
Descendants of
Jesse Wheelock
of
Aroostook Co, Maine



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Northborough, MA
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Contents

Descendants of Jesse Wheelock	3
Sources and Endnotes	8
Index of Names	9

Descendants of Jesse Wheelock

1. Jesse¹ Wheelock, b. 19 Dec 1784, in Northborough, Worcester, MA,¹ d. 28 Jun 1873,² bur. in Christ's Church Cemetery, Fort Kent, ME.² Married Sophronia Baker 1840, in Madawaska, Aroostook Co, ME.³ She was the daughter of Nathan Baker and Sophia Rice. Sophronia Baker was b. 20 May 1816, in Moscow, Somerset Co, ME,³ d. 23 Jul 1858, in Hancock Plantation, Aroostook Co, ME,³ bur. in Ft. Kent, Aroostook Co, ME.³

Jesse was the son of Jesse Wheelock, Sr. and Abigail Lovitt. He descends from Rev. Ralph Wheelock, his Puritan immigrant ancestor, who came to the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1637, as follows: Jesse<Jesse<Obadiah<Obadiah<Benjamin<Ralph. His father, Jesse, Sr., was born in Mendon, MA, and moved with his family, probably as a child, to Shrewsbury, MA. Sometime later he moved to neighboring Northborough, where the births of two children are recorded, including Jesse, Jr. Deeds show that he sold land in Northborough in 1786, and moved to Union Township, Lincoln Co, Maine before 1800, where he is enumerated in the 1800 Census. Jesse, Jr. must have been a teenager at the time, and no doubt spent his early years in this part of Maine.

In 1830 Jesse, Jr. moved to the South Bank of the St. John River (now Aroostook County). A survey of the lots in that region, taken in 1831, indicate that Jesse Wheelock and Walter Powers began cutting trees on their lot in Aug 1830, and built a log house where they lived that winter. [1] The 1830 Census enumerates Jesse Wheelock as the only member of the household, age 40-50 years. [2] He appears in the 1834 New Brunswick Census living alone in his household, on ungranted land on the right bank of the St. John; no livestock, no seeds sown last spring, no crops raised. [6] The 1840 Census enumerates him, age 50-60 years, with three others, a male, age 15-20, a female, age 15-20, and a female, age 20-30. [3] The 1850 Census shows Jesse, age 66, born in Mass, living with his wife, Sophronia, age 32, born in Maine, and two children, Jesse B., age 3, and Martha, age 1. [4]

A border dispute between Maine and New Brunswick raged over much of the Madawaska region, where Jesse Wheelock, along with many other French and English settlers lived. In March, 1831 the Maine Legislature passed an act incorporating the town of Masardis, in the county of Penobscot, in an attempt to gain control of the region. In accordance with this act a writ was issued to Walter Powers, calling a meeting of the Madawaska inhabitants on 30 Aug 1831. In this meeting, Jesse Wheelock was chosen Town Clerk. The lieutenant-governor, unhappy with these actions, hastened to Madawaska with a body of soldiers, and arrested Jesse Wheelock and three others. The prisoners were taken to Fredericton, N.B., were tried by the Superior Court, and sentenced to pay a fine of fifty pounds and serve three months in prison. Through actions of the US Federal Government in Washington, the sentences were cut short, and none of the four served the full term. The border dispute was finally settled in 1842, with the Webster-Ashburton Treaty between the United States and Great Britain. [5]

Jesse died at Hancock Plantation, Aroostook County, Maine. It is presumed the nearby locations of Wheelock, Wheelock Island, and Wheelock Mills derive their names from him, or his family. His ornate headstone, located in Christ's Church Cemetery, Fort Kent, ME, reads as follows:

Jesse Wheelock - born in Northborough, Mass. - Oct. 15, 1784 - Died June 28, 1873 - Sophronia His Wife - Born in Mosco, Maine - May 20, 1816 - Died July 23, 1858

