



# DODGE FAMILY JOURNAL

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## ISAAC DODGE Son of Nicholas Jr. - Maine

### We are Honored

Kathryn Marcoux, the Chairman of the Library Board of Trustees on Block Island, RI. wrote us the following: "The land on which the library sits (on Dodge St.) was the home of Lester E. Dodge, prominent citizen of NYC and Block Island. He left the land to the town for use as a library with the stipulation that it be named after his father, Uriah B. Dodge. The original library (on this site--there was another elsewhere before) was completed in 1975.

We have just finished a 3-year expansion project, doubling our size (to approximately 9000 sq. ft.) and welcome any Dodges who wish to visit. As you undoubtedly know, the leader of the original settlers was Tristram Dodge, and there are a number of Dodges still on the island. In fact, our Town Manager is a Dodge by marriage.

We are also in the pro-

*(Continued on page 2)*

Nicholas Dodge, Jr. b. in Beverly, Mass. and d. Burnham, Maine, had eight children by his 2nd wife, Elizabeth Flye and these children have been fairly well researched. We have quite a bit of information about them and their descendents.

However, he also had six children by his first wife, Hannah Cole. We have never been able to find out anything about these children until recently. Again, we have to thank the internet, and e-mail for our first information concerning the children of the first family of Nicholas Jr. Isaac's parents were Nicholas Dodge Jr. and Hannah Cole. His siblings were: Caleb, Aaron, and three sisters for whom we do not have names although we do have husbands for two of

them. According to our 1998 Genealogy History update, one of his sisters married Elisha Emerson, and another married George Addison. Of the third one, we have no information at all. ... but finding a family for Isaac is a real breakthrough.

Nicholas Jr. was a blacksmith. In 1778, his father deeded him part of his Londonderry, NH farm and buildings in lieu of two shares of his estate. He was a veteran of the American Revolution serving (enlisting) in Capt. Ebenezer Frye's 1st NH Regiment mustering out April 1783. He resided at 25 Mile Pond, Kennebec CO., Maine and he applied for and was granted \$8/mo. Rev. War pension in 1818 due to loss of a hand.

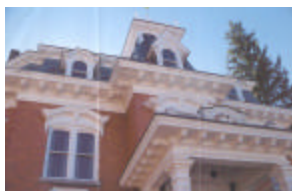
Reportedly, he shod horses

for General George Washington. This family moved to Waldo, Maine, and Hannah died there June 26, 1787. November 21, 1788 Nicholas m. Elizabeth Flye.

An uncle of Mike Dodge, Massachusetts, had come to a dead end regarding ancestry for Isaac. Mike sent us all the information he had and asked if we could help with Isaac Dodge c. 1775 who had a son George Augusta and a daughter. He also mentioned that one of Isaac's descendants m. a Chandler and that is how we found the link. By tracing Sumner Dodge's line (the husband of Ann Chandler) we found our Isaac. He m. Mary Cumpston and is buried in a cemetery in South Boston.

## The Dodge-Pratt-Northam Art and Community Center

Charles K. Dodge of Sherman, Connecticut, sent in a photo from a Calendar of this building which once was a Dodge home. I found a web



site for this home which is now an Art Center, and the history of the building was also there. <http://www.borg.com/~dpn/history.html> "This was built in 1875 by Clark Dodge, who was a merchant and one of the founders of the First National Bank, Boonville, NY. His son, Eugene Dodge, who was a

banker, sold the house in 1894 to Charles W. Pratt, who was engaged in the lumber and wood products business. Charles's son, Walter, left the house to his cousin, Hazel Northam, a Brooklyn undertaker, who died in 1972.

Miss Northam willed the house to the Erwin Library. The library board decided that the house should be preserved and used for a community and arts center for Boonville and the vicinity."

Looking in our John Branch data base, we find Clark Dodge, b. 1817 and d. Jan. 30, 1884. His occupation is given as Wagon Maker & Banker. He was born and died in Boonville. His parents were Daniel Dodge and

Polly Wheeler who moved to Boonville from New Hampshire. Clark's son, Eugene Clark Dodge, was the son who sold this house to Charles W. Pratt. Eugene m. Cassie Connelly. We have no children listed for Eugene and Cassie.



