

In a message dated 8/12/2005 5:09:49 PM Central Daylight Time, pimcgowan@sympatico.ca writes:

The Royal Canadian Legion Br 519 Coboconk ON is creating a Book of Remembrance for veterans who were from this area or interred in this area. We are looking for pictures or information on Byard Cooper, who is buried in Norland ON. Your name was a contact researcher for his father John Cooper. Would be happy to receive informatin which will "flesh out the bones" Jan Briggs-McGowan

At this point, you actually have more knowledge than I do. I know about his antecedents, but not much about him except his birth date. I have no death date, place, obit or burial.

I know that he and his family were listed in the 1901 Census:

12 45 122 Cooper John M Head M Mar 28 1868 33
12 46 122 Cooper Frances Alberta F Wife M Dec 6 1864 36
12 47 122 Cooper Eliza Ann F Daughter S May 8 1891 9
12 48 122 Cooper Byard John M Son S Feb 20 1893 8
12 49 122 Cooper Edward Alfred M Son S May 15 1896 4
12 50 122 Cooper William Arthur M Son S Feb 19 1898 2

Source Information: 1901 Census of Canada
Subdistrict: Somerville, VICTORIA (North/Nord), ONTARIO
District Number: 119
Subdistrict Number: n-3
Archives Microfilm: T-6501

Byard John Allison Cooper was the son of John 'Jack' Cooper, b. March 28, 1868, Belvedere, Erith, Kent, England and Frances Alberta Sprung, b. December 06, 1864, Ontario, Canada.

John was the sixth child of Alfred Cooper, b. 1837, "Pennis Farm", Fawkham, Kent, England, was baptized December 08, 1837 in St. Mary's (Church of England), Fawkham, Kent, England; and Eliza Fridd, b. 1835, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent, England and baptized Abt. August 11, 1835, St Nicholas Parish Church, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent, England, who immigrated to Canada with five (the 3 oldest two of whom had married in 1880 remained in England as did the fifth child, a girl who had just married in 1884) of their family of 10 children in May of 1884, about the same time as Alfred's sister (my ggrandmother) also immigrated with 8 of her 9 children (the tenth one was born as the ship arrived in Canada), but to go on to Minnesota to join her oldest son. Alfred joined his next oldest brother Thomas James Cooper (who had immigrated to Ontario in 1864) in Cooper's Falls, Ontario to start with, but died in 1896 in Ragged Rapids, Dalton Township, Victoria County, Ontario, Canada. The fifth child immigrated with her two girls after her husband died in June of 1892. The oldest child, a daughter either married or died between 1871 and 1881, we have

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no record of her after the 1871 census. The second child, a son, was still living in Lambeth, London with a wife and 5 children in 1901 and the third a girl was living in Plumsted, Kent with a husband and 4 children at that time.

John's mother Eliza Fridd Cooper died in 1909 in Battle Hall, Dalton Township, Victoria County, Ontario, Canada.

Thomas James, Alfred, and my ggrandmother Emma Cooper McArdell came from a family of 10 siblings, all born, as were their father William² and grandfather William¹, at "Pennis Farm", Fawkham, Kent, England, the holding to which their ggrandfather Thomas Cooper brought his new wife, Mary Cripps Cooper after their marriage at St. Peter's (Church of England), Fenpond Road, Ightham, Kent, England in 1869. As well as the 3 of them, their baby brother Albert also immigrated, also in 1884, but ended up in Australia. Then in 1902, after Elizabeth Cooper Adams, the sister just older than Thomas James became a widow, my ggrandmother returned to England and brought Elizabeth back to Minnesota with her. So of the 10 siblings, 5 immigrated.

In 1997, a descendant of Albert Cooper in Australia published a Cooper Family History. We are now in the process of proofreading a second edition of that family history to be published in two volumes at the end of this year or the beginning of next year. At this time we have over 6,000 known descendants of Thomas and Mary Cripps Cooper, on all continents but South America, in 45 countries.

I just called a cousin in Ontario who I am working with on the Canadian COOPERS, however, she is from Thomas James' line and doesn't know much about that particular part of Alfred's family. I will try to contact a descendant of Alfred's family and copy your email to her to see if she can help.

If you would, I would appreciate a death date, and if you have access to an obit, that would be really nice too, so I could get this particular family updated at least that far.

Annie in Minnesota

Cooper Family Archivist

Coordinator of the North American COOPER family research group

The 1896 Assessment Roll of Dalton lists John Cooper and family living on Lot 9 Con. 12. 100 acres as follows:

John Cooper – 27 – Lot 9 Con. 12 – 100 Acres
 School Section #5 – Post office, Ragged Rapids
 Acres of waste land – 40
 # cleared – 2
 3 cows – 2 horses – 4 residents

Note: The four residents would be John and Frances Alberta – Daughter Eliza Ann – Son Byard J.A.

The boom town of Ragged Rapids and lumbering were ending so the Coopers moved to Somerville Twp. Where they lived in a second house on the Sprungs farm. They were listed on the 1901 Census – Somerville:

1901 Census - Somerville						
Last name	First Name	Age	Born (dd/mm/yyyy)		Religion	Occupation/ Relationship
Cooper	John	33	28/03/1868	England	Methodist	Farmer
	Frances Alberta	36	06/12/1864	Ontario	Methodist	Wife
	Eliza Ann	9	08/05/1891	Ontario	Methodist	Daughter
	Byard J.A.	8	20/02/1893	Ontario	Methodist	Son
	Edward A.	4	15/05/1896	Ontario	Methodist	Son
	William A.	2	19/02/1898	Ontario	Methodist	Son

Family moved to Lutterworth Twp. – 2 more children

* Nellie b. Jan 1904 (Oliver)

* Harold b. May 1908

* both married Greer's

John Cooper died 27 April 1936

Frances A. Cooper died 12 June 1946