LDS records supposedly indicate that Jesse was married once prior to his marriage to Sophronia Baker. This would certainly explain his advanced age at the time of his second marriage. These records show that he married Phoebe Golden, b. abt 1788, probably in Northborough, MA, with whom he had two children. Phoebe died sometime after the birth of the second child. If this were true, it would explain the two children that appear in his household in the 1840 Census. These children, age 15 to 20, were too old to be the children of Sophronia. [8]

(Written by Roderick B. Sullivan, Jr., Dec 2001)

Sources

[1] "State of the Madawaska and Aroostook Settlements in 1831: Report of John G. Dean and Edward Kavanagh to Samuel E. Smith, Governor of the State of Maine", W.O. Raymond, ed., Collections of the New Brunswick Historical Society (St.John, N.B.) number 9 (1914), pp.344-386.

[2] 1830 Federal Census, Penobscot County, ME, Reel M19-51, Madawaska Settlement, St. John River, pg 375. (Note: The Madawaska region of Penobscot County later became Aroostok County.)

[3] 1840 Federal Census, Aroostok County, ME, Reel M704-136, Madawaska North of the St. John River, pg 53.

[4] 1850 Federal Census, Aroostook County, Hancock Plantation, Reel M432-248, pg 126a.

[5] "A History of Maine's Largest County From its Earliest Beginning Up Through the Bloodless Aroostook War", by Clarence A. Day, Extension Service Editor, University of Maine, Orono, Maine, Published by Northern Maine Regional Planning Commission, 1989. Available online at <http://www.nmdc.org/day/aroos.html> (see Chapter 7).

[6] Provincial Archives of the Province of New Brunswick, 1834 Census, in RS24, Records of the Legislative Assembly, Microfilm number F10422.

[7] Much of the information here was obtained from "The Upper St. John River Valley Northern Aroostook County, Maine and Madawaska County, New Brunswick: A history of the communities and people", at <http://www.upperstjohn.com>, Jan 2002.

[8] Notes and research of Roger Lincoln, of Houlton, Maine, 2003.

Children of Jesse Wheelock and Sophronia Baker:

- i. **Walter Wheelock**, b. 18 Dec 1840, in Hancock Plantation, Aroostook Co, ME,³ d. 18 Dec 1840, in Hancock Plantation, Aroostook Co, ME.³
- ii. **Jessie Wheelock**, b. 18 Dec 1840, in Hancock Plantation, Aroostook Co, ME,³ d. 18 Dec 1840, in Hancock Plantation, Aroostook Co, ME.³
- iii. **Jessie Powers Wheelock**, b. 3 Jul 1842, in Hancock Plantation, Aroostook Co, ME,³ d. 5 Jan 1846.³
- iv. **John Baker Wheelock**, b. 29 May 1846, in Chatanuge, New Brunswick,³ d. 29 May 1846, in Chatanuge, New Brunswick.³
- 2 v. **Jessie John Baker Wheelock**, b. 2 May 1848, in Hancock Plantation, Aroostook Co, ME,³ d. 11 Mar 1919, in St. John Plantation, Aroostook Co, ME.³
- vi. **Martha Louise Gage Wheelock**, b. 19 Aug 1849, in St. John, Aroostook Co, ME,³ d. 19 Sep 1872,⁴ bur. in Christ Church Cemetery, Ft. Kent, ME.⁴ Martha Louise Gage Wheelock probably married James Bolton, sometime before 19 Sep 1872, when their daughter, Martha (Mattie) Gage Bolton was born. Martha L. G. Wheelock apparently died during or shortly after childbirth, as her death date coincides with the birth of her daughter. She is buried in Fort Kent, ME; her headstone reads:

Martha L. G. - wife of James Bolton - Aug 19, 1849 - Sep 19, 1872

The supporting evidence is as follows:

1) The death certificate for Martha (Mattie) Gage Bolton, found in Auburn, ME, where she died in 1956, gives her mother's maiden name as Martha Wheeler (sic), her father as James Bolton, and identifies a birth date of 19 Sep 1872. She is probably the daughter of the Martha L. G. buried in Ft. Kent.