JERRY WASKIEWICZ © 2000

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## SAND IN MY SHOES

by  
Stephen Allen

### David Dodge

(John, John, Jeremiah, Samuel,  
William, Tristram)

David Dodge, the sixth child of Dr. John Dodge and Sophia Cheeseman, was born January 20, 1826 in Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, New York, where he entered the law office of Vorhees & Vorhees as a law student.

Two years later, David was admitted to the bar and soon after removed to Leavenworth, Kansas where he was elected recorder of the first settler's land district. When the first U.S. Land Office opened in Doniphan, Kansas, David, as a practicing attorney, attended to the first land case before that office in 1856. He relocated to Kickapoo, Kansas, following the same practice. On page 106 in the Annals of Kansas, David's name appears as a member of the old Topeka Free State Constitutional Convention held in Topeka, Shawnee County on Oct. 23, 1855.

David was also a Masonic member of the Blue Lodge A.F. & A.M. (Ancient Free and Accepted Masons) in good standing for over 40 years.

David Dodge and Matilda Carey Beagle were married October 20, 1859 in Kickapoo, Kansas. According to another letter written by Mary Anne Dodge Brown, this time to her brother George on October 1, 1944, David had a gold wedding ring fashioned for Matilda from the gold nuggets he had mined while in California.



Monarch Butterfly in Stephen's garden

David and Matilda had nine children, three were born in Kickapoo, Alice 1860, Sophia 1862 and Mattie Lee 1864. They removed to Shannon Township in Atchison Co., Kansas, where their next three children were born, George 1867, Mary Anne 1869 and Charles 1872. David & family followed the U.S. Land Office to Golden, Colorado then Augusta, Kansas, and finally Wichita and Cawker City, Kansas, where in 1874 their seventh child, David Jr., was born. Later that year, the family removed to Kirwin, Kansas, and the last two children Minnie Maud 1876, and James Blaine Franklin Dodge 1884 were born.

Recorded in the Phillips Co. Marriages #306-609, on May 17, 1883, David's daughter Alice Dodge, age 22, married George B. Chapin, age 26, in David's home in Kirwin, Kansas. Records also state, daughter Mary Anne Dodge graduated from the Kirwin High School in 1887.

David's life and work were closely identified with the State of Kansas from the opening of that territory until 1889 when he removed his family to Seattle, Washington. Here he entered into partnership with a Maj. Don Carlos.

At the opening of the Cherokee reservation in 1893, David went to Perry, Noble County, Oklahoma, to practice his legal profession before the U.S. Land Office. He remained there until his death on November 7, 1896. According to the Noble County Sentinel newspaper, a Mr. Donan was with David and described how David had "sank back in his chair, lifeless."

Two of his children, Mrs. William C. Brown (Mary Anne AKA Mollie) of Alton, Kansas, and Charles Dodge of Cripple Creek, Colorado, went to Oklahoma to attend to their dad's funeral. David Dodge is buried in an unmarked grave in the Grace Hill Cemetery, Perry, OK. There is no record of his remains being transferred to Washington State where his wife and some of the rest of his family resided.

A special thank you to Jean I. Brown for sending us the information for this story.

### DODGE SNIPPETS

Nancy Dodge Laybourn, sister of Norman Dodge (see page 6), has a daughter who is a self taught artist. She does AMAZING work and has won several competitions. Browse to [www.lepaulson.com](http://www.lepaulson.com) to view some of her wonderful art. She has used her own family members in many of her paintings. Her fortunate parents have been given many of the paintings shown on her web site. She also paints portraits on commission.

David Dodge (see col. on pg. 4) wrote: "Ruth accomplished her Free-fall Tandem Parachute Jump from an altitude of 13,500 feet. Weather was not too good, and they fell through cloud, which felt like a hailstorm at 120 mph. She landed safely, thank God! It was something she had always wanted to do, but says she won't repeat it. Her bravery/foolhardiness has raised nearly £600 for the children's charity, so she is well pleased, and I am proud of her. I think our marriage is based on the 'attraction of opposites'. I shall remain strictly on terra firma.

