

The Clifton-Norman Family and their English and Scottish roots

Jan Strasma



Worsley Clifton and son Frank at
Clifton meat market and confectionery
Ashkum, Illinois

The English and Scottish Roots of the Clifton- Norman family

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Acknowledgments

This family history draws on the recollections of Eula Clifton Strasma, as told to her son, Jan; the temple-genealogy.com web site for Temple family history; and, especially to cousin Sally Krizan Eaton, who has been my companion on our family history journey.

Thirty years ago she collected and scanned images from her siblings and other family members, forming the core of the Clifton family photographic record. Her particular forte has been the Temple family, with Ebenezer Temple's Revolutionary War record as a focus.

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Introduction

Half of our family tree is rooted in England and, to a lesser extent, Scotland. (The other half is Irish and Dutch.). The early immigrants came to New England in the early 1600s, not long after the Pilgrims. Our one family of Scots arrived in 1799. And the remaining English immigrants are clustered between 1866 and 1873.

Two family lines emigrated to the New England colonies in the early 1600s, not long after the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1620 - Zechariah Field in 1629 and Richard Temple in 1636.

Worsley Clifton was the first of this second “wave” of English immigrants, arriving in 1865; John Norman arrived in 1967; and Alice Ann Hargreaves became the last of our family’s immigrants in 1873. The Cliftons and Hargreaves were from the textile mill towns in Lancashire, north of the industrial city of Manchester. John Norman was born in the twin villages of Holywell cum Needingworth in Huntingdonshire about 60 miles north of London. Population of the villages when John was born was about 1000.

The Cliftons and Hargreaves lived in Lancashire, north of the industrial city of Manchester.

The Norman family is from Cambridgeshire north of London.



Field Ancestry

Note: The Field family history draws heavily from *Field Genealogy* by Frederick Clifton Pierce, published in 1901, and from research by Charles Robert Field.

Zechariah Field was born in 1596 in East Ardsley, West Yorkshire, England, according to research by Charles Robert Field. Zechariah was from a Puritan family, considered liberal in their religious views, and he among the 350 passengers on the six-ship fleet chartered by the Massachusetts Bay Company to establish settlements in America. The ships set sail from Yarmouth on the Isle of Wight in early May 1629 and arrived in late June.

In 1636 Zechariah was one of the founders of Hartford, Connecticut. He married Mary Stanley in 1641 in Hartford. They had five children: Mary, Zechariah Jr., John, Samuel, and Joseph.

He moved to Northampton about 1659 where he established a mercantile business and had a large trade with the Indians. He later moved to Hatfield, Massachusetts, where he died 30 June 1666 at the age of 70.

Samuel continued our family line. He was born in 1651 in Hartford, Connecticut, and moved with his family first to Northampton, Massachusetts, and then to Hatfield. On 9 August 1676, married Sarah Gilbert in Springfield, Massachusetts, returning to Hatfield. Samuel was a sergeant in the Turners Falls fight in 1676, part of what was called King Philip's War. A force of about 160 mounted colonial militia attacked an Indian encampment in what was later called a 'massacre.' Several hundred Indians were killed, and 38 militiamen were killed in the subsequent Indian counter attack. The published Fields genealogy records that Samuel was a prominent and influential person of Hatfield, holding many town offices. He was killed by Indians in ambush on 24 June 1697, while hoeing corn in Hatfield meadows.

Zachariah Field, son of Samuel and Sarah, was born 29 August 1685 in Hatfield, Massachusetts. He married Sarah Matton (or Mattoon) on 21 December 1711. Sarah, the daughter of Philip

and Sarah (Hans) Mattoon, was born 25 April 1687. She was among the English settlers captured by Indians in 1704 when she was 17 and carried off to Canada. She was ransomed and returned the following year. The Field family moved to Northfield, Massachusetts, in 1717 where Zechariah was appointed ensign in the militia. The following year he built mills on Miller's brook which remained in the family for many years.

Zachariah also purchased the Indians' right to 30,000 acres of land on Millers River for a token amount of 12 pounds. The land was subsequently divided up by the colonial government, and Zachariah was allotted 800 acres for his efforts.

He was named first selectman in Northfield in 1723 and thereafter generally held some important town office. In the militia he would be promoted to Lieutenant and ultimately to Captain. His residence was one of those in Northfield to be fortified with a square tower or mount. In 1739 he purchased a farm of 100 acres which remained in the family.

Zechariah died 15 August 1746 in Northfield. He and Sarah had ten children, including Gaius, who is in our direct family line.

Gaius was born 2 April 1716. He married Sarah Holton, the daughter of Eleanor and Sarah (Alexander) Holton, who was born 15 April 1717. Gaius was born on the old Field farm in Northfield, but moved later to Winchester, New Hampshire. He was a soldier in the French and Indian Wars.

Gaius and Sarah had nine children, including Elisha (also known as Elihu) who continued our direct ancestral line. Elihu was born 6 September 1752.

Elihu and his brothers, James and Gaius, served in the Revolutionary War. Elihu's service was brief, serving as a private in Wingate's New Hampshire Regiment during August 1776.

Elihu and his wife, Mary Polly Page, had eight children, the youngest of whom, Cynthia, was born in 1797 in Winchester, New Hampshire.. Cynthia married William Temple in Woodford, Bennington County, Vermont, on 1 January 1818, thus joining two early lines of our ancestry.

Temple Ancestry

Note: The Temple information here draws heavily on the temple-genealogy.com website maintained by Dr. L. Parker Temple III including research submitted by Clifton cousin, Sally Krizan Eaton.

Richard Temple was born in 1623 or earlier in Leicestershire, England, and emigrated to the Massachusetts colonies in 1636. He was a farmer, living first in Charlestown, Massachusetts, where his farm reached to salt water and extended to near Bunker Hill. He bought and sold much real estate in Charlestown. He married Joanna Shipley in 1645, and they had seven children. In 1648 he moved to Concord where he resided on Spencer Brook and had a sawmill. .

His son, Richard - the next in our ancestral line - was born 15 October 1654 in Charlestown. He married Sarah Parling on 24 April 1688 in Concord. They had three children, including Joseph, next in our family line. Richard Temple died in 1697 at the age of 43 and Sarah remarried.



House built in 1671 in Concord, Massachusetts, by Richard and Joanna Temple

Joseph Temple was born 28 August 1694 in Concord. He married Abigail Stearns on 28 November 1717 in Concord. In 1745 records show that Joseph was punished for going to a private prayer meeting rather than a church service although some think that the infraction applied to his son Joseph and his wife Sarah McKinney. Joseph and his wife Abigail had eight children, including Samuel, who continues our family line

Samuel Temple was born in 1727 in Westford, Middlesex, Massachusetts. Samuel and Hannah Gleason were married 13 November 1751 in Upton, Worcester, Massachusetts. They had three children, Samuel, Phebe, and Ebenezer, our direct ancestor. Samuel owned land in Pepperell, Massachusetts which he later sold. Research by Sally Krizan Eaton found that he subsequently purchased thirty acres of farmland and orchards in Acton, Middlesex, Massachusetts, in 1858. He died about two years later at the age of 34. He was intestate and his wife Hannah was appointed administrator of his estate. An inventory taken after his death showed that he had several "barrels of cider" and that two neighbors owed him for "cyder," indicating that he made and sold cider from his orchard.

Their oldest son, Samuel, was born in 1752; Phebe was born in 1754; and our Ebenezer was born 5 April 1757 in Pepperell, Massachusetts. Ebenezer would have been just 3 years old when his father died.

Ebenezer joined the military and was just 18 years old when he was a private in Timothy Walker's Company of militia when it marched on 19 April 1775, responding to the British attacks on Lexington and Concord the previous day. He served just 5 1/2 days with the militia, and three months later joined the Continental Army.

Ebenezer served throughout the entire Revolutionary War from 1775 to 1883.

Ebenezer married Ann about 1785. Much of his military service had been in New York, and he and Ann lived there, at least until their first son, Ira, was born in 1786-87. They had six children before Ann's death in 1806: Ira, Amy, William, Rhoda, Anna and Huldah.

Following Ann's death, Ebenezer married Abigail. He owned land in New York, Connecticut and Massachusetts before purchasing land in 1807 and settling in Woodford, Bennington County, Vermont. He was a town Committeeman there in 1830. He died in Woodford on 24 November 1847 at the age of 90.

William Temple, who continued our ancestral line, was born 1 April 1793 in Massachusetts and moved with his family to Woodford in Bennington County, Vermont.

There he married Cynthia Field on 1 January 1818. William and Cynthia had 11 children: Ira, born in 1818; Mary, born in 1820; Cynthia Maria, born in 1821; Sarah, born in 1823 (and our direct ancestor); Emma Jane, born in 1826; George, born in 1828; Mary Ann, born in 1830; William, born in 1903; Charlotte, born in 1835; and Christopher Columbus, born in 1837.