2) The 1850 Census shows Martha Wheelock living in the household of Jesse and Sophronia Wheelock, in Aroostook Co, ME, age 1. This implies that she was born in 1849. The LDS Ancestral File gives a birth date of 19 Aug 1849; and her full name as Martha Louise Gage Wheelock; both consistent with the 1850 census. Though the LDS information is unconfirmed; if true it creates a strong link between the Martha L. G. buried in Ft. Kent, born 19 Aug 1849, and Martha L. G. Wheelock, daughter of Jesse Wheelock and Sophronia Baker.

(Source: Researched by Roger Lincoln, of Houlton, ME, May 2003)

- vii. **Sophronia Abigail Wheelock**, b. 23 Nov 1853, in St. John, Aroostook Co, ME,³ d. 21 Jul 1873.³

2. Jessie John Baker² Wheelock (*Jesse¹*), b. 2 May 1848, in Hancock Plantation, Aroostook Co, ME,³ d. 11 Mar 1919, in St. John Plantation, Aroostook Co, ME,³ bur. in Ft. Kent, Aroostook Co, ME.³ Married

Louise Landry 29 Apr 1875, in St. John Plantation, Aroostook Co, ME.³ She was the daughter of Eliza Oakes. Louise Landry was b. 22 Dec 1859, in St. Francis, Aroostook Co, ME,³ d. 6 Aug 1919, in St. John Plantation, Aroostook Co, ME,³ bur. in Ft. Kent, Aroostook Co, ME.³

Children of Jessie John Baker Wheelock and Louise Landry:

- i. **Martha Sophia Wheelock**, b. 22 Jan 1877, in St. John, Aroostook Co, ME,³ d. 27 Mar 1961, in Newark, Essex Co, NJ.³ Married Charles Bion Harmon 28 May 1896.³
- ii. **Walter Powers Wheelock**, b. 23 Feb 1878, in St. John, Aroostook Co, ME,³ d. 1956,³ bur. in Hollywood Mem Pk, Maplewood, NJ.³ Married Alice Cyr 26 May 1900.³
- iii. **Selina Wheelock**, b. 29 May 1880, in St. John, Aroostook Co, ME,³ d. 30 Nov 1975, in Fairfield, Somerset Co, ME,³ bur. in Waterville, Kennebec Co, ME.³ Married Herbert Tardiff 7 Oct 1949, in Waterville, ME.⁵
- 3 iv. **Jesse Obidiah Wheelock**, b. 1 Aug 1883, in St. John, Aroostook Co, ME,³ d. 22 May 1972, in Waterville, Kennebec Co, ME.³
- v. **Albert Wheelock**, b. 14 Apr 1889, in St. John, Aroostook Co, ME,³ d. 14 Oct 1918, in Oxbow Plantation, Aroostook Co, ME.³
- 4 vi. **Ethel Louise Wheelock**, b. 6 Jan 1893, in St. John, Aroostook Co, ME,⁶ d. 5 Nov 1953, in Newark, Essex Co, NJ.⁶

3. Jesse Obidiah³ Wheelock (*Jessie John Baker², Jesse¹*), b. 1 Aug 1883, in St. John, Aroostook Co, ME,³ d. 22 May 1972, in Waterville, Kennebec Co, ME,³ bur. 24 May 1972, in Fairfield, Somerset Co, ME.³ Married Isabel McLean 5 Jun 1905, in St. Francis, Aroostook Co, ME.³ She was the daughter of Neil McLean and Mary Henderson. Isabel McLean was b. 30 Aug 1884, in St. Francis, Aroostook Co, ME,³ d. 3 Jan 1959, in Oakland, Kennebec Co, ME,³ bur. 6 Jan 1959, in Fairfield, Somerset Co, ME.³

Children of Jesse Obidiah Wheelock and Isabel McLean:

- i. **Florence Evelyn Wheelock**, b. 18 Sep 1906, in St. John, Aroostook Co, ME,⁷ d. 6 Sep 1992, in Yarmouth, Cumberland Co, ME,⁷ bur. 10 Sep 1992, in Yarmouth, Cumberland Co, ME.⁷
- ii. **Thelma Irene Wheelock**, b. 8 Mar 1909, in St. John, Aroostook Co, ME,⁸ d. 30 Oct 1978, in Fairfield, Somerset Co, ME,⁸ bur. 2 Nov 1978, in Pine Grove Cemetery, Waterville, ME.⁸ Married (1) Augustus Brouillet DATE UNKNOWN.⁸ Married (2) Roland Curtis DATE UNKNOWN.⁹
- iii. **Mary Ames Wheelock**, b. 16 Sep 1912, in St. Francis, Aroostook Co, ME,⁷ d. 27 May 1981, in Greenville, Piscataquis Co, ME,⁷ bur. Jun 1981, in Monson, Piscataquis Co, ME.⁷ Married Dana Moses Williams 8 May 1935, in Fairfield, Somerset Co, ME.⁷
- iv. **Carroll Albert Wheelock**, b. 18 Jan 1915, in St. Francis, Aroostook Co, ME,⁷ d. 15 Dec 1996, in Waterville, Kennebec Co, ME.⁷
- v. **Walter Bion Wheelock**, b. 16 Jun 1917, in East Skowhegan, Somerset Co, ME,⁷ d. 10 Sep 1982, in Waterville, Kennebec Co, ME,⁷ bur. in Fairfield, Somerset Co, ME.⁷

- vi. **Francis Ethel Wheelock.**
- vii. **Jessie Isabel Wheelock.**

4. Ethel Louise³ Wheelock (*Jessie John Baker², Jesse¹*), b. 6 Jan 1893, in St. John, Aroostook Co, ME,⁶ d. 5 Nov 1953, in Newark, Essex Co, NJ,⁶ bur. in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Hanover, NJ.⁶ Married John Francis Thibodeau 2 Oct 1914, in Estavan, SK, Canada.⁶ He was the son of John Francis Thibodeau and Margaret Mary McCaffrey. John Francis Thibodeau was b. 8 Jun 1888, in Woodstock, NB, Canada,⁶ d. 30 Apr 1966, in Lincoln Park, NY,⁶ bur. in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Hanover, NJ.⁶

Children of Ethel Louise Wheelock and John Francis Thibodeau:

- 5
 - i. **John Francis Thibodeau**, b. 17 Apr 1915, in Estavan, SK, Canada,⁶ d. 14 Apr 1998, in Wayne, Passaic Co, NJ.⁶
 - ii. **Arthur Erving Thibodeau**, b. 15 Jun 1920, in Fort Kent, Aroostook Co, ME,⁶ d. 10 May 1972, in Smithfield, RI.⁶

5. John Francis⁴ Thibodeau (*Ethel Louise Wheelock³, Jessie John Baker², Jesse¹*), b. 17 Apr 1915, in Estavan, SK, Canada,⁶ d. 14 Apr 1998, in Wayne, Passaic Co, NJ,⁶ bur. in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Hanover, NJ.⁶ Married Adele Pauline Schmidt 15 Oct 1942, in Newark, Essex Co, NJ.⁶ She was the daughter of Steven Schmidt and Pauline Holleran. Adele Pauline Schmidt was b. 20 Oct 1917, in New York, NY,⁶ d. 10 Sep 1995, in Wayne, Passaic Co, NJ.⁶

Children of John Francis Thibodeau and Adele Pauline Schmidt:

- i. **Paula Adele Thibodeau.**
- ii. **Jodele Louise Thibodeau.**
- iii. **Maude Elissa Thibodeau.**