(Library - Continued from page 1)

cess of re-doing our stationery and would like to use the Dodge Coat of Arms on letter paper and envelopes. I have a color copy of the coat of arms from your web site, but I need it in a format which will separate out the colors which will make the printing process easier and less expensive...."

We were happy to provide Kay's printer with the needed file, and are honored that our Coat of Arms is going to be used on their letterhead. The address of the Library at Block Island is: Box 791, Block Island, RI 02807

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10105 W. 17th Place  
Lakewood, Colorado 80215  
Tel: (303) 237-4947


WEB SITE: [www.dodgefamily.org](http://www.dodgefamily.org)  
E -MAIL [barbdodge@dodgefamily.org](mailto:barbdodge@dodgefamily.org)  
Published by the Dodge Family Association  
Earl F. Dodge: Editor  
Barbara V. Dodge: Assistant Editor

## The View From My Window



[barbdodge@dodgefamily.org](mailto:barbdodge@dodgefamily.org)

I will digress this time from my stories of Weston to talk about some other things.

First of all, regarding our story on page one, about Isaac, the son of Nicholas Dodge and Hannah Cole; the connection was made because of the surname Chandler. That is why it is so important to provide every piece of information, no matter how unimportant you think it may be. This genealogy line for Isaac is a real breakthrough. Hopefully, in the not too distant future, we can find information about Caleb and Aaron, brothers of Isaac and also info on the three 'daughters'. 

In August, I went on my annual trek to Washington State in order to have some fun time sailing with Norman, and flying my kite with the owner/developer of Winddance Kites. I went later than usual this year because I wanted to attend the Kite Festival in Long Beach, Washington. I drove there in my van which had been stolen last year from in front of Norman's house in Seattle, and which was found two days after Sept. 11. This year I had a steering wheel boot in the van with me and used it all the time when I was in the Northwest.

Driving in to Long Beach, Washington, and seeing hundreds of kites of all sizes, colors, and descriptions was a thrilling site. I found out that sleeping in my van 6 nights in a row was something less than that! By the 7th morning, I was totally exhausted. Unbeknownst to me, Dan and Sue Ruuska of Winddance, took pity on me and had already made arrangements for me to stay at their B&B that night. Ethel, who owns the B&B cooked a breakfast that could have fed an army. I have never seen such an array of items including shrimp, but best of all were the wonderful, just out of the oven, orange bow knot rolls with real orange rind in the frosting.

There are many beaches and State Parks, in this corner of Washington and if you should ever decide to spend some

time here and do not want to camp, I highly recommend A Vintage Garden, 102 Eagle street SW, Ilwaco, WA Ph:360-642-7188.

On this trip, I made new friends, visited Earl's cousins, Nancy, Lynn, Norman and Eileen, went sailing, kite flying, and enjoyed the water and boats in Seattle. A very relaxing time...now to

**Barbara**

### Kern Dodge - Dodge Steel Company

Many times we hear about a Dodge who is new to us, because someone who is not a Dodge will contact us with a snippet of information. This is what happened in this case. Del Conner e-mailed us to say that he grew up in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in the 1950's and lived across the street from the Kern Dodge Mansion in the Germantown/Manheim section of the city.

I searched the internet for 'Kern Dodge' and found a site that told about the Dodge Steel Company which was started by Kern Dodge and Associates in 1919. You can see that at: [http://members.aol.com/historictacony/profile\\_metal.html](http://members.aol.com/historictacony/profile_metal.html)

Well, I certainly could not pass up this opportunity to find out more about Kern Dodge so I responded to Del to ask him if he knew anymore about Kern Dodge, and he replied with the following e-mail.

"Dear Barb: I have attached a picture of Kern (fourth from the left) from the Philadelphia Bulletin's 1933 Almanac. He is listed as head of Public Safety which included Police, Fire, Electric Service, and what became L&I.

The Dodge House was on Clapier Street and Erringer Place. I believe his mother, or some other connection lived in a mansion on the adjoining block of McKean Street. She may have been an author.