The elder eight children were born in Woodford, Vermont; the younger three were born in Georgetown, New York. With the exception of Mary, who died at age 10, William and Cynthia's children lived into adulthood.

Cynthia died 26 October 1845 at the age of 47 in Georgetown, New York.

Douglass Ancestry

Our Scots ancestry is traced to John Douglass who emigrated to the US about 1799 and settled in Fenner, Madison County, New York where he married Abigail Poole. (The 1850 census, the first census to show family details, shows that John was born in Scotland and the later NY census shows that Abigail was born in New Jersey and moved to Fenner in about 1804.)

Little has been found on the Scots origins of our Douglass family in the US, but in Scotland, the Douglasses were a prominent clan in Lowland Scotland, taking the clan name from the village of Douglas in Lanarkshire, an area including the southern edge of Glasgow and areas to the south. According to Wikipedia, The family's name comes from the Gaelic dubh, meaning "dark, black";

and glas, meaning "stream."

John's birth date was 5 May 1777, calculated from gravestone date of his death 25 Sep 1852 and age of 75 years, 4 months and 20 days.

Early Douglass family information is recorded in "History of Chenango and Madison Counties, New York," by James H. Smith, which was published in 1880:

John Douglass, another worthy Scot, emigrated from his native country to Johnstown, about 1799. There he married Abigail Poole, and about 1801 removed to Fenner, locating in the south-east part of the town about two and one-half miles south-west of Peterboro. He took up about 110 acres, which were divided between himself and his brother Daniel, who came with him from Scotland and to this town. John settled on the farm now occupied by James Campbell, and Daniel, on the Neil Eastman farm. John and his wife died where they settled, the former about twenty-five years ago. [about 1855] His wife survived him four years. [about 1859] They had thirteen children, all born in Fenner, eleven of whom lived to maturity and married and settled in that locality. Daniel Douglass also married in Johnstown, Grace Steward, by whom he had nine children, all of whom were born in Fenner and raised on the farm on which they settled. He afterwards removed with his family to Caledonia, N.Y., where he died a few years after.

Another local history, "History of Madison County, State of New York" by L. M. Hammond, published in 1872, mentions Daniel Douglass but not his brother and indicates that the Douglasses were among several Scots families who emigrated to the area:

A company of Scotch families from Scotland took up farms near the east Fenner line, between the turnpike and the Peterboro and Perryville road. Among these may be named Robert Stewart, James Cameron, Daniel Douglass, John Robinson and James Cole. The Madison County history records that John and Abigail had thirteen children; among them was our ancestor, Robert Douglass, who was born 16 April 1804. He was possibly the second son, born about a year after Alexander Douglass.

Robert married Lucinda Rice in 1836. They had four children, twins Mary Sosannah and Lydia Ann, born in 1837; William

Thorison, born in 1840; and Newell Laroy, born in 1842. Lucinda died in 27 July 1845.

Five months later, Robert — now a widower with four children under the age of 10 — married Sarah C. Temple on 1 January 1846. Sarah had moved to Fenner with her family from Vermont. She was born 23 April 1823 to William Temple and his wife Cynthia Field in Bennington County, Vermont.

Together Robert and Sarah had three children, James Temple, born 5 December 1846; Lucinda Abigail, born 13 August 1849; and Cynthia Jane, b 10 February 1851. Robert died 19 November 1851. The 1850 federal census identifies Robert as a carpenter.

Between the 1850 federal census and the 1855 state census, Sarah Douglass lost her husband, had to separate her stepchildren to live with other relatives, and moved to a new home in Fenner.

The 1855 New York state census shows Sarah Douglass living with just her three children, James, Lucinda, and Cynthia. (It records that she had been living in Fenner for 12 years.)

In 1859 Sarah moved to Illinois with her three children. There, she joined her brother Ira Temple who had moved to Illinois before 1850. The 1850 census for Wilton Township, Will County, shows Ira, a farmer, living with the Ingham family. He is shown to own land worth \$500.

Her father, William Temple, also moved to Illinois from New York, perhaps at the same time as Sarah.

The 1860 census picture of the Temples and Sarah Douglass is a bit confusing.

Sarah and two of her children are shown living in Wesley Township, Will County, with her brother, Ira Temple (although the census shows Ira, Sarah, and her son James with the surname Kempill while only Lucinda is listed as Douglass). Ira now has land valued at \$2000 and personal property valued at \$500.

In adjoining Wilton Township, Sarah's father, William Temple, is listed as William Kempel as a farmhand. Living with him is James Douglass, age 8. James would have been 14, and he was already shown with his mother in Wesley Township. However, Sarah's daughter Jane is unaccounted for in 1850 — she would have

been 9 at the time of the census. Perhaps the listing for James should be Jane. (The 1870 census shows her still in Will County working as a housekeeper.)

Second Wave of Immigration - The Norman Family

John's grandparents, Phillip Norman and his wife Mary, lived on Church Lane in Needingworth in 1841, according to the 1841 English census. Both are listed as 45. Philip was born in a different county, but the rest of his family were born in Lancashire. Philip is an agricultural laborer.

(England's 1841 census was the first to include details about residents and their families, and later censuses, performed every 10 years, continued to provide such useful information.)

The later 1851 census records that Phillip was born in Yelling, while Mary and their children were all born in Needingworth. The two villages are about 10 miles apart. The 1841 census records that Philip's parents were living in Yelling; his father, John, 65, is an agricultural laborer, and his mother, Dinah, is 60. Dinah was born in Ellsworth, about 5 miles from Yelling, the daughter of Henry Woods and Elizabeth Clark.

The children of Phillip and Mary Norman, as listed in the 1841 census for Needingworth, are sons William, 20; John, 20; Joseph, 15; and Charles, 5, and daughters Ann, 12, and Mary, 15. It appears that there are two sets of twins.

In 1850 daughter Ann gave birth to a son, John. No father is listed in church records, and he is recorded as "illegitimate."

His birthdate is uncertain. A handwritten note passed down through the family gives the date of baptism, but not the birthdate:

"I certify that John son of Ann Norman resident at Needingworth was baptized at the Parish Church at Holywell on June 19th, 1850 by John Roberts, Curate. The above is a true extract from the Parish Register." Signed Charles Hoskins, Rector of Holywell, April 19th, 1886. (Holywell is adjacent to Needingworth.)

Later secondary records suggest that John was born in 1847 (Ashkum Cemetery gravestone and 1900 federal census), 1849 (1851

English census), 1850 (1880 federal census), or 1851 (obituary). His gravestone and obituary list his birthdate as 3 Jan. Given the baptismal record, 3 Jan 1850 seems the most likely.

Ann's older sister Mary was married to David Tabbitt - brother to Ann's future husband, William Tabbitt. Their son David was baptized at the same time as Ann's John.

Just over a month later, on July 22, 1850, Ann married William Tabbitt, a 35-year-old widower. He and his first wife, also named Ann, had at least two sons, James, who was 5 in the 1841 census, and William, who was 9 in the 1851 census. Only William is listed in the 1851 census (James would have been 15 and perhaps listed elsewhere) along with Ann's son John, listed with the surname Tabbitt.

The website of St. John the Baptist Church describes the two villages today:

The two villages of Holywell and Needingworth, lying a mile apart, form one civil and ecclesiastical parish and one village community. Holywell is the smaller settlement, located at the side of the River Ouse. An ancient Anglo-Saxon ring village of about 80 houses, it is a conservation area. Needingworth is the larger part of the parish, with over 900 households: the historic centre of the village grew up along the former St Ives–Ely road, now the High Street, and Church Street, leading to Holywell.

The 1851 census shows William Tabbitt, 37, wife Ann, 20, and son John, 2, on Church Lane. Their listing is immediately adjacent to Ann's parents, Philip and Mary Norman, and four sons and a 35-year-old step son. The next family listing is for another son, William Norman, 32, his wife Ann, 23, and their two daughters, Harriet, 2, and Rebecca, 8 months.

