

Owens Families in the Moosehead Area

by Marena (Owens) Schultz & Gus Andrews

The family of Thomas and Mary (Murray) Owens immigrated from Kent County, New Brunswick, Canada and settled in Greenville some time before 1900. The year in which they came to Greenville is not known, but their son William applied for naturalized U. S. citizenship in 1900, and was married in Greenville in 1901. Most of the following information was provided by [Marena \(Owens\) Schultz](#). [Angus Andrews](#) contributed to this article as well. (February 11, 2003)

Generation No. 1

1. THOMAS² OWENS (*EDWARD*¹) was born about 1840 in New Brunswick, Canada. He married MARY ANN MURRAY. She was born about 1839 in New Brunswick, Canada, and died about 1911 in Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine. (According to her great granddaughter, Marena (Owens) Schultz, she was struck by a Canadian Pacific Railroad train at the Maple Street crossing in Greenville Junction, Maine.)

The 1881 census of Harcourt & Huskisson, Kent, New Brunswick, Canada (online at FamilySearch.com) lists the following household:

Name, Marital Status, Gender, Ethnic Origin, Age, Birthplace, Occupation, Religion
Thomas Owens, Male, Irish, 41, New Brunswick, Farmer, Roman Catholic
Mary A. Owens, Female, Irish, 42, New Brunswick, Roman Catholic
William T. Owens, Male, Irish, 14, New Brunswick, Farmer Son, Roman Catholic
John J. Owens, Male, Irish, 4, New Brunswick, Roman Catholic
George D. Owens, Male, Irish, 2, New Brunswick, Roman Catholic

They do not appear in the 1900 census of Greenville, but the 1910 lists the following household

Owens Thomas, head, 70, married 44 years, born Canada, "own income" (retired?)
Mary Ann., wife, 68, married 44 years, 11 children, 4 still living, born Canada, runs boarding house
Michael, son, 28?, born Canada, filer at limber camp
John, son, 32, laborer at lumber camp
George, son, 30, guide
Albert R., son, 28, guide

The great granddaughter of Thomas Owens, Marena (Owens) Schultz, relates the following: "I called my dad one night and ask him what Great gramp did for work he said he worked for the CPRR and he was a bootlegger. They lived on Washington Street next to the woods and the train tracks. The still was in the woods and after they put the booze in bottles they would hide it under the kids mattress. When the train slowed down for the crossing on Maple St. they would give it to Great Gramp and he sold it in Can. Well I thought he made it up. After his stroke if he couldn't remember he made things up. So the next time I went to Greenville I went to see Aunt Frances, she told me the same story. They never got caught."

Children of THOMAS OWENS and MARY MURRAY are:

2. i. WILLIAM T.³ OWENS, born about 1868, Canada; died before 1946.
- ii. JOHN J. OWENS, born about 1877, Canada; married KATHLEEN MURPHEY¹, about 1926; born about 1888, Ireland.
George (40) and John (42) Owens are lodging together in the same woods camp in Township 5, Piscataquis County, Maine in the 1920 census. George's occupation is "lumbering pulp wood" and John's is "woodsman."
In the 1930 census, John is married and living in Greenville with his wife Kathleen, born in Ireland.
- iii. GEORGE D. OWENS, born about 1879; died September 05, 1961, Monson, Piscataquis, Maine; married ADELLA B. OWENS¹.
In the 1930 census, George (50) is living in a Central Maine Power Company boarding house in Moscow, Somerset County, Maine, and his occupation is now a carpenter in construction.
- iv. MICHAEL OWENS, born about 1882 and adopted by Thomas and Mary Owens; married (1) MARY WELLMAN, March 01, 1913, Bangor, Penobscot, Maine; married (2) LIZZIE PARKER, June 06, 1917, Kineo, Piscataquis, Maine; born of Lancaster, England.
- v. ALBERT R. OWENS, born about 1882, never married, drowned.