Kern's was a big house on top of a hill that looked a little like something from the Adams Family. It also

bordered on our play area, an empty "Old Lot", that I later discovered was once the site of the Steele family mansion and grounds. As kids, Kern's name was corrupted to "Colonel Dodge" and was given a history of the Civil War and establishment of Dodge City, which we knew were incorrect, but these tales had a life of their own.

I never met Kern because I was too young. At halloween we would be taken into the Library where there was a fish bowl filled with pennies. A servant would dip into this and give each kid a handful with an apple or gingersnap. The older kids, my brother included, would be taken upstairs to see Mr. Dodge. With relief at the time, I stayed downstairs. I can still picture my brother and friends going up the stairs and looking down with a little fear in his eyes.

Kern died sometime in the late fifties. The house was abandoned for a few years which we loved as "the New Lot". When Kern's house was torn down to make way for Apartment buildings, the water line in the basement was broken and could not be shut off for about a week. Seems it wasn't metered and they could not find the shut off valve!

As kids we invented many tall tales of Kern Dodge, his house, the secret underground passage to the "bomb shelter" and more. I have many more memories of the grounds and life around the "New" and "Old Lots".

**Ed note: Can any of our readers give us information about this Dodge?**

**Del makes beautiful Firebacks. Don't know what they are? Browse to: [www.firebacks.com](http://www.firebacks.com).**

**Can anyone tell us who Kern Dodge was?**



## From the Pen of: Passepartout

by Craig Dodge



ozdodges@hotmail.com

'Potential *adj.* capacity for growth, development or coming into being', I suppose, is the word we would choose for the development of the area in which we now live. We all looked at a patch of barren land and saw what it could be, in much the same way as our Dodge ancestors have done the world over, across hundreds of years.

Yesterday, the 16<sup>th</sup> of September, we moved into our new house. Surrounded by boxes and with dirt and dust everywhere, we are absolutely thrilled. It went painlessly and last night was the first in our new house. We are amazed at the progress we have been able to make in the 2½ years that we have been in Australia. Some things got broken in the move (no surprises there), but as we continue to unpack, our sense of belonging grows, as does a sense of discovery, both finding new places of interest near our home, as well as long forgotten treasures hidden in boxes.

Our garden is still a sand pit and probably will remain so for quite a long time. Landscapers will take care of the front quite soon, but a number of factors will determine how long it takes to commence action on the back.

The disruption proves trying on the nerves and ill health certainly hasn't helped, but there is no way we would not do it. When we packed up for our move from England I was quite sick and space was at a premium, much of what I had to do was done on my hands and knees. If I get frustrated now it helps to think back to that time 3 years ago and the struggle that we had then.

My study looks out onto the front garden and the road. Building is taking place on all the surrounding properties and it is interesting to watch the houses take shape and observe the new homeowners coming to monitor the progress of their homes. I find myself knowing what they are saying even if I am not a part of their conversation as it was only a couple of months ago we were doing

the same thing.

I feel quite a bond with our neighbour on the east of us. He has a son with cerebral palsy and his brother died of multiple sclerosis about 5 years ago. He is from Scotland (as were some of my ancestors) and speaks with an accent that makes conversation slow.

Our sense of community in the neighbourhood is strong as we all move in at the same time. How much stronger, would it have been two hundred years ago, having started from the same port sailed for months in the same ship and then begun the same task of building and planning their new lives together.



Above: Daryn, Amanda, Ameilia, Steph, and Nicki Dodge from England at the home of Earl and Barbara Dodge.



David Dodge  
dwdodge  
@bushinternet.co  
m

Probably the commonest medal issued during Victoria's reign was that for the Second Boer War 1899 - 1902. 'The Queen's South Africa Medal' (QSA) This depicted the (by now) elderly Queen on the obverse, the reverse showed the figure of Britannia urging forward a body of troops, with battleships at sea in the background, and the words 'SOUTH AFRICA' around the perimeter.