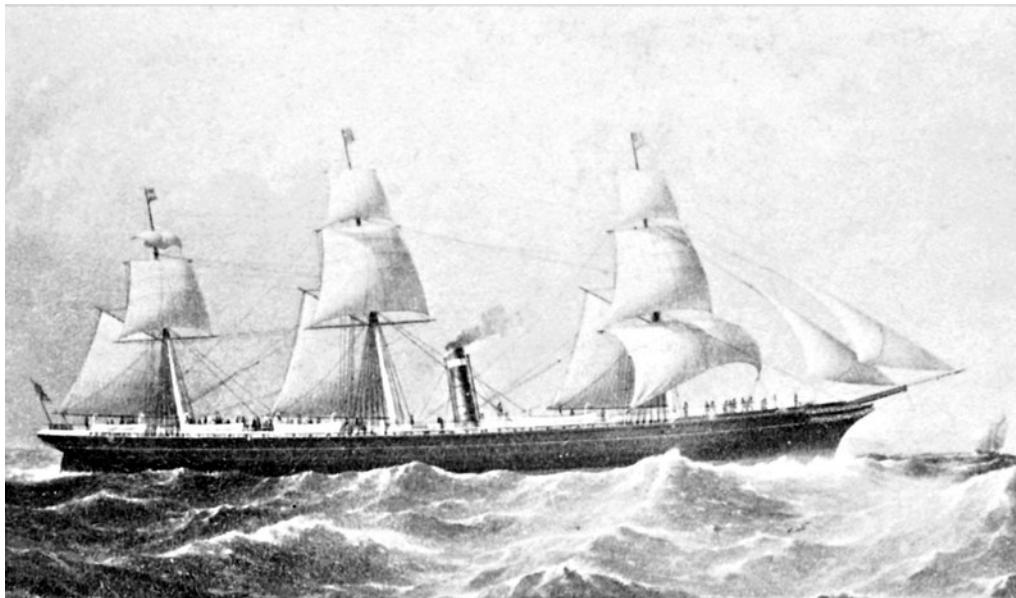
Ann's father Phillip died in 1855 in a tragic accident. The local newspaper reported:

ST. IVES. - Fatal Railway Accident. - On Monday evening last, a fatal accident occurred on the Eastern Counties line, between this town and the Needingworth crossing. An elderly man named Norman, an inhabitant of Needingworth, who had been reaping in the neighborhood, was attempting to cross the line on his way home

from labour, at the instant when the 6h 55m passenger train was passing to this town on its way from Somersham. The poor man, being very deaf, it appears did not hear the train approaching, until it was close upon him when one of the buffers of the engine struck him with great violence, and hurled him a considerable distance, when, striking a post, which was completely knocked down by the force of the concussion, he was killed upon the spot.

Meanwhile, the 1861 census shows the Tabbitt family living at The Barracks at Holywell cum Needingworth. William, 45, is an agricultural laborer, and his wife Ann is 33. Ann's son, John, 12, is listed as John Tabbitt, employed as a "farmer's boy." Sons Charles, 6, and David, 4, are scholars, and Matthew is 2. This census shows all were born in Needingworth.

William and Ann had a total of 10 children together, including one son who died in infancy. Ann's son John emigrated to the US in 1867, arriving at New York 21 OCT on the "City of London." His name is among 105 single males listed together as miners in the passenger list, suggesting they had been recruited to work in mines in the US. It is not known where he first traveled to in the US but by 1870 the federal census shows him living in Momence, Illinois, where he is listed as a laborer.



"City of London" - John Norman sailed 1867

(The later 1900 census reports he arrived in 1866 and later was naturalized in 1876 as a U.S. citizen. His obituary reports that he traveled to the US at the age of 17 which is consistent with the "City of London" passenger list.)

The 1870 census shows him living with David and Loraine Lynds, a prominent pioneer family in Momence. He was the only non-family member in the household and is identified as a laborer. David was a physician, born and educated in Nova Scotia, and Loraine was the first school teacher in Kankakee County, according to 'Tales of a Border Town,' an early history of the area by Burt Burroughs. David was also postmaster - and the community's name was Loraine after his wife, who may have also been its postmistress.

A handwritten family list of marriages says that John Norman and Lucinda Abigail Douglass were married January 7, 1874. The register of Kankakee County marriages shows that John and Lucinda were issued a marriage license January 7, 1874, and married the same day by Kankakee County Judge C. R. Starr, almost certainly in Kankakee.

Lucinda had been born 18 AUG 1849 at Fenner, in Madison County, New York, she moved with her family to Wilton (Center) in Will County, Illinois in 1859 and then to Peotone in 1870. She was married to John Norman four years later.

A handwritten list of places where Lucinda lived, likely written by Lucinda and passed down through the family, shows the Normans moved to Momence, Illinois, in 1875 and then back to Peotone in 1879.

The 1880 federal census for the Village of Peotone shows John and Lucinda and their daughter Emma living with Lucinda's mother, Sarah Douglass. John is listed as a teamster. Later, John was a tile burner at the tile yard in Peotone. He and his wife had three children, Emma, born 24 July 1877, in Momence and twin sons, Oscar and Orville, born 21 April 1881 in Peotone.

In 1893 the family moved to Ashkum. During most of that time he was employed at the brick and tile works of C. H. Comstock in the capacity of kiln burner, at which he was considered an

expert, according to his obituary.

That same year - 1893 - the first of three daughters of Matthew Norman — our Ann Norman's brother — to emigrate arrived in the US. The three were John's cousins. The eldest daughter, Harriet, emigrated in 1893, settling in Kankakee not far from cousin John Norman and his family in Ashkum. Another daughter, Martha, emigrated in 1899 with her husband, Edwin Hanson, and two sons, settling in Kankakee. The third daughter, Emma Jane, emigrated in 1914 and settled in Ashton, Illinois, where she soon married Lewis Wood.

John Norman died 17 February 1906 in Ashkum. Lucinda continued to live in Ashkum until 1913 when she moved to Kankakee to live with her daughter, Emma Clifton, and her family. She died in 1934.

The Clifton Advocate reported on 23 February 1906:

John Norman died last Saturday morning at his home in Ashkum. His fatal illness, pneumonia, was of short duration. He was 56 years of age. He used to live in Clifton; but moved to Ashkum about thirteen years ago. He was, employed in the tile factory as a kiln-burner. Besides the widow he leaves a daughter and two sons. John Norman had many friends here who mourn his loss.

By the 1871 English census, the Tabbitts were living back on Church Street. William Tabbitt died in 1877. The 1881 census shows Ann, 50, a widow, being "kept by her sons." Living with her on Church Street are Matthew, 21, Samuel, 18, George, 15, Elizabeth, 10, and Alfred, 7. Matthew and David Tabbitt emigrated to the US with their families in 1885 and settled in the Peotone area where their half brother John Norman lived. Both Tabbitt brothers were farmers. The Tabbitt families continued close contact with the Normans and, later, with Frank and Emma Clifton and their family.

An 1894 letter from Emma Tabbitt and her mother Ann to the Tabbitts in the US, there is mention of John Norman's cousin, Harriet:

They were greatly surprised to hear of Harriet Norman. Hope she is well by this. She said she should come to see us again when she had been their a year, but we shant expect to see her if she

thinks of getting married. I think young women must be rather scarce there, for if there are any who go from this part, they soon get married.

Indeed, Harriet married George Allstedt in Kankakee County on 6 November 1894. She was among those attending John Norman's funeral in 1906. By 1910 the census showed her as a widow and hotel keeper in Kankakee. She later moved to Jacksonville, Florida, where she died in 1963 at the age of 92.

Ann Norman Tabbitt outlived her son, John. The 1911 English census shows her living in the "workhouse" at Hemingford Grey, not far from Needingworth. Workhouses at that time often provided housing for the elderly poor. She was 82 at the time of the census. (The workhouse, originally built in 1837 to house 400 "inmates," was ultimately closed and refurbished as private residences.)

On 6 September 1912 she was admitted to the Bedford Asylum where she died 27 April 1913 at the age of 84.

The Clifton and Hargreaves Families

In 1841 the Clifton family was living on Wilkinson Street in Haslingden, Lancashire, England, about 16 miles north of the major industrial city of Manchester. Haslingden was an old market town, surrounded by high moorland. As steam power displaced water driven textile mills in the mid-1800s, Haslingden became a center for wool and cotton weaving.

(Wilkinson Street today is a short street with "pebble dash" row houses located in the center of Haslingden.)

The 1841 census records the family - Philip Clifton, the father, was 48, indicating a birth date of 1793. He is a fishmonger; his wife, Mary, was 35; and they had three children, Margaret, 13, Betty, 3, and Mary Jane, 1. (The baptismal record for son Philip, born in 1842, lists his father's occupation as 'labourer'.)

Phillip's wife, Mary Crossley, was born in 1806 or 1807, the daughter of William and Betty Crossley. The 1851 census lists her birthplace as Gauxholme, about 12 miles east of Haslingden. She

was baptized 10 February 1807 in nearby Todmorden, according to Bishop's Transcripts for 1807. (The record shows the family resides in Wattyhole which is part of Todmorden.)

Mary's father, William, was born in 1759 in Todmorden, the son of John and Mary Crossley. (Todmorden is on the border of Lancashire and West Yorkshire - and in the late 1800s it was made part of West Yorkshire.). William was baptized 25 February 1759 in the St. Paul's Church which stands on the hillside at Cross Stone about 300 ft above Todmorden.

