

Our Family News Letter

Issue 80

Greendale, Wisconsin

March 2013

The Burgess Family From New York State

While doing some research on the family of Benajah Burgess, 1761 – 1830, I found an interesting article about Benajah and his son, Nairn Burgess. The article answered a question that I had but more importantly it identified the exact location of land owned by Benajah Burgess, my great-great-great-great-grandfather.

I often wondered about Nairn Burgess ever since Gloria and I visited the Burgess graves at Walloomsac, Rensselaer County, New York. There was a section of the cemetery that was fenced in with a wrought iron fence that had to cost a lot of money. Since our Burgess family were farmers, I wondered how they could afford that elaborate fence.



The cast iron gate leading to the Burgess family plot has the name Nairn Burgess in the arched section of the gate. This is shown in the next photo at upper right. The tombstones of Nairn and his immediate family were very large and were about ten feet tall.



Excerpts from the article on National Historical Places:

The **Delaney Hotel**, also the **North Hoosick Hotel** and **Hathaway Hotel**, is located at the junction of NY 22 and 67 in the hamlet of North Hoosick, New York, United States. It is a large Greek Revival-style building dating to the middle of the 19th century with some later Italianate decoration. Few alterations have been made, and it is a well-preserved example of vernacular interpretations of those styles in a rural building.

It was a stagecoach and railroad stop in its peak



years. Later owners continued to operate it as a hotel, despite declining business, into the middle of the 20th century. After a period of vacancy and decline, it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1995. Recently a new set of owners has proposed to turn it into a bed and breakfast.

The hotel sits on a 1.5-acre atop a small rise facing the three-way intersection where NY 67 comes in from Vermont to the east and NY 22 comes in from Hoosick Falls to the south, crossing the Walloomsac River just before reaching the hotel. The bridge gives northbound traffic a good view of the hotel's south (front) facade as it approaches.

History

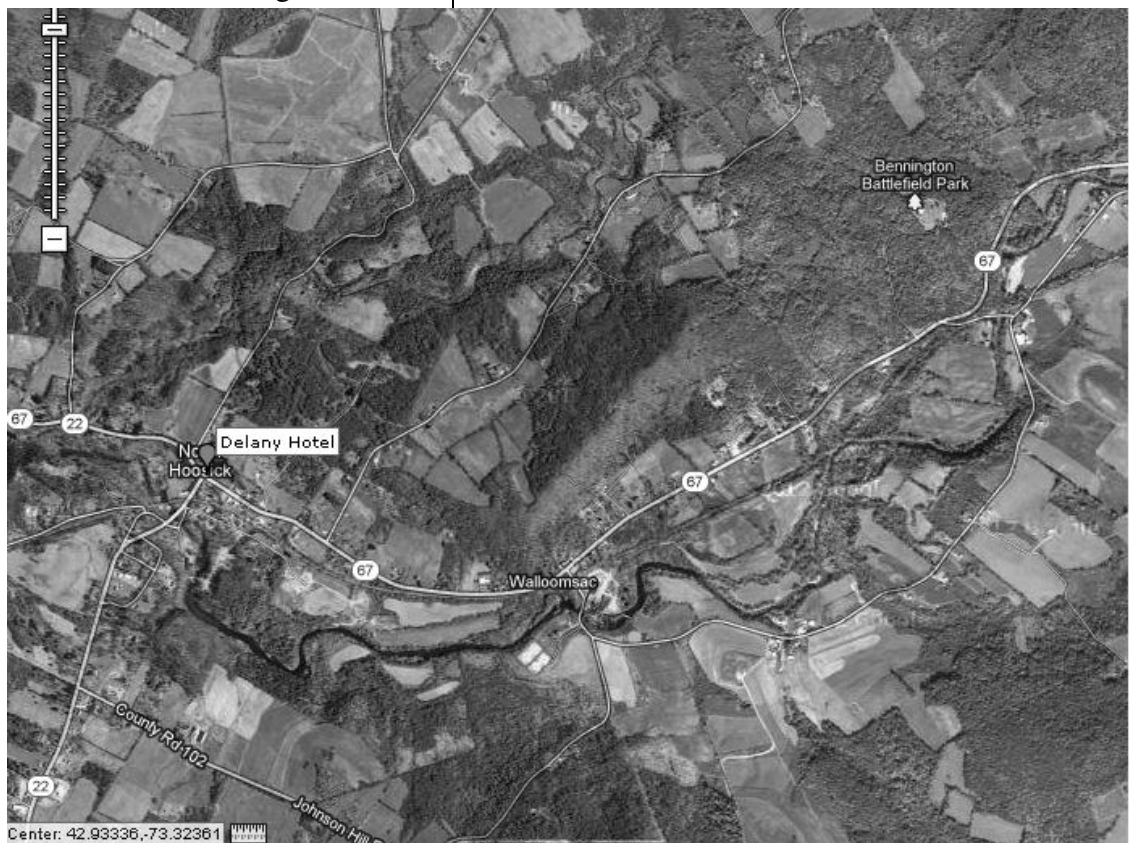
Benajah Burgess, a local farmer, originally owned the land. When he died in 1830, it was divided between his three sons. Three years later, two of them gave their portions to Nairn, the third.

