Scotland, June 7, 1816; died at Andes, NY, Nov. 14 1894. In 1843 he married Johanna Salton who was born in Peebles, Scotland. She died at Gregory Hollow Sept, 1846, left no family. In 1854 he married Nellie White who was born in Gregory Hollow in 1826, died June 8, 1881. They are buried in Riverview Cemetery, Hamden, NY.

David with his brother John and James cleared land and each built a log cabin for their families between 1849 and 1851 (Delaware County History). David was the only

one to stay there to “bring up” his family. He left there in 1893 to make his home with his daughter Nettie in Andes.

A- James born Gregory Hollow Dec. 5, 1855, died May 29, 1871.

B- Tom, twin of James. He died at Downsville, March 4, 1921. Married Etta Law who died May 5, 1946.

I- Carrie married Frank Oliver, lived in Arkville, NY.

a- Mable Esther, died in infancy

b- Raymond, married Eleanor Rieker

1- Caroline Ruth

2- Raymond F., Jr.

c- Florence, married Chestor Tabor

1- Arlene

2- Harold

3- Barbara

4- Mable

d- Floyd F, married Frances Finch

1- Sandra Lee

2- Dianna Frances

e- Charles, married Gladys Davis

1- Edward C

f- Cora, married Robert H. Barnes

1- Ronald

2- Frances

3- Carol

4- Linda

5- John

6- Douglas

g- Mary, married William H. Cure

1- Patricia Alice

2- William Jr.

h- Stanley, married Carolyn Hylander

1- Douglas

II- David was born in Gregory Hollow, Hamden, died at Kelly Corners, NY, age 51 years. He married Kate Bailey who died in 1942, age 52.

C- Mate was born in Gregory Hollow in 1858, died at Walton, NY, August 1940. She married Hugh White who was born March, 1854, died at Walton.

I- Elnora born in Gregory Hollow in 1892, married Floyd Bronson who was born in Pa.

a- Alta married Howard Knapp, then divorced and married William Adams.

b- Bruce

D- Robert born in Gregory Hollow Dec. 1859, died at Roxbury, NY, April 1939. He married Hattie Neish who was born in Terry Clove Hamden in 1863.

I- Agnes born at Delancey, NY, in 1890. She married Robert L. Smith.

a- Mary, died in childhood.

b- Harriet

E- Nettie was born in 1862 in Gregory Hollow. She married William Liddle who died in Andes, NY.

F- Johanna (Jo) born in Gregory Hollow in 1865. Married John Tuttle who was born in Andes and died at Donsville, NY, July 1930.

I- Nellie Jane, married William Tibbitts

a- Margaret, born in Albany NY, June 1909, married Wendell Salton who was born in Terry Clove, Hamden, Jan., 4, 1890. He died Oct. 25, 1974.

G- Janie, died in infancy.

6- Francis born in Scotland about 1818 in Roxburghshire, died in Kansas. He married Jeanette Jameson who was born in Scotland, 1824, married about 1840. Made their home on the Upper East Branch of Platner Brook near West Delhi, NY. In the autumn of 1868 they held an auction selling their property. Soon after they departed for Iowa with their family. Later they moved to Kansas. Adam, Francis' younger brother attended the sale. He bid off a small hatchet which is still used by a son, James. (*Editor's note- the hatchet now resides in the archives of the Delaware County Historical Society.) Three children died and are buried at the West Delhi churchyard, near Delhi, NY.

A- James A. died Nov 2, 1856, age 9 yrs, 11 mos.

B- Thomas J. died Oct. 25, 1956; age 5 yrs, 6 mos.

C- Jennet B. died Sept 29, 1856; 12 yrs, 4 mos.

7- Nellie born in Roxburghshire, Scotland, May 16, 1820; died at Hamden, NY March 6, 1903. She married Jerry Bush late in life who died at Delancey, NY, 1891. After her husband's death she made her home with her sister, Sarah More.

8- Adam was born in Roxburghshire, Scotland, in Oct, 1822, died at his home in Terry Clove, Hamden NY, August 9, 1900. He married Isabel W. More who was born at Cabin Hill, Andes NY, March 30, 1826. She died at Hawley Station, Hamden, NY, December 7, 1913.

For 7 years before coming to America, Adam worked as a joiner's apprentice for his brother-in-law Andrew Ingles. He received his board and room but little, if any pay. It was compulsory to work the full 7 years to learn the carpenters' trade. He thought a great deal of the Ingles family and as long as he lived, kept a correspondence with them. When Andrew, the youngest of the Ingles boys, was small, Adam often led a white cow while the little boy rode on its back. Years later, when he has grown to manhood, Andrew wrote to Adam. In his letter he wrote, "I have lived long enough to know that all earthly things are no more satisfying in their nature than the ride on the white cow."

In 1846, Adam set out for America in a sailing vessel. He left the shores of Scotland on April 15, arriving in New York harbor six weeks later on June 1st. He came to the home of his mother and brother Tom and worked at carpenter work in nearby towns—Delhi, Andes, Bovina—mostly building homes. By 1857 he had purchased a farm from Peter Launt, adjoining his mother's farm. In April of that year we had the heaviest snow-

fall ever recorded here. Three feet one day, then four feet a day or so later. Many farmers were without hay for their cattle. Straw beds were ripped open to feed them. A lean-to roof on Adam's farm caved in from the weight of the snow. The snow all melted by the sun, not by rain. Adam built the house on his farm, had an elderly lady, Martha Whitson, as a housekeeper until his marriage about 1860. The farm stayed in the Nichol family till 1909.

A- Elizabeth born in Terry Clove, Hamden, NY, Sept. 14, 1863; died at Hawley Station, Hamden, Oct. 16, 1939. She never married.

B- James Andrew was born in Terry Clove, June 29, 1865, died Jan. 21, 1962 at his home at Hawley Station, Hamden. He married Nellie Littlejohn who was born in Terry Clove, May, 1869, died at Hawley Station, Hamden, Jan. 20, 1953 at her home.

I- Bernice born Oct. 10, 1903

II- Wilma born Nov. 16, 1904

C- Alexander More born in Terry Clove, Hamden, NY, Oct 20, 1868, died at Smith Hospital, Walton NY, March 21, 1963. He never married. He and his sister Elizabeth made a home together.

9- Sarah was born in Scotland (Roxburghshire) in 1826, died at Hamden, NY, in 1906. She married James More, born at Cabin Hill, Andes, 1820, died at Hamden in 1864. They had six children, not one married. All were born and died on the farm near Hamden. All were buried at Riverview Cemetery, Hamden, NY.

A- John, born 1856, died Sept. 1920

B- Sarah, born 1858, died 1862

C- Nettie, born 1859, died 1877

D- Will, born 1860, died Dec. 1937

E- Elizabeth, born 1862, died June 1921

F- Adelia, born 1863, died Aug. 1938.

This Nichol history was written by Wilma M. Nichol as it was told to me by my father James A. Nichol and my Uncle Alex M. Nichol.