He married Betty Crabtree on 11 January 1773 in Todmorden's parish church, St. Mary's. (If this record is correct, Betty would have been 11 at the time of her marriage.). Betty was 45 when their daughter, Mary, was born in 1807. Mary was baptized 19 February 1807. Her mother died four years later and was buried 2 January 1811 at St. Paul Cross Stone Church, Todmorden. (The burial record records William as being from Stansfield which is part of Todmorden.). (Note: no other children are recorded for William and Betty.).

Phillip Clifton's parents and birthplace are not certain - birth records for Heysham, about 50 miles from Haslingden, record the birth of several Philip Cliftons 1793-1798 but their subsequent marriage records determine they are not our Philip Clifton. The 1841 census records that he was born in the same county where he now lived - Lancashire - but no certain birth records have been found.

Phillip and Mary were married 25 January 1826 in Haslingden, residing in New Club Houses (apparently New Club Houses were on Wilkinson Street, their later address). All of their children were born in Haslingden.

Their daughter Margaret's baptismal record, three years later, show Philip as a fishmonger. The 1830 baptismal record for Jane identifies Philip as a fishmonger as well. By 1837 their daughter Betty's baptismal record shows Philip as a labourer with the family living at Marsden Square, still in Haslingden. The 1840 baptismal record for Mary Jane shows the family back at New Club Houses and Philip is again listed as a fishmonger. But when son Philip is born in 1842 and again in Martha's baptismal record in 1847 father

Philip is shown as a labourer.

The final record for father Philip is his burial 6 February 1848 in the Haslingden Parish Register. His funeral was performed by Matthew Wilson, identified as the incumbent of Edenfield, a village just south of Haslingden.

The 1851 census lists Mary as a widow; Philip died and was buried 6 FEB 1848, according to the parish burial registry for Haslingden. His age is listed as 53, which is somewhat inconsistent with the earlier census age. (The 1841 census for Haslingden lists only one Philip Clifton, suggesting that this parish registry burial listing is our Philip.)

The Haslingden parish registry records Worsley's birth as 10 November 1850 and his baptism on 10 November 1850, showing no father's name and listing Mary as a widow. (There is no explanation of Worsley's parentage, given that Mary's husband, Phillip, apparently died almost three years earlier.)

In the 1851 census the Clifton residence is listed as Back Wilkinson Street in Haslingden. Mary Clifton, a widow, is 44. (Mary has moved to a Back Wilkinson Street address referring to residences located on the alley behind Wilkinson Street, likely a less expensive residence.) Children listed are Betsy, 12, Mary Jane, 10, Philip, 7, and Worsley, 5 months.

Mary is shown to be a lodging house keeper with at least four lodgers in addition to four of her children. The two oldest girls are working in a cotton mill - Twelve-year-old Betty is a cotton mule creeler and 10 year old Mary Jane is a cotton carding piecer. Philip, 7, is in school; and Worsley is 5 months old. A cotton mule was a spinning machine to produce yarns. A creeler's job was to change bobbins as the bobbins were filled with yarn, and the piecer rejoined the yarn if it broke.

Baptismal records for the Clifton children show the following (in some instances the birth date is noted):

- * Margaret, born 25 FEB 1828 and baptized 20 APR 1838

- * Jane, baptized 11 APR 1830 (died March 1832)

- * Betty, born 4 MAR 1837 and baptized 3 APR 1837

- * Mary Jane, born 4 FEB 1840 and baptized 19 MAR 1840
- * Philip, born in 1842 and baptized 21 March 1842
- * Martha, baptized 15 AUG 1847 (died October 1847)
- * Worsley, born 10 NOV 1850 and baptized 1 DEC 1850

Two of the Clifton daughters died as infants - two-year-old Jane died in 1832 and four-month-old Martha died in 1847. Two other daughters died as teenagers - 17-year-old Betty died in 1954 and 15-year-old Mary Jane died in 1855. No record has been found of the death of their mother Mary, and she does not appear in later censuses. However, sons Philip and Worsley are boarders in a home in nearby Cloughfold in the 1861 census, suggesting that Mary had died prior to the census. Philip, 18, is a cotton weaver, and younger brother Worsley, 10, is employed as a cotton gaffer.

The Cliftons will be linked by marriage to another Lancashire family, the Hargreaves, which is a very common family name in Lancashire. Margaret and Worsley Clifton both married Hargreaves siblings. A third Lancashire family, the Bensons, also married Hargreaves siblings. These family relationships continued after emigration to the US.

The Cliftons and Hargreaves lived in nearby villages -- the Hargreaves in Cloughfold lived just a few miles east of the Cliftons in Haslingden. (The two villages are about 16 miles north of the major industrial town of Manchester.)

A Hargreaves family history, presented in the 1920s at a reunion of Hargreaves family in the US, provides the setting for the family history:

Grandfather George Hargreaves and Grandmother Ann Hargreaves were married in the early 1820s and resided at Cloughfold, Lancaster, England, on a farm that was called the Underwood Farm because it was built on a hill under a high bluff that was covered with trees. Down in the valley just below is the railroad station and the village of Cloughfold. Across this valley, on the opposition hillside is located the Cloughfold Baptist Chapel, where all their children received their early religious training.

George and Ann Hargreaves are listed in the 1841 census for Cloughfold with their 10 children. George, 40, is a woolen carder

and Ann, 40, is a housewife. The Hargreaves children, from 8-year-old George to 20-year-old James all worked in the woolen mills.

The census lists the children as:

- * James, 20, woolen carder
- * Henry, 19, clogger
- * Elizabeth, 17, woolen spinner
- * William, 15, woolen spinner
- * Mary, 12, woolen spinner
- * George, 8, woolen piecer
- * John, 6
- * Alice Ann, 3
- * Edward, 1
- * Richard, infant?

George Hargreaves married Ann Rothwell 19 July 1819. (George was born in 1801 and Ann was born in 1801 in Lancashire). George's birth and parentage is unclear. Janet Barrie, a local historian who has a history blog and web site for the Haslingden/Cloughfold area, is herself a direct descendant of George Hargreaves. She reports that several George Hargreaves were born in the area about 1800, but she has been unable to conclusively identify who our George's parents were. Several researchers have named James and Mally (Spencer) as our George's parents but Janet's efforts have not confirmed that connection.

Ann (Rothwell) Hargreaves died in 17 JAN 1848 in Lancashire. George subsequently married Mary Bradshaw on 19 July 1853 in Haslingden, Lancashire. Mary Bradshaw was born in 1809 in Lancashire.

The 1861 census shows George and Mary Hargreaves living at Underwood in Bury Parish. George is listed as a farmer. The only child remaining with them is Alice Ann, 23, who is a cotton power loom weaver.

Underwood Farm exists today, and the Place family has lived there for more than 125 years.

George died in Haslingden at the age of 63 on 2 FEB 1863. I

have found no further record of Mary Hargreaves, and no 1871 census record of Alice Ann Hargreaves. She did not emigrate to the United States until 1873 and, at that time, her occupation is listed as milliner.

The churchyard of Sion Baptist Church in Cloughfold has a memorial gravestone for George and Ann Hargreaves, although the dates differ somewhat from those found elsewhere. Janet Barrie's excellent Spring Hill History Blog has a transcription of the stone's text:

In Remembrance of GEORGE HARGREAVES Of Underwood who departed this Life Octr 15th 1864 Aged 65 Years Also of ANN, his wife who died Jan 2nd 1848 Aged 48 Years Also of WILLIAM their Son who died August 19th 1847 Aged 22 years Also of JAMES HARGREAVES Of Waterfoot who died January 17th 1876, in the 56th Year of his Age Also of JANE, Relit of the above who died December 8th 1882 in the 63rd Year of her Age Also of CHRISTOPHER KNOWLES Of Haslingden Who died August 7th 1889 in the 73rd Year of his Age Also of ELIZABETH his Wife who died September 1st 1904 In her 81st Year.

(John Hargreaves later marries Margaret Clifton; Alice Ann Hargreaves marries Worsley Clifton; and Edward Hargreaves emigrates to the U.S. and serves in the civil war. Edward marries Bridget Benson, and her brother, Heap, marries Mary Ann Hargreaves.)

Margaret Clifton, 23, is listed in the 1851 census as a servant (nurse) in the home of Jane Ashworth and her two children in Bowden. (Jane Ashworth in the 1841 census is recorded as a person of independent means in Cloughfold.)

Margaret married John Hargreaves on 29 OCT 1863 in Waterfoot, England, a village immediately adjacent to Cloughfold. John had first come to America about 1852, settled near Plattville in Kendall County, Illinois, and then returned to England to marry Margaret. Their first son, Philip Henry, was born in Waterfoot on 14 AUG 1864. New York passenger lists record that they arrived there on 11 SEP 1865 on the "City of New York." (Steerage passage cost \$30 while first class commanded a \$105 fare. The Hargreaves

traveled in steerage.)