The area was slowly beginning to industrialize, and by 1836 there were factories making flannel and scythes in North Hoosick. Around 1850 Nairn Burgess built the hotel on his property to fill the demand for lodging, as many of the workers at the factory were migrants whose families lived elsewhere. It was also a stagecoach stop. A large barn, since demolished, sheltered horses and buggies.

Burgess sold the hotel in 1871. After some very rapid transfers of ownership, it became Daniel Randall's property. He in turn sold it six years later, in 1877. It became known as the Eldred House after its new owner, Perry Eldred. In 1894 it was inherited by his young daughter Frances, who had still not attained the age of 21 when the executors of her father's estate sold it to Chase Hathaway, a major landowner in early 20th-century Hoosick. The building became known as the Hathaway Hotel.

Two years later, Hathaway sold it to Ida Delaney, a former manager. Her family would own it for over half a century. The area's industrial base declined, and in 1930 the hotel's ballroom could no longer be used as a venue for traveling vaudeville acts because it lacked a fire escape. The local economy rebounded slightly, along with the hotel, during World War II when the old factories were used for weapons manufacture.

The picture below shows the Delany Hotel at left, Walloomsac at lower center, and the Bennington Battlefield at upper right.



Editor's Note: Benajah had six sons. Three of them received \$5.00 and three received land. This is shown in the will of Benajah Burgess as follows:

Item: I give to my son, George Burgess, to my son Archibald Burgess, and to my son Benjamin Burgess five Dollars each, to be paid out of my estate by my executors within three months after my decease.

Item: I give to my son John Burgess, to my son Harvey Burgess, and to my son Nairn Burgess each one equal undivided third part of a certain piece of wood Land owned by me and lying in the South Easterly part of Shaftsbury in the State of Vermont and in the like manner I give my sons John, Harvey and Nairn Each one equal undivided third part of all my personal property not otherwise disposed of.

Special Thanks to Our Contributors

The following readers sent in contributions to help defray the cost of publishing Our Family News Letter for 2013. Contributions to help cover the costs are greatly appreciated.

Frank and Andrea Lamping

Louise Havens

Howard & Anne Heck

Don Johnson and Family

Sue & Jeff Miller

Corinne & Dale Wise

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Meet Your Cousin



Meet Rebecca Jean Wright.

Rebecca is 64 years old now and lives in San Diego, California. The picture of Rebecca on the previous page was taken in 1964 when she was in the ninth grade. Rebecca contacted me this month asking for permission to copy some photos that I had added to Find A Grave at:

<http://findagrave.com>

The photos included the burial place of Peter McNulty and the tombstone of Patience Burgess McNulty. Of course I gave her permission.

I was curious about her connection to the McNulty and Burgess families. Rebecca responded that she was a descendant of Sherman Aspland and his wife, Elisabeth McNulty, daughter of Patience Burgess and Peter McNulty. Her descendency is as follows:

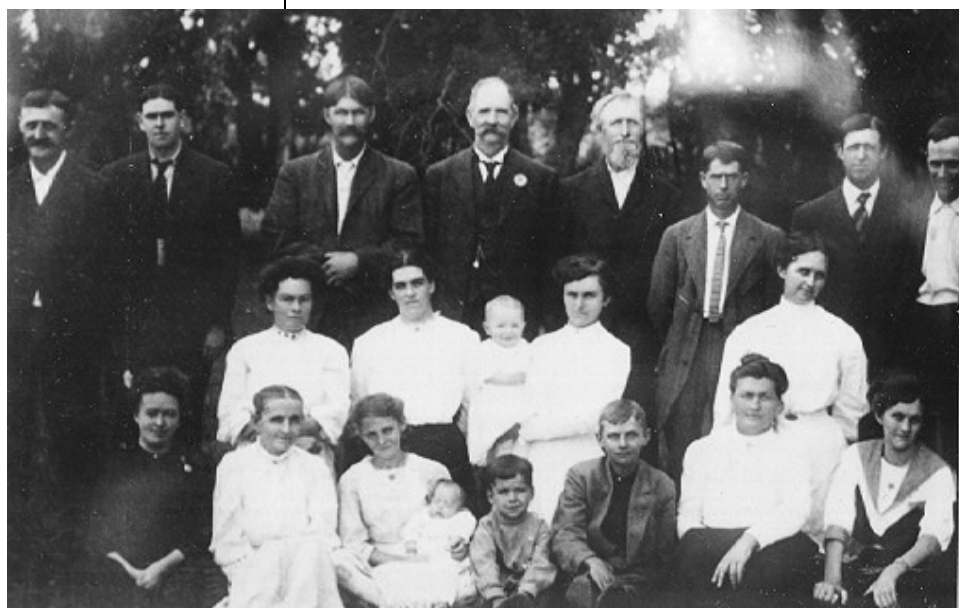
Peter McNulty – Patience Burgess
Elisabeth McNulty- Sherman Aspland
James H. Aspland – Margaret A. Kelley
Randall G. Wright – Rosa V. Aspland
Charles J. Wright – Frances M. McLaughlin
Charles E. Wright – Barbara J. Harrison
Rebecca J. Wright

Rebecca Jean WRIGHT and Robert John HECK are 3rd cousins 2 times removed. Their common ancestors are Peter MCNULTY and Patience BURGESS.

Rebecca sent me several pictures including the one at right. That picture shows Rose A. Aspland with Rebecca Jean Wright in 1949. Rose was the great-great-aunt of Rebecca. Rose A. Aspland attended the funeral of my grandfather, Robert Steven Heck in 1923.

Rebecca included a 1912 photo of the Sherman As-

pland family with names of all except for two. The names are Back L-R: Frank Aspland Sr., Charles Kelley (Ike), unknown, unknown, Sherman Aspland, Randall G. Wright (Shortie), Albert Aspland, James Aspland. Middle L-R: Nellie Aspland, Nurna Aspland, baby Charles J. Wright, Rose Aspland Wright. Front L-R: unknown, Elizabeth McNulty Aspland, Edith Aspland, baby Gilbert Aspland, Robey Aspland, Frank Aspland Jr., Margaret Kelley Aspland, and Eva Aspland. Taken at Rockton, Winnebago County, Illinois in 1912.



Pictures From 8mm Home Movies

Following are some frames captured from 8mm and super 8mm home movies. I use a program called Video Show Expressions, which allows me to browse through digitized home movies and capture individual frames. The earlier movies are in black and white while later movies were in color. Those captured images that were in color were then converted to grayscale so that they can be printed in this newsletter.



Bernice Heck in the 1940's.



Robert G. Heck with Margaret F. (Henningfeld) Heck in the early 1950's.



Vincensia Vanek in 1941. She was the sister of my maternal grandmother, Anna Pastyrik Mikel.



Alvin Heck Sr. in the early 1950's.



L-R: Bob, Don, Mary, and Gary Heck in 1953.

Burial Place For Thomas Burgess 1601-1685 and His Wife, Dorothy 1603-1687

The Old Town Cemetery in Sandwich, Massachusetts is in a beautiful setting, on a peninsula surrounded by the lower part of the Shawme Lake and opposite the Thorton Burgess Museum. Thorton's ancestors, Thomas and Dorothy Burgess, burial sites are two of the five oldest known in the cemetery.

More history-
from the book,
"Sandwich, A
Cape Cod Town"

-
Old Town
Cemetery- In July
1663 the records
show "The town
has agreed that
the little neck of
land that lies
against William
Newland's house
shall be appro-
priated for a
burial place for
the Town."

Newland's house
was described in the survey of properties as west
of Grove Street so the word "against" here means
"opposite."

