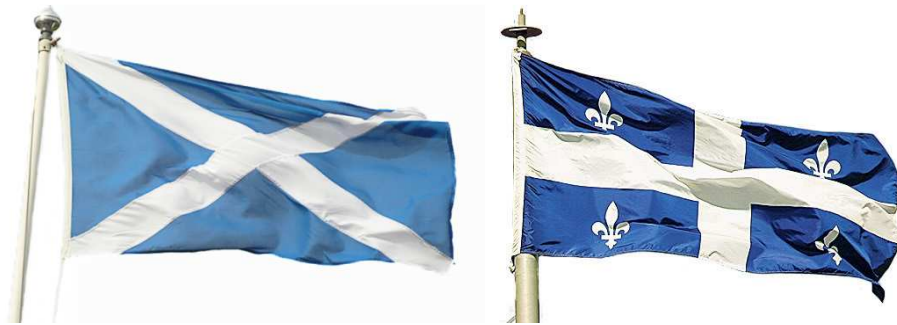


A Melding of Cultures

Ancestors of George Turner and Bernadette Joanis

Volume 1
Our Turners: Canadian Transportation Pioneers



Mark L. Cullen

A Melding of Cultures
Ancestors of George Turner and Bernadette Joanis
Volume 1 Our Turners: Canadian Transportation Pioneers
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Dedicated to my mother Pauline Mary Cullen,
to the memory of our grandparents George Turner and Bernadette Joanis,
and to our many early ancestors in New France and New Brunswick -
Canadian pioneers and progenitors of us all

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Foreword

I was both awed and proud to learn that my siblings, Turner cousins and I are 15th generation Canadians, descendants of friends and colleagues of Samuel de Champlain in New France, and the 7th generation of Scottish settlers of early New Brunswick.

Our Turner family is blessed with two distinct roots: Catholic settlers of early New France, people of the land – hard toiling farmers, craftspeople and industrial labourers; contrasted with the protestant ethic of our Scottish forbears, whose strong entrepreneurial spirit contributed meaningfully to the growth of Eastern Canada's transportation sector. The two cultures melded in successive generations: Frank Turner and Emma Lapointe in 1876, followed by their son George and Bernadette Joanis 30 years later. This rich heritage has resulted in a breadth of descendant talents, interests and callings.

This is the second book in a trilogy of my family history. I learned much from researching and writing *The Cullens of Templeton: A Two Hundred Year Journey*, published in 2011. It is the story of my Irish roots in Bytown at the time of the Rideau

Canal construction and later in Templeton Township, Lower Canada.

This work is the first of two volumes covering my mother's French Canadian and Scottish ancestors. Both lines had early roots in the formation of Canada: the founding of Quebec in the 1600s and New Brunswick in 1784. Volume 1 chronicles our Scottish Turners. Because our Turners were in business and transportation, there is a surprising amount of story material available. Through private research, internet sources, government archives, and many contributions of relatives, I have been able to weave together story lines for all Turner generations.

For our French Canadian lines we have many famous Canadians from the 1600s. In later generations there are fewer story lines, as most of our ancestors were farmers and industrial labourers – equally hard working, but more nose-to-the-grindstone types, for which there is little recorded other than census, church and land records. Volume 2 will tell their story with concentration on our two principal lines, the Audet dit Lapointe and Joanis families.

Mark Cullen, Vancouver, June 2013

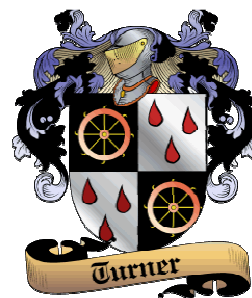
Our Turners: Canadian Transportation Pioneers



Clan Lamont Crest¹



Clan Lamont Coat of Arms



Turner Coat of Arms²

Introduction to Volume 1

Settlement along the Saint John River, the creation of New Brunswick, and the selection of St. Ann's Point (Fredericton) as its capital in 1784, were the direct result of the American Revolutionary War. Following the War, some 14,000 Loyalists, families, servants and British Army soldiers relocated to the area from New York. Holden Turner and Jennet Hutchinson were among these early settlers, and their descendants made meaningful contributions to transportation commerce in early Canada.

Volume 1 is the story of six generations of Turners, commencing with Holden and Jennet. Initially serving resettled Loyalists and patriots in Fredericton in the late 1780s, family members pioneered horse-drawn transportation and cartage in New Brunswick, expanding over time into mail delivery by stagecoach there and in the Temiscouata region of Quebec. They leveraged this experience into railroading in Rivière-du-Loup and Ottawa. The book also covers the history of the Turners at Hurdman's Bridge, a story that will bring fond memories to many readers.