Traveling with John, Margaret, and year-old Philip is "Worsley Hargreaves, 7." Eula Clifton Strasma, Worsley's granddaughter, recalls that he emigrated to the US with his sister and her husband. It seems likely that "Worsley Hargreaves" was actually Worsley Clifton and that his age was mistaken. Worsley would have been 15 at the time.

Later ship arrival lists show Worsley's older brother Philip Clifton, wife Susan, and daughter Mary arriving at New York 3 MAY 1869 on the "City of Baltimore."

Worsley in the 1870 US census is living in Ashkum with his brother Philip Clifton, Philip's wife Susan, and their two children. (Worsley's name is spelled "Warthley" in the census.). Worsley and Philip are both listed as farm laborers.

Sister Margaret, her husband John Hargreaves, and their three children are the next entry in the 1870 census in Ashkum. John is identified as a farmer. Spelling was evidently a challenge for the census-taker who recorded "Hardgraves" as the family name.

Alice Ann Hargreaves, who was born 18 SEP 1838, came to the United States in 1873, arriving April 14 at New York on the ship Calabria. Traveling with her were two nephews, Olden, 21, and James, 19, both sons of her oldest brother James.

Worsley Clifton and Alice Ann Hargreaves were married 15 DEC 1875 in Iroquois County, Illinois. Worsley was 25, and Alice was 38.

Their only son Frank Albert was born 19 DEC 1877 in Francesville IN. Two years later, the 1880 census shows the family living on a farm in Salem Township, Pulaski County, Indiana. Worsley is 31, Alice is 38, and Frank is 2. Granddaughter Eula Clifton recalls that a daughter had died in infancy but no record has been found substantiating that.

The census shows the Cliftons are living near Heap Benson and his wife, Mary. Mary is Alice Ann (Hargreaves) Clifton's sister. (A further interconnection: Edward Hargreaves, brother of Mary and Alice Ann, is married to Heap's sister Bridget.)

By 1880 Philip and Susan Clifton are now living in Chebanse, Illinois, and now have five children, Mary, 15, Margaret, 10, Susan, 3, Philip, 2, and Thomas, 8 months. Philip is shown as a farmer.

Sometime after 1880, the Worsley Cliftons moved to Ashkum. Worsley established several businesses in Ashkum, purchasing a meat market and later opening a movie theater and ice cream parlor. He also had an ice house, cutting ice in a pond and storing it for sale through the year. The Advocate newspaper in nearby



Frank and
Emma's wedding
portrait

Clifton repeatedly reported that Worsley had shipped a carload of hogs to Chicago.

The 1900 federal census shows Worsley as owner of a meat market in Ashkum, and son Frank, now 22, is a "meat market porter."

Frank and Emma Norman were married 5 June 1901 in Ashkum.

The local newspaper reported:

Mr. Clifton is one of our most highly respected young men. He is engaged in the meat market business with his father, and is honest and straight-forward in his dealings with his fellow men. His bride is one of our esteemed young ladies and we're sure will prove a good companion to him in the journey through life.

They left Thursday morning for Kankakee, where they will spend a few days with relatives. We extend to them our best wishes.

Eula Clifton Strasma remembers her grandfather's businesses were in three buildings just off Main Street in Ashkum next to the post office. (In a discussion about her family in 1990, she noted that the buildings were no longer there. Because of the meat market he had a pond in the back of his house and an ice house where every winter he cut cakes of ice for storage. The ice cakes were packed with sawdust as insulation, she added. Later, when he no longer had the meat market, Worsley still maintained the ice house and sold ice.

For a time Worsley also had a movie theater in one of the buildings. It had not very many seats because Ashkum was a town of about 300. Eula recalled that those were the days of silent movies with stars like Mary Pickford, Marguerite Clark, and Billie Burke. There was no piano player accompanying the movies. "It wasn't that fancy," she said

On 31 May 1907 the Clifton Advocate reported, "A fire broke out in Worsley Ciifton's store in Ashkum Wednesday. Local fire fighters saved the building from total destruction; but the flre destroyed about \$500 worth of property."

Four years later the newspaper reported that Worsley was

starting a meat market, grocery, and confectionery, including an ice cream parlor in Ashkum.

Jan asked Eula, "You say he was a butcher, had a meat market, and an ice cream parlor. Which one did he spend his time at. What would you say his occupation was."

Her reply, "I guess he was an entrepreneur. He was always his own boss and so it varied."

"Was he comfortable financially?" Jan continued. "He seemed to be. We always had plenty to eat. Proper clothes."

Eula reported that she often spent summers with her Clifton grandparents. "I, you see, was the oldest in the family. I was old enough to go down and stay." She traveled by train from Kankakee to Ashkum, a distance of 19 miles.

She also noted that she had no first cousins - her father was an only child and her mother had twin brothers - Oscar never married and was a farm hand in Ashkum; Orville, who married Ella Britten, was a train conduct, living in Chicago, had no children.

"When I first went there was no electricity," she recalled. "We had kerosene lamps. They did have a furnace in the basement but there were no pipes up to the second floor. There were some registers in the ceiling and the warm air went from downstairs upstairs."

"I think my grandmother [Clifton] was very thrifty. She was a very quiet person who loved her cat. She was a very good housekeeper. She had her routines. Her cleaning day."

She recalled that a her grandparents had their house built. "It was very comfortable. There was an entrance hall. A parlor. A back living room. And then the kitchen and dining room are really in one. In the back sitting room there had a horsehair sofa, an organ, a drop leaf table and over in one corner there was a heating stove with isinglass windows where you could see flames through. In the front parlor they had newer furniture. It was oak. The back parlor furniture was mahogany or walnut."

There were three bedrooms upstairs and a small storage room.

"There was also what they called a summer kitchen. Actually it wasn't used just in the summer because that's where the sink was

and there was a large cupboard which I think they called a kitchen safe where they could keep food. A small screened in porch was off of what I call the summer kitchen.”

She recalled that she used to go to the post office twice a day to get the mail. “I think there must have been trains that stopped twice a day that brought the mail, because my recollection is that I went in the morning and afternoon, too.”

Eula continued, “I guess maybe at my grandfather's they had a talking machine. The machine itself was very small and there was this big horn. Later on that was built into the cabinet. I remember in the front room we had a library table in the middle and we would put a march record like the American Patrol and march around.”

(Her recollection triggered one of Jan's who remembered the same activity for Frank and Emma's grandchidren who would put “Parade of the Wooden Soldiers” on the record player in the front room and march about the house.)

There were children I played with. There was a family across the street who had three daughters and one of them was about my

Frank and
Eula Clifton
with horse,
Cap

About 1910



age. Her father was a banker and they had a cottage on the Iroquois River and I was sometimes invited to go with them when they went out to their cottage. And then on the other side of my grandfather's house there was a girl that I played with some too, but as I think about it, I think her mother did not let her play very often. I played more with Josephine Mentz Across the street.

One thing I remember when I was a my Grandmother Norman's I got my first May basket. She knew that one of the neighbor girls was going to hang one on the door. And so she took me for a walk and when we came back there was a May basket hanging on the door knob that had the best butterscotch candy I've ever eaten.

"My grandfather was superintendent of the Congregational Sunday School. And I can remember that the church was heated by a furnace in the basement with a huge register in front of the pulpit. And of course we went to Sunday School every Sunday. And I can remember my grandfather leading the singing for Sunday School."

Alice Ann Clifton died 6 August 1923 when Eula was 16.

Eula's other grandfather, John Norman, died in 1906 before Eula was born. Her grandmother, Lucinda Norman, for a time lived with the Clifton family in Kankakee, as recorded in the 1920 census. After Alice Ann Clifton died, Lucinda Norman was a housekeeper for Worsley Clifton, recorded in the 1930 census. She died in 1934, living with the Cliftons in Kankakee.

Worsley Clifton later lived with the Cliftons in Kankakee, at least during the winter. Eula recalls driving him back to Ashkum in the summer after she was married. The 1940 census shows him living in Kankakee. He died 16 July 1943 in the Clifton home there.

Frank and Emma

Worsley and Alice's son Frank Clifton married Emma Norman in 1901 in Ashkum. Frank worked in his father's meat market. They moved to Kankakee in 1905. Their first child, Eula Margaret, was born in 1907. Two years later they moved into the home where they would remain for the rest of their lives at 643 S.

Rosewood Avenue in Kankakee. Velma was born in 1911; Lucille was born in 1913; and Florence was born in 1917.

When Frank and Emma moved to Kankakee, Frank had his own wholesale produce business. And then when he sold out he then he went to work for someone else. He worked first for Erzingers and they had a bakery, a meat market, a grocery store on Court Street. And he worked there for a time before he went to Savoie's which was a wholesale grocer. Frank was a warehouseman who filled orders for local grocers..