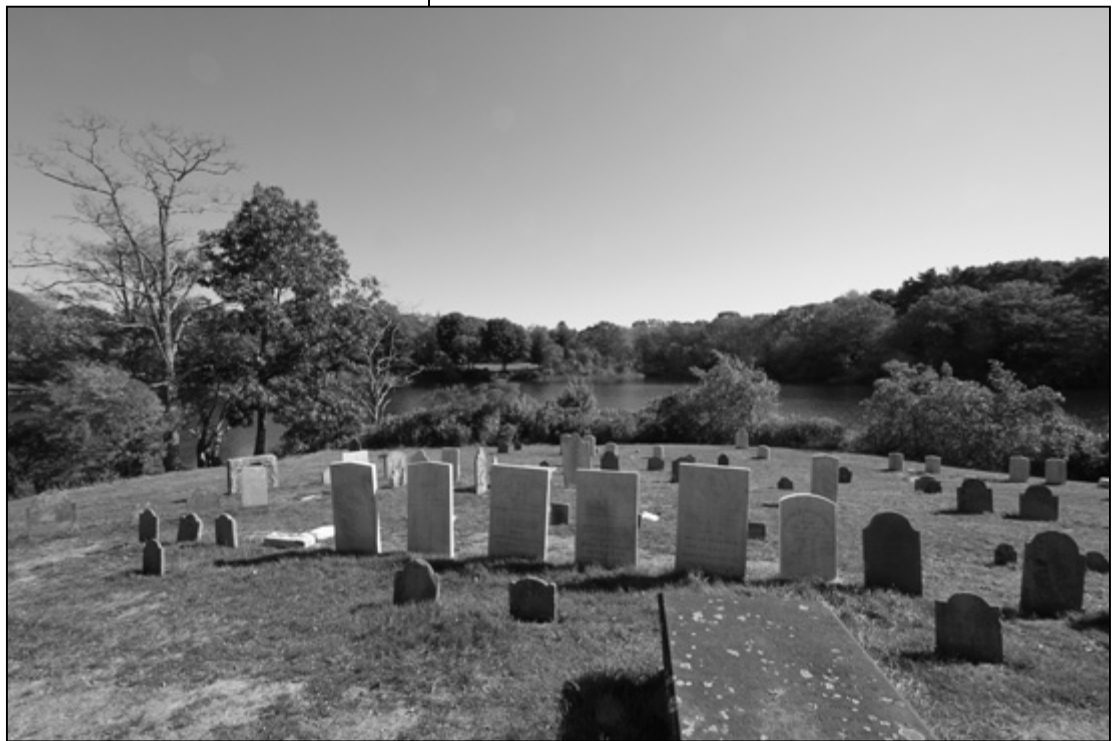
There was an absence on Cape Cod of slate,
marble, or other sedimentary stone that could be
split flat and carved for a grave marker. These
had to be imported from Boston or elsewhere at
great expense. Many early burials were marked
by horizontal boards of hard wood such as locust
supported on posts, but these deteriorated.

The earliest markers in the Old Town Cemetery
are: Thomas Clark, 1683: **Thomas Burgess,
1685: Dorothy Burgess, 1687 (his wife):** Ezra
Perry, 1689: John Prince, 1689.

The Senior Burgesses are said to have imported
their slate burial markers from England, but
these broke up and were replaced in 1917 by new
slates.

Ezra Perry was their son-in-law, whose wife
Elizabeth (Burgess) was buried here in 1717.
Young Prince was the son of Samuel Prince,
who came to Sandwich in 1680.

Added by: Paul Rentz at FindaGrave.com
11/14/2010



If you would like to share pho-
tos with our readers, send them
to me as an attachment with a
description at
bheck@execpc.com

More Photos From 8mm Movies



Alvin Heck Jr in 1942.



Three-generation picture: Robert Steven Heck in the picture frame, Robert Gerald Heck holding Robert John Heck in 1942.



Photo at Lower Left: Bernice and Edward Bark with Margaret Heck.



Bob and Patricia Heck 1st Cousins in 1942.



Bob and Richard Heck, 1st Cousins. Richard's instruction must have been to make sure he eats the whole bowl. Bob does not agree.

Did you know.....

In 1637, Thomas Burgess was the Representative to the General Court. In 1642, he fought in the Narragansett War. In 1645 he was called "One of the Chief Men of the Town." Through agency of Captain Miles Standish he received a Grant of Land on March 3, 1652/3 in Manomet, the area later called Monument, north of Sandwich settlement named Herring River Village.



Bob, Clarence and Mary Kay Heck 1942. 1st Cousins finally meet.



Clarence Heck holding his daughter, Mary Kay, in 1942.



Photo at lower left: Delores and Jack Gibson in 1955.



Don Heck held by his grandmother, Margaret F. Heck in 1945.



Joanne Heck with her sister, Pat Heck.



Stella, Alvin, Bernice, Margaret, Robert Heck.