The story of our Turners was first recorded by our cousin, the late Marjory McGillivray Waters. Her book, *Our Loyalist Ancestors: Kith and Kin of Holden Turner* (1975), and its Supplement (2000) (collectively, "*Waters*"), were remarkable in that almost all her research was manual, without the benefit of today's vast internet resources. She was a true genealogy pioneer. She was assisted by many relatives who contributed personal stories and family memories of Turner ancestors. This collaboration was a welcome addition to the family lore. Her work

was clearly an inspiration to me in commencing my own family research and publishing efforts. I corresponded with her several times prior to her death in 2006 and have used some of her work in this volume and in compiling my Turner family tree data.

This history of our Turner line is the result of several years of research from internet sources, family members, records research in Ottawa, private research in Scotland, and from several travels to Quebec and New Brunswick. From the information available, I have tried to present a picture of our ancestors that will be of interest and insightful to present and future generations. Selective information from *Waters* complements some story lines. The help of numerous cousins was also solicited for stories, photographs and colour; as well, cousins have developed biographical sketches of their parents and these contributions have made a marked difference in the completeness of the volume.

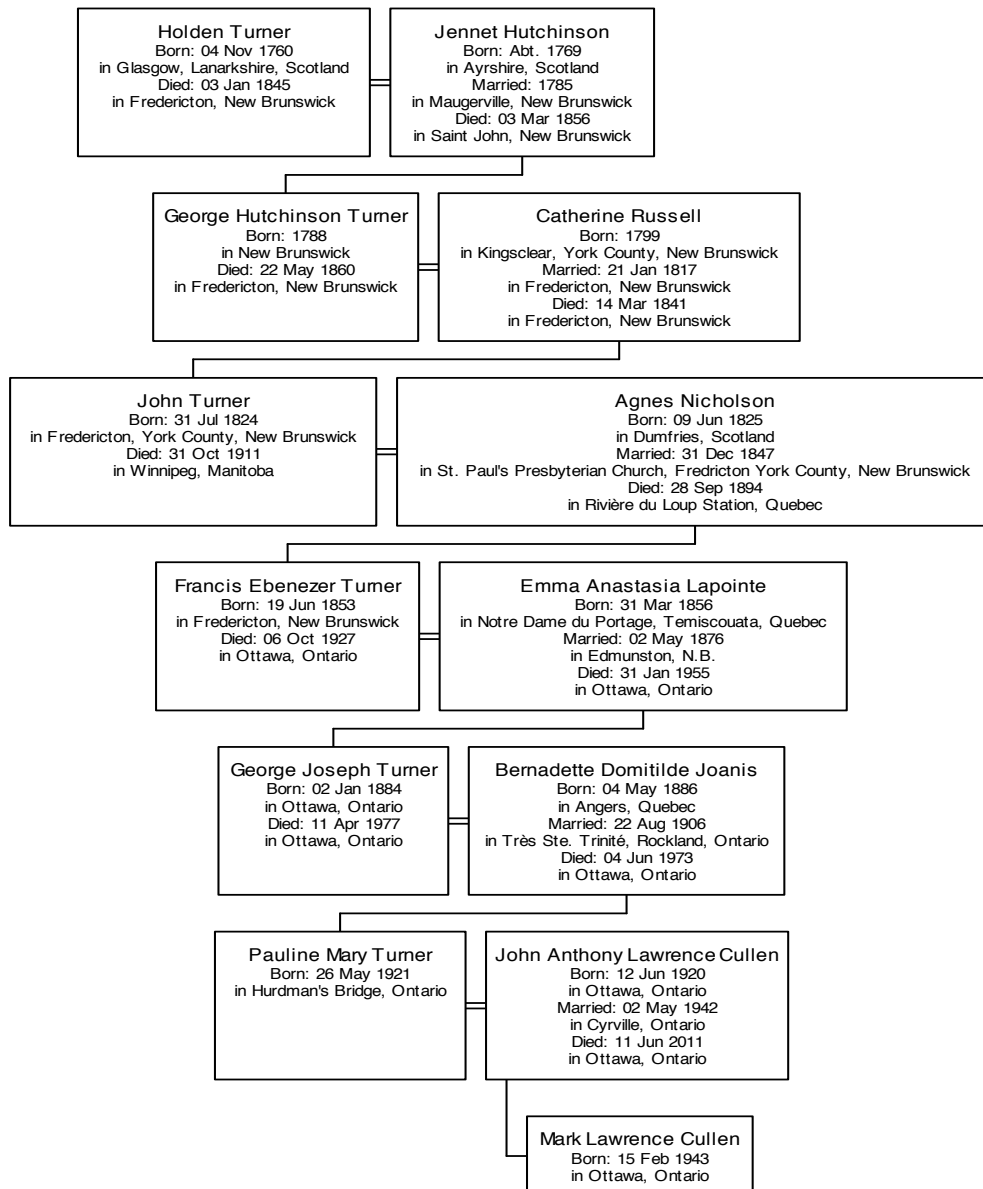
Readers should consider this a family chronicle – a gathering of data, reminiscences and stories – which provides an appreciation of our ancestors and their collective contribution to their communities and to successive generations of descendants. No doubt there are errors in the material, both factual and interpretative, for which I take full responsibility.

