

## ROBERT ARMSTRONG

Robert Armstrong, born in Ireland, settled in Marlborough township, Carleton county, Ontario, before 1851. In the 1901 census his wife, Margaret Eccles, reported that she had immigrated into Canada in 1847. Because they were married in Ireland, that fixes Robert's arrival date as well. Since the agricultural census of Marlborough township for 1851/2 has not survived, it cannot be said with certainty where the family lived at that time. But taking the order in which the names were entered onto the census as indicating the order in which the families lived on the concessions, it would seem that they were around Pierces Corners which is located on lot 6, concession 5. Robert was listed on the 1852 land assessment roll on the east 1/2 of lot 7, concession 6 (near the Hill/Montgomery farm) and in 1853 on the east 1/2 of lot 7, concession 4, (near the Robert Pierce farm). He was not listed in any later Marlborough township roll.

The 1851/2 census indicates that Robert, his wife and five of their children were born in Ireland. Eventually there were at least eleven children, six born in Canada. From the censuses over time the family group can be listed as follows:

	<u>Born</u>	<u>1851</u>	<u>1861</u>	<u>1871</u>	<u>1881</u>	<u>1891</u>	<u>1901</u>
Robert	Ire	40	48	62	73		
Margaret	Ire	35	44	57	65	70	87
Adam	Ire	15					
William	Ire	13					
Archibald	Ire	11					
Elizabeth (Isabella?)	Ire	8	17				
Robert	Ire	6	14	24			
Elisa	Can	3	12	22			
Anne (Elizabeth?)	Can	2	10	20			
John	Can	8	19	26	39		
Maria	Can	6	17	23	30		
Sarah	Can	4	15				
James	Can	3	13	21			

By 1861 Robert and Margaret had moved to North Gower township and occupied part of lot 29, concession 4, a farm of 100 acres. After Robert's death, Margaret remained on the farm which was then operated by her son, John.

Robert died October 10, 1884, aged 79, Margaret on January 30, 1909, aged 95. Both are buried in Elmview cemetery in Kars. In the same plot is buried their daughter Maria who died on April 15, 1891, aged 34.

## CHILDREN OF ROBERT AND MARGARET ARMSTRONG

Adam:

Adam was the oldest child of Robert and Margaret Armstrong. In the 1851/2 census, he was 15 years old, living in Marlborough township with his parents. By 1861 he had married. His parents had moved to North Gower township but Adam and his wife still lived in Marlborough township, in the vicinity of Goodstown. At least, based on the order of his name in the 1861 census, Adam and his family were in the neighbourhood of the Scollins, the Moores, the Clarks and the Mills families. He was a carpenter. By 1871 the family had moved to North Gower township and occupied part of lot 29, concession 4, beside his father's farm. Within a few years they had moved again to lot 7, concession 1, near Todd's Corners. And by 1900, they were on lot 10, concession 1, near Carsonby.

Adam's wife was Jane Lewis. According to her obituary, she and Adam had seven (perhaps eight) sons and five daughters. One son, John, seems to have died young and may not have been counted at that time. As far as can be told from the censuses, the family group was as follows:

	<u>1851</u>	<u>1861</u>	<u>1871</u>	<u>1881</u>	<u>1891</u>	<u>1901</u>
Adam	15	25	34	45	55	65
Jane		20	31	40	51	60
Martha		2	11	18		
Margaret J.			9	18		
Isabella			7	15		
William Eccles			6	14		
Robert			4	13		
George M.			2	11	20	
Alexander			1	9	18	28
Adam				7	16	
Alice				5	14	23
John				3		
Elizabeth Florence				1		
Archibald					11	21
Charles Gainor					7	14

Adam died on February 25, 1903, aged 66 years. Jane was born in 1843 and died in 1918 giving her an age of 75. Both are buried in the North Gower Anglican cemetery with their children Elizabeth Florence, 1879-1886, William Eccles who died October 11, 1911, age 42, and Charles Gainor who died December 21, 1952, aged 70.

Margaret J. married William Johnston and died at Pakenham in 1917. William Eccles died in 1911 at the age of 42 and was buried in North Gower Anglican cemetery. George M. married Maud Theresa McGregor and died in 1937. He was also buried in

North Gower. Elizabeth Theresa died in 1886 at the age of seven. Charles Gainor died in 1952, aged 70. Nothing is known of the rest.

According to the 1901 census, Adam immigrated into Canada in 1857 (which probably is in error and should have been 1847; he was here for the 1851/2 census and his mother stated that the year was 1847.

James:

James was the youngest child of Robert and Margaret. He still lived in North Gower township with his parents when the 1881 census was recorded. In 1891 he was alone, living in Marlborough township, likely (based on census names order) near Pierces Corners. According to The Hyland Family History, Lloyd and Elsie Hyland, 1974, in 1888 he had bought a 50-acre farm from Samuel Hyland when Samuel, his wife and two younger sons moved to Essex County. Mary Bennett, a daughter of Joseph Bennett, had married George Hyland. On March 1, 1892, James married Carrie Hester Bartley, born on February 14, 1872, the oldest child of Jared Bartley and Eliza Jane Bennett, Mary's sister. The 1901 census reported that James and Carrie occupied the 50-acre farm on lot 8, concession 5, Marlborough township.

The family group at the time of the 1891 and 1901 censuses was:

	<u>1891</u>	<u>1901</u>	<u>Born</u>
Armstrong, James E.	25	38	
Armstrong, Carrie Hester.		29	
Armstrong, Grover Clarence		7	18/08/1893
Armstrong, Chester Bennett		5	10/04/1895
Armstrong, James E. E. (Ernest)		3	
Armstrong, Fulton Lawrence		1	22/06/1899
Armstrong, Jared Clifford		1	03/12/1900

Other children were born after 1901.

John Henry Howard	17/02/1905
Rupert Mansell	01/06/1906
Arthur Lewis E.	30/05/1908
Carrie Grace	14/10/1910

There were deaths in the family as well:

James E.	18/08/1933 (78)
Carrie Hester	14/12/1936 (65)
John Henry Howard	20/09/1906
Rupert Mansell	31/03/1907

And of the marriages in the family, these dates are known:

James Ernest E.	Elsie Mackey	08/10/1924
Chester Bennett	Lydia Edith Pratt	19/08/1925
Fulton Lawrence	Flora May Jennie McCurdy	18/07/1928
Jared Clifford	Laura Theresa McCurdy	15/06/1926
Arthur Lewis	Eliza May Wallace	12/07/1938
Carrie Grace	William Roy McBryde	03/06/1939
Grover Clarence	Alma Daly	-----?-----