Generation No. 2

2. WILLIAM T.³ OWENS (*THOMAS*², *EDWARD*¹) was born about 1868 in Canada, and died before 1946. He married MARGARET A. LIVINGSTONE December 25, 1901 in Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine. She was born about 1878 in Canada and died in the late 1940s in Greenville.

Neither William nor his wife Margaret Livingstone could be found in the 1900 census index for Maine. 1900 was the year they both claim to have obtained naturalized citizenship, and 1901 was the year they married. The 1910 census of Greenville, Piscataquis County, Maine, lists the following household on Birch Street:

Owens William, head, 42, married 9 years, born Canada, section head on railroad
Maggie L., wife, 32, married 9 years, 5 children, 3 still living, born Canada

Eliza J., son(?), 4, born Maine
William E., son 2, born Maine
Margaret E., daughter, 9/12, born Maine

The 1920 census of Greenville, Piscataquis County, Maine, recorded January 15-19, lists the following household:

Owens William, head, 51, naturalized 1900, born Canada, parents born Canada, railroad section man
Margaret, wife, 42, naturalized 1900, born Canada, parents born Canada
Eliza, daughter, 14, born Maine
William E., son, 12, born Maine
Margaret, daughter, 10, born Maine
Frances, daughter, 8, born Maine
Harriet, daughter, 7, born Maine
Patrick, son, 4+5/12, born Maine

The 1930 census of Greenville, Piscataquis County, Maine, recorded April 24, lists the following household on Birch Street in Greenville Junction:

Owens William T., head, 52, married at 32, born Canada, parents born Canada, railroad section hand
Maggie A., wife, 42, married at 22, born Canada, parents born Canada
Emmet W., son, 22, born Maine, railroad section hand
Frances T., daughter 18, born Maine
Harriett B., daughter, 17, born Maine
Patrick J., son, 14, born Maine

Children of WILLIAM OWENS and MARGARET LIVINGSTONE are:

- i. THOMAS H.⁴ OWENS, born 1902; died 1903.
- ii. WILLIAM E. OWENS, born about 1903; married LOUISE MARSHALL, October 07, 1931, Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine; born December 14, 1911; died April 08, 1983, Fort Fairfield, Aroostook, Maine.
The 1930 census of Barnard Plantation, Piscataquis County, Maine lists a Louise T. Marshall, 17, living with her uncle and aunt, Frederick W. and Ulah A. McCarthy. There is also a Mike (45) and Ellen (53) Marshall living in Greenville. It is not certain whether the Louise M. Owens in the Maine Death Index and Social Security Death Index is this one or the wife of Emmet Owens.
- iii. MARY A. OWENS, born 1904; died 1906.
3. iv. ELIZABETH J. OWENS, born October 15, 1905, Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine; died May 26, 1995, Houlton, Aroostook, Maine.
4. v. EMMET WILLIAM OWENS, born June 29, 1907; died June 18, 1987, Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine.
- vi. GRETA A. OWENS, born June 27, 1909; died June 22, 1992, Saco, York, Maine¹; married ROBERT J. MCEVOY¹; died 1949¹.
5. vii. FRANCES T. OWENS
6. viii. HARRIETT B. OWENS
7. ix. JOHN PATRICK OWENS, born January 12, 1915, Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine; died December 15, 2002, Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine.

Generation No. 3

3. ELIZABETH J.⁴ OWENS (*WILLIAM T.*³, *THOMAS*², *EDWARD*¹) was born October 15, 1905 in Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine, and died May 26, 1995 in Houlton, Aroostook, Maine. She married EDWARD BOURQUE CONNAUGHTON¹ May 22, 1924 in Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine.

Her name is listed as Eliza on the Social Security Death Index and Maine Marriage Index, and as Elizabeth on the Maine Death Index. She is also listed as a son on one census and a daughter on another.

