

3289 St. Paul Ave., Niagara Falls, Ont.
L2J 2M2.

March 2nd, 1981.

Dear Louis:

I received your letter of the 23rd ultimo in which was enclosed copy of the Will of Ephriam Alexander together with the Declaration of the witness, Benjamin Willson. I have made copies of the wording and enclose two for your records.

Again incormation is added to that on file however several bits require further research.

To begin with, Hugh Alexander died on Nov. 2, 1817 in the 37th year of his age, Beside his tombstone is that of his widow, Susan, described as the Widow of Hugh Alexander, and late wife of John McMicking. She died in 1851 but the years of age are unclear. South of that is the stone of Ephriam Alexander, who died on Jan. 19, 1818 in his 27th year. You will notice the Will of Hugh was made on Oct. 30th, 1817, three days before he died, while that of Ephriam was made on the day he died. Strange that the brothers died within 78 days of each other.

From the ages given it would appear Hugh was born in 1780 and Ephriam about 1791. From this it is apparent the the Hugh Alexander, who had the grist mill on the West branch of the Delaware River in the former Province of New York was not the same person, but could have been father to both, as well as William and Dolly.

This brings us back to the search you made through the Archives of Ontario wherein Hugh Alexander was given a Free Grant in Townsend Township (I have been unable to locate this) on April 7th, 1797, being lot 14, concession 6. The principals were Henry Fisher, gentleman, Montreal; Hugh Alexander, Indian Territory Trader, Montreal, and Elizabeth Fisher, Adolphoustown. This could be the father of the Alexanders here. He may have came after Hugh became settled at Fort Erie.

In the Will of Ephriam, he leaves his land in the Town of Anreling, County of Cayagua, State of New York, to his wife, Susan. I wonder if this was an error in drawing the Will. The stone of Ephriam does not mention a wife. Susan, widow of Hugh, probably was around at the times and was minstaken for Ephriams wife. It hardly seems possible he had married her in the interval. It msue be remembered she had a half interest in the river property at Fort Erie with Ephriam, provide he had funds to rebuild.

The Will of Hugh was not probated until January, 1821 and the Fort Erie warehouse property was not sold until Dec. 21, 1826 although the Memorial of a Indenture of Bargain and Sale was dated April 8, 1822. The purchasers were Thomas Clark of Stanford and John Willson of Niagara Falls, The document was executed by the executors, John Warren, James Cummings and James Macklem.

v You will notice John Warren and John Willson were also executors of Hugh's Estate.

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The other question I have not resolved is the name of the father-in-law of Susan Alexander mentioned as being in Buffalo in her Declaration made on January 20th, 1824 relative to the claim for losses sustained by her husband at Fort Erie and at Stamford.

From the two Wills it is known that there was a further brother named Williem. I wonder if the Dolly Alexander buried in Stamford in 1815 was a sister.

I am enclosing a partly completed Pedigree Chart relative to the original Thomas McMicking, 4th, the first settler in the Township of Stamford. You will notice his grandson, Wm. McMicking 1834-1912 married a Mary McDermott. Is there any connection?

I have been around the house for the past week and have not yet taken a picture of the Alexander stones but will do so shortly.

I received my membership card from the Fort Niagara Association but no material. Will get down there in the spring and see what they have.

Sincerely,


Lorne Robinson.