Frank also maintained a garden to took up most of the back yard. Eula recalled, "We had a hothouse or cold frame and would start lettuce and other things so we would have them earlier than usual. And I can remember him raising celery a year or two. We had a pear tree, a peach tree, a bing cherry tree, another cherry tree.

Eula Clifton recalled that her father never drove a car. "We had a horse and buggy, a Surry with the fringe on top," she said. "We used to go out in the woods in the summer and pick wildflowers." Frank rented a barn a few blocks from their home for the horse and buggy. "I remember one of the horses was white, named Cap," she said.

"I can't exactly remembers the first cars, but I remember the first airplane I saw," Eula recounted. The people next door had a lot roof over their kitchen and we went through a window on the second floor onto this flat roof so we could get a good view of the airplane."

I can remember, too, when we got our first radio," recalled Eula. "The Atwater Kent radio. It was 1928. The neighbors came over to listen to the election returns. Hoover. I think. That's my recollection. I was still at home then."

"I remember a birthday party. It was maybe my sixth birthday. And everybody got a little metal candle holder with a candle in it to take home. And we had long tables. Maybe two of them for the children to sit around. With small chairs to sit on.

She also remember that as a child she and her sisters made "street cars" out of shoe boxes. "we cut openings for windows and

we pasted colored tissue paper over the openings and we put candles inside and. A string at one end and all the children in the neighborhood would have a parade up and down the street. Pulling our streetcars.

My grandparents always came to our house for Christmas and my grandmother always made an English plum pudding and brought it for our dessert.

Emma died 7 March 1951, and Frank died 8 July 1960.



Worsley and Alice Ann's Home, Ashkum, Illinois,
with Alice Ann in front



Worsley James Clifton - Alice Ann Hargreaves Clifton



Worsley Clifton,
about 1941, age 91



Ann Norman with son John, photo taken in England prior to John's emigration to US in 1867



Left:
Sarah Temple,
Douglass, mother
of Lucinda

Below
Lucinda Douglass
Norman with
grandson,
Norman Strasma
About 1932



Ebenezer Temple 1757-1847
Revolutionary War Patriot
Jan Strasma's 4th Great Grandfather

Note: This narrative draws heavily on documents and research by Sally Krizan Eaton, Jan's cousin. Ebenezer Temple's war experiences are documented on records maintained by the National Archives. Sally's research is included in a vast website of the Temple family created by Dr. L. Parker Temple III - [HTTP://WWW.temple-genealogy.com/.ht#](http://WWW.temple-genealogy.com/.ht#)

Further note: Another ancestor, Elihu Field, also a 4th Great Grandfather, served for 6 months in the war, although very little is known of his service. The only surviving muster roll with his name is dated 11 September 1776. Additionally, Elihu Field" from Winchester, Cheshire County, NH, listed as having signed the "Association Test" of 1776, saying he would support the Revolutionary War.

There are no statues commemorating his Revolutionary War service but Ebenezer Temple was a true patriot who served the fight for independence throughout the entire Revolutionary War from the first shots fired until the ultimate surrender of the British.

He was in action at the beginning - marching to Lexington and Concord as a private with the Acton, Massachusetts, militia in April 1775. He was with General George Washington at the Battle of Yorktown in October of 1781 when British Commander Cornwallis surrendered, signaling the end of the war. And he was with General Washington, still, when he was honorably discharged at West Point in June of 1783.

He never rose above the rank of private, but he saw action throughout the colonies with his service credited to Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New York.

Ebenezer Temple's ancestors were very early immigrants to

America. His second great grandfather, Richard Temple, was born in Leicestershire, England, and emigrated to America in 1636. He married Joanna Shipley in 1645 in Salem, Massachusetts. She was born in 1625 in Charlestown, Massachusetts, to early immigrants to the colonies.

Ebenezer was born 5 April 1757 in Pepperell, Middlesex, Massachusetts to Samuel Temple and his wife Hannah Gleason. Ebenezer's father died in 1760 or 1761 at the age of 34. Ebenezer would have been just 3 or 4 years old at the time. With the death of his father, Ebenezer was made a ward of Joseph Robbins in 1774, even though his mother, Hannah, was still living. The practice at that time was to appoint a financial guardian for children if the father died even if the mother survived.

In 1775, when he was 18 years old, Ebenezer was a private in the Acton, Massachusetts, militia which marched to Lexington and Concord, responding to the British attacks there on April 19, 1775. Ebenezer served 5 1/2 days in that response.

He subsequently joined the Continental Army in July 1775, serving three months in the Siege of Boston. Then in February 1776 his unit was sent to Quebec to reinforce the army there for three months under Gen. Benedict Arnold

In July 1776 joined Col Samuel Elmore's regiment for six months and then reenlisted for another six months. This was a Connecticut regiment protecting the Mohawk Valley in New York, serving at Fort Dayton and then Fort Stanwix.

In early 1777 Ebenezer joined Col. John Lamb's Second Continental Artillery Regiment as a matross, a gunner's assistant whose duties were to assist the gunner in loading, firing, and sponging the guns. In August 1777 he was among the 750 American soldiers who successfully defended Fort Stanwix in a 21-days siege by British, Hessians, Loyalists, and Indians. This victory set up the American

win in the battles at Saratoga on the Hudson River in the ensuing two months which were a crucial turning point in the war.

Ebenezer most likely remained at Fort Stanwix through November 1778 and was subsequently stationed in Connecticut and along the Hudson River. In 1779 the artillery company, under Col. Lamb, was stationed in and around West Point including when Benedict Arnold failed in his attempt to turn West Point over to the British.

Ebenezer was with Col. John Lamb's Second Regiment of Artillery in the eight-day siege of Yorktown in October 1781 on the shores of Chesapeake Bay in Virginia. Lamb's gunners leveled a devastating artillery barrage into Yorktown, contributing to British General Cornwallis's surrender there in the last major battle of the Revolutionary War. The men of Colonel Lamb's artillery were recognized by General George Washington for their skill in that battle. A general order from the Commander in Chief relayed his thanks and appreciation to the Lamb artillery unit.

Ebenezer continued to serve until a treaty was signed with the British. He was honorably discharged in June 1783 at West Point by General George Washington.

Ebenezer, now married to Anna, likely remained in New York where his first son, Ira, was born in 1786 or 1787.

Revolutionary War veterans were later rewarded with land grants. Because the grants were slow in coming, many soldiers sold or assigned their property. Ebenezer was granted 600 acres in Homer, New York, but he apparently sold it although the records are somewhat unclear. He also received 100 acres of bounty land in Massachusetts in 1791 which he subsequently sold. He then bought land in Connecticut.

In addition to his first son, Ira, Ebenezer and his wife Anna had five more children - Amy, born in 1789, William, born in 1793, Rhoda, born in 1795, Anna born in 1798, and Huldah, born in 1801.

(William Temple, the second son, is the direct ancestor of the Clifton-Norman family.)

His wife Anna died in 1806 at the age of 47 in Bennington County, Vermont. Later that year he married Abigail on 16 Aug 1806. She died 22 May 1831 at the age of 74. Both wives are buried with adjoining headstones in the Waters Hill Cemetery near Woodford. No details of his two wives are known.

In September 1807 Ebenezer bought land in Woodford, Bennington County, Vermont. He remained in Woodford for the remainder of his life and, in 1813, was elected as a town committeeman. He sold land in Woodford in 1818, his last recorded land transaction, and continued to reside there.

Ebenezer's war service pension began in April 1818 at a rate of 8 dollars per month. He was 61 years old at the time. His pension application details his impoverished condition - "I am considerably in debt. I am so reduced in my circumstances that within the past year have lived many weeks without bread and have suffered for provisions generally. My wife has poor health. And we are advanced in years."

County Judge John H. Olin supported his pension application, verifying his military service and adding, "I consider him to be a prudent, temperate, and industrious man."

Two years later Ebenezer filed a further pension request which listed his possessions: One house and barn and 30 acres of mountain land, 1 grindstone, 1 draft chain, an old sleigh. old harrow teeth, 2 pigs, 12 sheep, 1 old table, 1 old stand, shovel and tongs, ?? Ware, crockery, 1 old chest, 6 old chairs, 1 old wooden clock.

He continued, "I was raised a farmer but unable from infirmity to do but little labour. I have a wife Abigail aged about 63 years very

infirm and unable to labour, one daughter aged about 19 years [perhaps youngest daughter Huldah] who is obliged to assist in supporting us in our old age by her labour but on whom I have not any right or claim. And without the assistance of government I cannot obtain the necessaries of life. I am indebted about fifty dollars. Soon after my first application I sold 30 acres of land to pay part of my debts.”

In 1832 his pension was increased slightly to \$100 per year (from \$8 a month).