The story of our Turners is incomplete. Other descendants can contribute additional data, information, pictures, vignettes and history. Family tree data and sources can be found at www.cullenancestry.ca. If readers note errors or have new information, please advise me at mark@cullenancestry.ca

Structure

Volume 1 covers my direct Turner descendant line from Holden, our first Turner to settle in Canada. While summary family trees are presented for each generation, the focus is on the generational parents. Some vital statistical data and other information for children are also presented. More detailed information can be found on my website.

Direct Descendants of Holden Turner



Acknowledgements

I would first like to pay tribute to our late cousin Marjory McGillivray Waters for her seminal work on the descendants of Holden Turner. For many Turners, her work was the first inking of our rich ancestry and provided the incentive to probe further. I am among those who found her book fascinating. It made a lasting impression on me and sent me down the paths of genealogy research and family history. I never did meet Marjorie, but had the pleasure of several telephone conversations, and benefited greatly from her encouragement and generosity with files, photographs and suggestions.

I also want to credit the work of another relative, Ralph Turner, of Sheridan, Oregon, a descendant of Holden Turner's son Robert. Ralph's extensive research on the Turners, including Holden's ancestors and army experience, extended Marjory's work, and was invaluable in setting the scene for the chapter on Holden. Ralph has a broad background and a variety of interests; see his website at www.rockcreekexperiment.com

This volume has been in the works on and off for 14 years and its completion would have been impossible without the collaboration of many Turner relatives. First, the many memories and personal reflections of my mother Pauline and our Aunts Florence, Betsy, Winnie, Eleanor and Lucy, have added richly to the story of the Hurdman's Bridge Turners. I also want to thank the many cousins who contributed biographies, photos, documents, stories and reminiscences including Jackie Beahen, Jan Clark, Julie Cullen, Terry Cullen, Celine and Marc de Grosbois, Joe Dwyer, Colleen Gallagher, Greg Hart, Michele Hart, Alison Juneau, Bob Kingston, Julie Menard, Alison O'Connell, Carol Ross, Angela and Art Sheppard, Terry Svetich, Judy Temple, Terry Tudge, George Turner, Joe Turner, Peter Turner and Catherine Wayne.

And, special thanks go to other cousins

who not only contributed bios, stories and background, but provided ongoing encouragement and advice: Paula Blick, Barbara Duggan, Jo Hamilton, Matthew Hart, Rob Hart and Joe Turner. Others who added background were Christine Cathcart, John Rhodes and Mary Russell.

Several of Frank Turner's descendants were instrumental in providing information and photographs. I am indebted to the late Eileen Boulais, Jan Campbell, Marc de Grosbois, Cherie-Lynn Jones and May Ann Wood for their valuable assistance and background material.

Along this journey I also had assistance from several institutions including the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick where Judy Williston and Fred Farrell provided helpful historical background and Turner documents. Others included Claudette Bernard of the Ottawa Archives, Paul Sheehy of the National Capital Commission, Gilles Chartrand of the Clarence-Rockland Museum and Michel Guenette and George de Zwaan of Library and Archives Canada. Colin Churcher and Rene Gourley were extremely helpful with their encyclopaedic knowledge of railways in the Ottawa area in the late 1800s.

I also owe a lot to my production advisors, Johanne Leach for sage advice and help through the sometimes bewildering self-publishing process and Gerilee McBride who once again lent her expertise in layout and cover design. First Choice Books did an excellent job on the production end.

And finally, I owe much to my caring and understanding wife Barbara, who patiently endured my hundreds of hours of research and writing this book, and provided loving encouragement all the while. Also to our children, Lesley, who encouraged me throughout, and John, who provided advice on layout and assisted with upgrading many photo images.

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