Her husband was called by his middle name. According to his niece, Marena (Owens) Schultz, he worked for the Canadian Pacific Railroad (CPRR) and lived in Brownville Junction, Maine. "...when he [Galen] was little Mom would walk up to the CPRR Station with him and Uncle Bourque would pick him up and take him back to Brownville to stay over night. When they would get back to Greenville if one of the inspectors happened to be there Galen would get out on the other side and hide in the grass until the train left." The Maine Death Index lists an Edward B. Connaughton died 5-5-1963 in Bangor at age 37, perhaps a typo?

Children of ELIZABETH OWENS and EDWARD CONNAUGHTON are:

- i. WILMA CARON⁵ CONNAUGHTON¹, married EUGENE V. CARON, January 01, 1963.
- ii. LEONIECE LYONS CONNAUGHTON¹.

4. EMMET WILLIAM⁴ OWENS (*WILLIAM T.*³, *THOMAS*², *EDWARD*¹) was born June 29, 1907, and died June 18, 1987 in Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine. He married LOUISE MORAN. She was born December 14, 1911, and died April 08, 1983 in Fort Fairfield, Aroostook, Maine.

Children of EMMET OWENS and LOUISE MORAN are:

- i. HILDA MARIE⁵ OWENS, born May 18, 1933; died August 26, 1999; married CARLTON P. INMAN, September 10, 1954; born September 09, 1928, Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine; died April 10, 2002.
- ii. WILLIAM L. OWENS, married JOYCE S. WARD, June 22, 1957.
- iii. JAMES OWENS.
- iv. FREDERICK OWENS.

5. FRANCES T.⁴ OWENS (*WILLIAM T.³, THOMAS², EDWARD¹*), married MIDAS JEAN CARON¹ October 25, 1937. He was born December 26, 1906, and died August 04, 1994 in Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine.

Children of FRANCES OWENS and MIDAS CARON are:

- i. JOSEPH WILLIAM⁵ CARON, born 1938; died September 08, 1938.
- ii. OLIVER CARON.
- iii. CHARLES JOHN CARON, died 1951 (struck by car on Pritham Avenue)
- iv. ROBERT CARON.

6. HARRIETT B.⁴ OWENS (*WILLIAM T.³, THOMAS², EDWARD¹*), married ALFRED J. PARENT August 24, 1937, son of JOSEPH PARENT and ANNIE ?. He was born June 08, 1915, and died October 28, 1967 in Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine. She usually went by her nickname, "Hattie."

Children of HARRIETT OWENS and ALFRED PARENT are:

- i. JAMES HAROLD⁵ PARENT
- ii. ANN PARENT.
- iii. CRYSTAL PARENT.

7. JOHN PATRICK⁴ OWENS (*WILLIAM T.³, THOMAS², EDWARD¹*) was born January 12, 1915 in Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine¹, and died December 15, 2002 in Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine. He married MARY J. WARMAN July 10, 1936, daughter of WELLINGTON WARMAN and LAURA BOLSTRIDGE. She was born March 07, 1920 in Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine, and died June 22, 1992 in Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine. Mary used "Evelyn" as her middle name after she was married

Children of JOHN OWENS and MARY WARMAN are:

- i. GALEN BOURQUE⁵ OWENS, born October 03, 1936, Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine; died June 01, 1996, Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine; married (1) KAY TOZIER; married (2) MARGENE LYONS, May 25, 1990; born in Caldwell, Texas.
- ii. NANCY LAURA OWENS, born November 04, 1941, Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine; died March 07, 1962, Allentown, Pennsylvania; married ARVID JOHN LASKEY, June 01, 1959; born in Little Squaw Township, Piscataquis, Maine.
- iii. JOHN PATRICK OWENS, JR., born in Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine¹; married COLLEEN MAYNARD, November 30, 1968, Rockwood, Somerset, Maine; born in Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine¹.
- iv. MARENA GRETA OWENS, born in Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine¹; married RICHARD HORTON SCHULTZ¹, October 18, 1969, Greenville, Piscataquis, Maine; born in Boston, Suffolk, Massachusetts.

Endnotes

1. Personal correspondence from Marena (Owens) Schultz.