The 1840 federal census shows 83-year-old Ebenezer living with two females, one 40-50 years old and one 50-60 years old. [Only the head of household is named in censuses before 1850.] The older may have been daughter Amy, who was to die later in 1840 and the other daughter, Rhoda, who would not marry Elijah Evans until 1846. Evans is listed as an adjacent resident in the 1840 census.

Ebenezer died on 24 November 1847 at the age of 90. He was buried in the Waters Hill Cemetery in Woodford. There is no stone marking his grave but descendant Sally Eaton is certain that he would have been buried there since both wives and daughter Amy have stones marking their graves there.

Temples, Douglass, and Hargreaves in Civil War

On July 30, 1862, William Temple of Wilton, Will County, enlisted in Captain Godard's Company of the 100th Illinois Infantry Volunteers. A week later, his brother, Ira Temple, and nephew, James T. Douglass, also from Wilton, enlisted in the same company. All three were privates. The company later became Company H.

Ira Temple was captured during the Battle of Chickamauga in September 1863. William Temple was wounded during the same battle. He was captured and then paroled. Ira Temple was imprisoned at Andersonville Prison where he died June 10, 1864. William Temple was discharged in June 1865 and later received a disability pension. He died in 1903 in Nebraska.

James T. Douglass, who was 16 when he enlisted, was wounded in the arm during the Battle of Dallas, Georgia, in June 1864. He apparently remained hospitalized until the end of the war. At the company's muster out on June 12, 1865, he was in the military hospital at Keokuk, Iowa. He returned home and died in 1867, drowned in a neighbor's farm pond.

Another civil war veteran was Edward Hargreaves, Alice Anne Hargreaves brother. He emigrated to the U.S. in 1857, settling in Kendall County, Illinois. In the 1860 census he is shown as a 21-year-old farmhand living with his older brother, George, and his family in Bristol Township. He enlisted in the 89th Illinois Infantry on 9 August 1862, serving as a Private in Company H. He was promoted to corporal on 1 January 1863. He served until 10 June 1865. He was captured at the Battle of Chickamauga on 20 September 1863 and imprisoned in several Confederate prisons, including Andersonville, GA. He was released 31 December 1864 and served until 10 June 1865.

Three letters have survived, two from James Douglass and one from Ire Temple to Sarah Douglass.

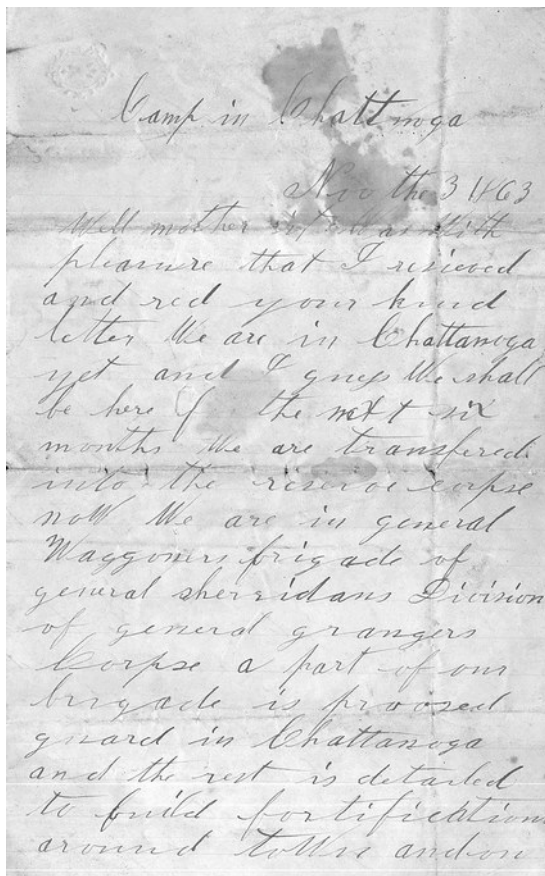
Letter to Sarah Douglass from son James

Camp in Chattanooga. Nov the 3rd 1863

Well, Mother, it was with pleasure that I received and read your kind letter. We are in Chattanooga yet and I guess we shall be here for the next six months. We are transferred into the reserve corps now. We are in General Waggoner's brigade of General Sheridan's Division of General Granger's corps.

A part of our brigade is [standing] guard in Chattanooga and the rest is detailed to build fortifications around town and on the hills. Our brigade has got it pretty easy now. If General Palmer ever gets back we are out in front --- in his place. He has gone to drive the Rebs off from Lookout Mountain if he can. He went a week ago last Sabbath. I don't know how long before we will be back.

We have to go on picket every third night now. Our pickets and the rebs are in plain sight all the time. They are about 80 rods from us in the day time and they move their pickets up within about 20 rods of us at night to keep their



Camp in Chattanooga
Nov the 3rd 1863
Well mother I received with
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letter. We are in Chattanooga
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now. We are in general
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of general Granger's
corps. A part of our
brigade is positioned
guard in Chattanooga
and the rest is detailed
to build fortifications
around town and on

men from deserting and coming over to our lines. There is lots of them come in every day. Last night one of the rebs' pickets went out to relieve their sentinel and got lost and got out over almost to our lines and our sentinel hailed him and said who comes there. The reb said, "relief" and our man said, "advance relief." He come up to relieve him and our man see he was a reb. He told him that he was his prisoner and kept him till the relief come and then took him to the post.

He said that the rebs was all drawn up in line so we had to sleep with our cartridge boxes on. I have not seen Uncle Will but he was wounded. Uncle Ira was taken prisoner. I have not much more news to write now so I will stop. Write soon.

Letter to Sarah Douglass from son James

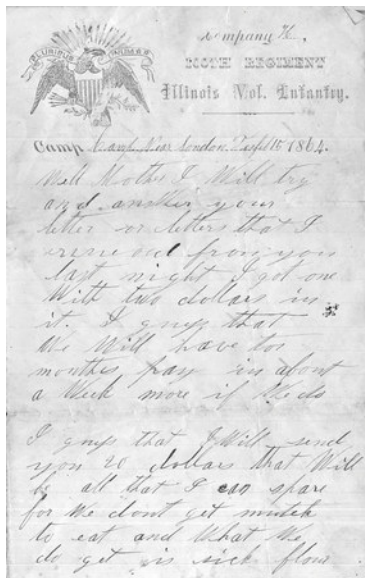
Camp near Loudon Tenn Feb. 15, 1864

Well Mother I will try and answer your letter or letters that I received from you last night. I got one with two dollars in it. I guess that we will have two months pay in about a week more. If we do I guess that I will send you 20 dollars. That will be all that I can spare for we don't get much to eat and what we do get is sick flour and when we do eat it it makes us sick. So we have to buy most all that we eat and that mounts up pretty fast on 12 dollars a month. I wrote five letters yesterday and I guess that I will write two to day and when stop for a while.

It rained like everything all night last night and all day today. I wish that Lieutenant Nelson would hurry and hunt up that box before long for I want my boots and overcoat to keep me dry and I should like to have some of the grub to eat. When you write again, I wish you would let me know whether you [put] my name on the things that you sent me or not. I hope you did for I don't want anything only what is my own.

I guess that I will stop this.

from James to his Mother. Write soon.



Tintype image of James Douglass found in a locket

From Ira Temple to his sister Sarah Douglass:

Murfreesboro, April the 22nd, 1863

Well sister, as I have time to write, I will spend a few minutes in writing to you. My health is poor. I have nearly lost my speech. I am not been able to do anything for the last two weeks, but I am a getting better. I think all but my speech, but I am in hope I will get that again. There have been some that has not spoke a loud word the last three months so it hard to tell.

James is well as usual. William has some poor spells, but is well now. They are both out on picket today. If you can let James some money, I will take it and pay him ten per cent on it and pay it in one year from next February. If you can do any better with it than that for I want that you should do the best that you can for him with it.

The last letter that he got from you said that you had let the first [money] that he sent. I wrote to you before that I would take his money, but I suppose that letter was taken by the Rebels for they stopped the mail train.

If you let me have it you may send it to Stephens and have it paid on the big note we have sent home over boats. We sent them to Manteno to Soll Seaver. They are in a bag. The top one is Harry Doncaster's. It has a piece of rope tied into the button hole. The others you keep. Have Seaver look for them. As I am a getting tired, I will close for this time. Write to me if you please. It has been a long time since any of you has written to me. So goodby for this time.

From Ira Temple

Well, I will try to write a few [words] to you. Got your letter and

was glad to hear from you. It was a good letter. I answered you a time ago, but I do not know that you received it, so I will write again. I don't write much this time for I am sick. So you must let me off with a short one this time. James is well well now and so is Uncle William. He is out on picket watching for the Rebels, but they are a little afraid. We have [been] watching for them ever since the battle, but we have not [seen] them yet. I guess that we shant see them very soon. I guess that they are afraid that we will kill them so they stay away.