When this medal was first struck the dates 1899-1900 also appeared on the reverse, as the Government thought that the war would be won within a year, but of course, it wasn't! However, medals with these dates, were issued to a Canadian unit, 'Lord Strathcona's Horse' and were

presented to them as they were in transit through the United Kingdom. Some of these medals survive, and command a very high price if they ever come on to the market.

As the war dragged on into 1901, the depressions on the medal-producing 'dies' were filled in, to allow further medals to be struck. but it is possible to trace these 'ghost dates' on some post-1900 QSAs particularly when they become tarnished.

New 'dies' were also made to cope with the large number of medals required. On the earlier medals the raised arm of Britannia holding a wreath, points to the letter 'R' in the word AFRICA, on the later issues the wreath points to the letter 'F'.

A total of 26 bars to the medal were authorised, - 19 'Battle bars', 5 'State bars', and 2 'Date bars' Battle bars were awarded for those active at an action. Other servicemen serving in a State, eg, Cape Colony, but not at a specific action would receive a State bar. The maximum number of bars issued with any one medal was nine for the army, and eight to the Navy.

Some medals were issued without a bar, mainly to sailors on ships involved at sea, but also to army units such as the 3rd Militia battalion of the Wiltshire Regiment who were sent to St. Helena to guard Boer prisoners of war.

The war continued, Queen Victoria died, and Edward VII became King, so the 'King's South Africa Medal' (KSA) came into being, with the same reverse design, but with his effigy on the front. It was never issued without the two 'Date bars' - 'South Africa 1901', and 'South Africa 1902' except to nurses who were awarded some 600 medals without bars. The KSA was never issued on its own, it should always accompany a QSA.

The KSA was authorised only to those serving in South Africa on or after 1st January 1902, and who would complete 18 month's service before 1st June 1902, (when the war ended). However, if you had served in S.Africa during that time, but did not meet this criteria, then you received the 1901, or 1902, or both date bars but attached to the QSA !!

Passwords for Web Site genealogy:

Earl's  
Pearls

[earldodge@  
dodgeoffice.net](mailto:earldodge@dodgeoffice.net)



A number of communities and some places within communities bear the name Dodge. Dodge City, of course, is the most famous. Recently, while seeking some election results in a Georgia Congressional Primary I came across a newspaper with the name Dodge County.

Eastman, the county seat of Dodge County is located about 65 miles south-east of Macon. As of 1996 the population was between 17,000 and 18,000.

Imagine my surprise when, after two local historians there could not tell me the origin of that name, I found a site which explained that Dodge county, Georgia was named for our own William Earl Dodge, co-founder of the Dodge-Phelps copper company. As there is time and space I will share some information on other locations bearing our family name in future Journals. Here is the Dodge County, Georgia story as told in "A History of Dodge County" 1932, by Mrs. William Phillip Cobb, found at: [www.eastman-georgia.com/history.html](http://www.eastman-georgia.com/history.html)

"Dodge County was created by an Act of the General Assembly on October 26, 1870. It was named in honor of William E. Dodge, who had come to this section prior to its creation. Mr. Dodge came from New York and purchased a large estate, which embraced most of what is now Dodge, Laurens, Pulaski, Telfair and Montgomery Counties, and reached from the Oconee to the Ocmulgee River. When the new county was created, the population was very scattered and often neighbors lived miles apart. It is said that one could travel from the Oconee river to the Ocmulgee river and never see a living thing. This section was a vast forest of virgin pine timber, conceded to be the finest yellow pine in the world. Lumbermen and capitalists, timbered lands and erected saw mills. Among the Capitalists who came were William E. Dodge of New York and William Pitt Eastman of New Hampshire, who located at this point. Mr. Eastman generously donated the land for the new

town and County seat, Eastman, and also donated the land for the courthouse. Mr. Dodge, in whose honor the new county was named, expressed his appreciation of the honor conferred upon him by having built at his expense what was then a magnificent court house and presented it to the citizens of the county. It was erected where the present court house now stands, and was a two-story frame structure which cost about \$25,000. It was used as a court house until 1908, when it was torn away for the erection of a more spacious and magnificent edifice."