Sources and Endnotes

1. Northborough Vital Records, Jesse, s. Jesse Wheelock and ____.
2. Headstone record, kindly supplied by Roger Lincoln, July 2003.
3. FamilySearch Ancestral File v4.19, www.familysearch.org, Dec 2001, submitted by Neal A. Williams, of Greenville, ME.
4. Headstone record, Christ Church Cemetery, Fort Kent, ME, taken by Roger Lincoln; Martha L. G., wife of James Bolton, 19 Aug 1849 to 19 Sep 1872.
5. Records of Henri P. Tardif, Dec 2003.
6. Records of Jody Thibodeau, granddaughter of Ethel Louise (Wheelock) Thibodeau, Oct 2003.
7. Records of Neal A. Williams, of Greenville, ME, by way of Darlene Campbell, author of "MacLeans: The Isle of Mull and Beyond", Dec 2001, <http://www.uftree.com/UFT/WebPages/georgina/MACLEAN/index.htm>
8. Records of Ellen Wheelock, by way of Darlene Campbell, author of "MacLeans: The Isle of Mull and Beyond", Dec 2001, <http://www.uftree.com/UFT/WebPages/georgina/MACLEAN/index.htm>
9. Records of Darlene Campbell, author of "MacLeans: The Isle of Mull and Beyond", Dec 2001, <http://www.uftree.com/UFT/WebPages/georgina/MACLEAN/index.htm>

Index of Names

Baker

Nathan, 3
Sophronia (20 May 1816 - 23 Jul 1858), 3

Brouillet

Augustus (16 Feb 1898 - 14 Sep 1961), 6

Curtis

Roland, 6

Cyr

Alice (about 1882 - 17 Aug 1959), 6

FrancisThibodeau

John (8 Jun 1888 - 30 Apr 1966), 7

Harmon

Charles Bion (about 1873 - ?), 6

Henderson

Mary (5 Feb 1845 - 2 Nov 1911), 6

Holleran

Pauline, 7

Landry

Louise (22 Dec 1859 - 6 Aug 1919), 5

McCaffrey

Margaret Mary, 7

McLean

Isabel (30 Aug 1884 - 3 Jan 1959), 6
Neil (15 Jul 1845 - 4 Nov 1914), 6

Oakes

Eliza, 6

Rice

Sophia, 3

Schmidt

Adele Pauline (20 Oct 1917 - 10 Sep 1995), 7
Steven, 7

Tardiff

Herbert (about 1876 - ?), 6

Thibodeau

Arthur Erving (15 Jun 1920 - 10 May 1972), 7
Jodele Louise, 7
John Francis (17 Apr 1915 - 14 Apr 1998), 7
John Francis, 7
Maude Elissa, 7
Paula Adele, 7

Wheelock

Albert (14 Apr 1889 - 14 Oct 1918), 6
Carroll Albert (18 Jan 1915 - 15 Dec 1996), 6
Ethel Louise (6 Jan 1893 - 5 Nov 1953), 6, 7
Florence Evelyn (18 Sep 1906 - 6 Sep 1992), 6
Francis Ethel, 7
Jesse (19 Dec 1784 - 28 Jun 1873), 3
Jesse Obidiah (1 Aug 1883 - 22 May 1972), 6

Jessie (18 Dec 1840 - 18 Dec 1840), 5
Jessie Isabel, 7
Jessie John Baker (2 May 1848 - 11 Mar 1919), 5
Jessie Powers (3 Jul 1842 - 5 Jan 1846), 5
John Baker (29 May 1846 - 29 May 1846), 5
Martha Louise Gage (19 Aug 1849 - 19 Sep 1872), 5
Martha Sophia (22 Jan 1877 - 27 Mar 1961), 6
Mary Ames (16 Sep 1912 - 27 May 1981), 6
Selina (29 May 1880 - 30 Nov 1975), 6
Sophronia Abigail (23 Nov 1853 - 21 Jul 1873), 5
Thelma Irene (8 Mar 1909 - 30 Oct 1978), 6
Walter (18 Dec 1840 - 18 Dec 1840), 5
Walter Bion (16 Jun 1917 - 10 Sep 1982), 6
Walter Powers (23 Feb 1878 - 1956), 6

Williams

Dana Moses (24 Feb 1912 - 9 Apr 1990), 6