*On the left: One of two war monuments that proudly adorn the Dodge County Court House Lawn.*

*Photo by: ThePapper - Doll@TechSpes.com*



**W**es Craig, sent us the following: "I am descended from a William Harwood, b. abt. 1790 who was m. to Anna. Their children included TRISDAND, and Thomas. They were living in Holland, Erie Co, NY by 1820 census. Recently, I came up with a piece of information that is tantalizing. A researcher on my family lines sent me info. that there was a Henry Dodge/Mary Callow of Kingston Upon Thames, Surrey, England. They were m. 11 Nov. 1787 in Kingston and purportedly had a daughter, Anna. In the same community, in the same time period, was a William Harwood christened on 1 Oct. 1786 in Kingston, the son of Thomas Harwood and Hannah. The coincidence of both a Dodge and Harwood family living in Kingston Upon Thames, Surrey, England, in the same time period is a coincidence! That the names William Harwood, and Anna Dodge are of the same time period is a double coincidence!! That my William Harwood had a child named



## *Kernels by The Colonel*

*Col. Robert L. Dodge*

Freedom is NOT Free.....

I watched the flag pass by one day;  
it fluttered in the breeze.  
A young Marine saluted it  
and stood at ease.  
I looked at him in uniform  
so young, so tall, so proud,  
with hair cut square and eyes alert,  
he'd stand out in any crowd.

I thought how many men like him  
had fallen through the years.  
How many died on foreign soil?  
How many mother's tears?  
How many pilot's planes shot down?  
How many died at sea?  
How many foxholes were soldier's  
graves?  
No, freedom is not free.

I heard the sound of taps one night  
when every thing was still.  
I listened to the bugler play  
and felt a sudden chill.  
I wondered just how many times  
that taps had meant 'AMEN',  
when a flag had draped a coffin  
of a brother or a friend.  
I thought of all the children;  
of the mothers and the wives;  
of fathers, sons and husbands,  
with interrupted lives;  
thought about a graveyard  
at the bottom of the sea;  
of unmarked graves at Arlington.  
No, freedom is not free.

Cadet Major Kelly Strong, USAF

TRISDAND is a triple coincidence!!!  
Has any of the Dodge family research  
mentioned Kingston Upon the  
Thames as a precedence of U.S.  
Dodge families?  
[wrcraig@infowest.com](mailto:wrcraig@infowest.com)

*Ed. Note: How about it...have any of our readers ever come across such a connection?*



**GENEALOGY  
REQUESTS  
COLUMN**  
by Norman Dodge  
nedodge@aol.com

The Dodge family Association is always on the lookout for information about mystery Dodes that we cannot connect. Several years ago Becky Rutledge had done a great deal of research on her ancestral tree which she shipped me from Vermont. It was all very neatly hand transcribed and well put together. She carefully clipped together her family group sheets. I transcribed them into the computer and made a Register format document, which I sent to Chuck Dodge in CA. About the same time in 1999, I copied a Genforum request from James Koelbl@msn.com. I knew this request was important, but I did not have any info to offer and did not know it related to Becky's request. Chuck was looking through census and discovered that John and Mary were the parents of Moses Dodge that Becky was looking for in Bath, NH. Also the Dodge Family Association had purchased a Bible with a lot of Dodge names and it turned out that this Bible also had John Dodge listed and Becky realized this was her ancestry that she had been seeking. James Koelbl from Wisconsin has been working on this for several years and has made a careful study of Beverly, MA birth's, deaths, marriages, and migration patterns of Dodge's going to NH to see if he could discover his Dodge lineage. Chuck, Barbara, and I are pretty convinced that this mystery is solved. Much of the credit goes to Jim Koelbl. On Pg. 54 in JTD there is a Ruth Dodge listed as a child of John Dodge & Hannah Fowler. Even JTD suspects something is wrong the vital records. The problem seems to be that the wrong John and Hannah were selected. This Ruth should be a Daughter of John Dodge born 1703 shown in JTD Pg. 34 #91; no further record in JTD. His wife is Hannah Webster. They also had a son John b. 28 Feb 1741/42 maybe others. This family went to NH. and eventually to Bath NH. It appears that one of our outstanding mysteries has now been solved.



Thomas E. Dodge was an early pioneer of Campton Twp. Kane Co., Illinois. in 1836. He married an Unknown Upton. They had a daughter b. 12 Jul 11838 in St. Charles,

Kane Co., Illinois and d. 3 Sep 1916 in Dixie, Walla Walla Co., Washington, b. in Dixie Cem. m. Justice Michael 24 Oct 1858 in Missouri.



Mel Alexander is looking for the lineage of Oliver A. Dodge b. 5-22-1860 Kansas d. 7-20-1927 whose father was Edward Dodge and Brenton Dodge is still looking for ancestry of Charles Oliver Dodge.



Here are TWO Arthur Mysteries:

From Joe Sampson: I am trying to locate any further information on my wife's family. Her mother Helen B. Rogus (Dodge) born in Roxbury, Mass. brothers: Arthur, William and Edward. The grandparents were: Arthur W. Dodge, Myrtle Clyde Langel. As far as I can tell from the 1920 Census Arthur W. and Myrtle Clyde Langel were born in Canada. He was a career military person and his widow Myrtle Clyde applied for the Civil War Pension April 9, 1922 and they listed the service Co. A, 5th Massachusetts. Arthur's Parents were born in Maine and Myrtle's Family from Canada.

Some general facts: Arthur W. Dodge Born b.1877 or 1876, Myrtle Clyde Langel b.1885 or 1884. Nova Scotia and St. James Island are locations some of the family believe they lived and were born in Canada and immigrated to the states in 1880 and 1889. The great grandparents are probably related to the Dodge families in Maine.



From Marianne (Dodge) Gray: My grandparents, Bertha "Muriel" Williams-Dodge and Arthur Dodge lived in Brooklyn, New York. They were born around 1915-1919 not sure of the dates My grandfather Arthur Dodge left my grandmother when my dad was 3 in Dorchester, MA and returned to New York where he passed away in the mid 80's. I think he must have had more children or sisters, brothers. This is very important to me as my dad, Thomas James Dodge, passed away 2 years ago. He never spoke of his father so I have no idea where I came from.

I believe that my grandfathers date of birth and death dates were either: b.14th of Dec 1908, d.Jan 1986 in NY,

OR b.Jun 1913 and d. March 1983 in NJ.

My grandmother did not speak of him at all and I do not have her date of birth. He skipped out on 6 kids. and no one speaks of him, not even my aunts. I hope that I can find some relatives so that I can find out my ancestry.



Gerri Cole writes: My g.g.g. grandmother was Abigail Dodge, who was reportedly born in MA c1785. She married Nathan Munson in 1804 in Brighton, Monroe County, NY. Reportedly, their oldest child, Caroline, (my great-great grandmother) was born in NY state in October of 1805.

In 1817, Nathan and Abigail (Dodge) Munson, along with their children, Caroline, Henry, Emeline, Reuben, and Fanny were part of a large group who left NY state (following 'the year there was no summer) and settled in Huron County, OH on the Western Reserve. (New London, OH) Reportedly, Abigail died in 1853 and Nathan died in 1854. Nathan's death recorded in a diary by Dr. Tracy Case.

According to the 1850 Huron County Census, the Nathan Munson family was living in Fitchville Township, west of New London. A land document shows that Nathan was living in Clarksfield in 1850 and 1851.

As compensation for the death of their son, Clark, in the Mexican War, Nathan was awarded 160 acres in Huron County.

Nathan was the oldest child and son of Stephen and Phebe Merriman Munson and was born in Wallingford, CT. There is some information about him in Volume I of 'The Munson Record'. (Waitstill Clan).

There is very little information about Abigail--except that she died in 1851, and she and Nathan were buried in a cemetery 3 miles north of New London. (Probably Butterfield Cemetery.)

In the publication 'Pioneer Women Who Settled on the Western Reserve', this information is given about Abigail: Abigail Dodge/Mrs. Nathan Munson/ b. 1817, Brighton, NY d. New London, CT.