Write as soon as you get this. So goodbye for this time

From your Uncle Ira Temple

Memorial marker
for Ira Temple
Wilton Center, Illinois
Cemetery



Uncle Ira Temple
Marshallboro Apr the 63
Walt sister as I have time
write I will spend a few minutes
in writing to you to let you
we all do my health is poor
I have nearly lost my voice
I am not able to do any
thing for the last two
weeks but I am getting
better I think all but
my speech but I am in hope
I will get that again but
as I do not now there has
been some that has not spoke
a loud word the last three
months so it hard to tell
James is well as usual Walt
has some poor spells but
is well now they are both
out on picket to day if you
ant let James know I

DESCENDANTS OF GEORGE AND ANN HARGREAVES

Grandfather George Hargreaves and Grandmother Ann Hargreaves were married in the early 1820s and resided at Cloughfold, Lancaster, England, on a farm that was called the Underwood Farm because it was built on a hill under a high bluff that was covered with trees. Down in the valley just below is the railroad station and the village of Cloughfold. Across this valley, on the opposition hillside is located the Cloughfold Baptist Chapel, where all their children received their early religious training.

Grandfather, Grandmother and one of their children were buried in the churchyard in one grave which is covered with a single slab.

Of this union, ten children were born, namely: James, Elizabeth, Mary, George, John, William, Henry, Richard, Alice and Edward.

1. JAMES remained in England, married and lived at Waterfoot, where he kept a shoe-making shop. Uncle James and Aunt Jane had six children: John William, Olden, James, George, Corey, and Richard. John William and Carey remained in England; Olden and James came to America with Aunt Alice in 1870. Olden returned to England, married and in a short time returned to America. James met his English sweetheart in the East and married there. Richard came to America when Olden returned.

1. ELIZABETH married Christopher Knoles; there were no children. She remained in England and made one visit to America.

1. WILLIAM died at an early age.

1. MARY and GEORGE Hargreaves came to America with the Bensons in 1853. AUNT MARY married Heap Benson. To this union were born six children: Alice Ann, Bridget Ellen, John, William, Jennie, and Louie. Alice Ann married Len McClintock. They have one daughter. Their home is in Mineral Wells, Tex. Ellen married James Kirkwood. To this union were born two sons and two

daughters.

1. UNCLE GEORGE was born November 18, 1831, came to America in 1853, and died October 15, 1907. He went back to England to marry Ann Hardman on April 1, 1857, returning to America immediately after being married. They were in parents of four children: DAVID, born in 1858; MARY JANE, born in 1860, passed away in childhood. MARGARET ANN born in 1862, married to Sam Taylor September 26, 1882, and mother of four children, Mabel, Evelyn, Myrtle and Roy. DAVID married Nellie West and had two sons, Arthur and George. They all live in So. Dakota. ALICE, born in 1865, married Edward Kelly. They had three sons, Harold, Ernest and George. The two youngest died in childhood.

1. JOHN, born Dec. 4, 1833, came to America in 1852 at the age of 19, traveling on a sailing vessel. After three months voyage he arrives in Chicago, but went to the country where he secured work --- cutting grain with a scythe. Later he settled near Plattsville, Kendall Co. He returned to England a married Margaret Clifton in October 1863 at Waterfoot. Their son PHILIP HENRY was born in Waterfoot on August 14, 1864, and came to America with his parents in the summer of 1865. Phil married Clara Chapman of Ashkum, Illinois. They ha nine children -- Mabel, Harry, Ada, Gilbert, Margaret, Philip, Bernice, John and Maxine.

GEORGE EDWARD was born at Kendall, Illinois, on December 22, 1865. He married Caroline Drew in Emington in September of 1893. To this union were born three children: Velma, December 1894; Russell, July 1896 and Kingsley, August 1900. George Edward passed away Dec. 1, 1936.

MARY ANN, born at Clifton, Ill. June 14, 1867, married David Nichols on Nov. 9, 1905. One child, Margaret, was born on November 15, 1906, and passed away three days later.

JAMES WILLIAM was born September 26, 1870, at Ashkum, Illinois. He married Estelle Hollenbeck at Chebanse on May 10, 1896. They had one child, Leon James. James passed away at Manhattan on Nov. 19, 1900.

MARGARET CLIFTON, wife of John, died September 26, 1882. In 1883 he went to England and married May Ann Hames on Sept. 22. John Hargreaves passed away July 7, 1895.

1. RICHARD and his wife Sarah came to America in 1883 and settled in Topeka, Kansas. There were four children: Richard, George, Sarah, and May.

1. ALICE ANN was born September 18, 1838. She married Worsley Clifton at Clifton in 1874. She passed away on August 6, 1923. To their union was born one child, Frank Albert, on December 19, 1877, who married Emma Norman on June 5, 1901. Their four children were: Eula Margaret, born July 22, 1907; Velma Gladys, born July 1, 1910; Lucille Norma, born Oct. 25, 1912; and Florence Alice, born Nov. 8, 1916.

9. EDWARD came to America about 1857 at the age of 17. He married B. Benson. They had six children -- George, Anna, Oliver, Charles, Helen and Edith. George married Jennie Balthus. They had three sons, Bernard, Max and John Harry. Anna married Charles B. Sill. They had no children. Oliver married Mary Andrews. There are two daughters, Edith and Elizabeth. Oliver resides in Denver, Colorado. Helen married Rev. J. H. Harris. They reside at Augusta, Ga. They have no children.



Hargreaves Family Reunion about 1913

The Hargreaves family held frequent reunions in the Clifton and Ashkum, Illinois, area. This gathering, from about 1914 features three generations of the Frank and Emma Clifton family. Frank and Emma are in the right side of the front row with Lucille Clifton in her mothers lap. Frank's parents, Alice Ann Hargreaves Clifton and Worsley Clifton, are immediately behind them. Edward Hargreaves, the youngest of his generation, is to the left of his sister, Alice Ann.

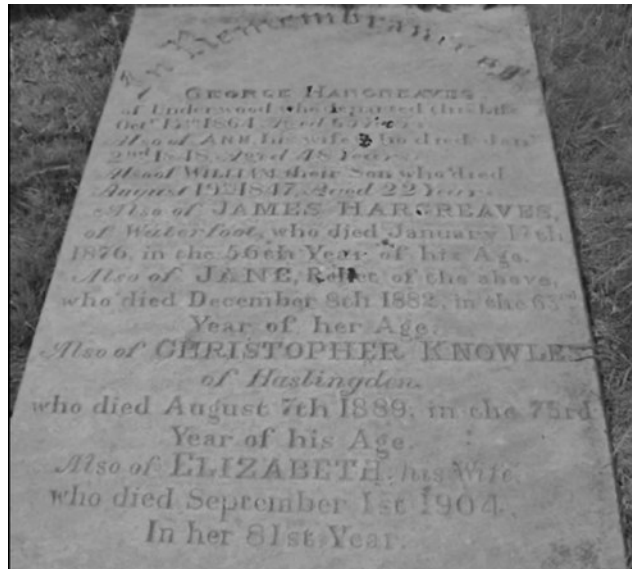
Sion Baptist Church Cloughfold, England

Memorial grave stone for
Hargreaves family

Text of stone below



Images from
springhillhistory.org.uk
maintained by
Janet Barrie, a direct
descendant of George
and Ann Hargreaves



In Remembrance of GEORGE HARGREAVES

Of Underwood who departed this Life Octr 15th 1864 Aged 65 Years
Also of ANN, his wife who died Jany 2nd 1848 Aged 48 Years
Also of WILLIAM their Son who died August 19th 1847 Aged 22 years
Also of JAMES HARGREAVES Of Waterfoot who died January 17th
1876, in the 56th Year of his Age. Also of JANE, Relit of the abovewho died
December 8th 1882 in the 63rd Year of her Age
Also of CHRISTOPHER KNOWLES Of Haslingden Who died August 7th 1889 in
the 73rd year of his Age
Also of ELIZABETH his Wife who died September 1st 1904 In her 81st Year.

Clifton Norman Timeline

7 JAN 1874 - Marriage of John Norman and Lucinda Douglass

15 Dec 1875 - Marriage of Worsley Clifton and Alice Ann Hargreaves

24 JUL 1877 - Birth of Emma Norman, Momence, Illinois

19 DEC 1877 - Birth of Frank Albert Clifton, Francisville, Salem Township, Indiana

1880 Federal Census - Frank - Salem, Pulaski, IN

Emma - Peotone, Will, IL (father is a teamster)

21 APR 1881 Birth of Emma's twin brothers, Oscar and Orville, Peotone IL

Mid 1890s - Frank attends Grand Prairie Seminary in Onarga, which is 13 miles south of Ashkum. School is a boarding school, but he also could travel there by train as a day student. The school was a private, coeducational school initially established by the Methodist church. The web site of a successor school reports (<http://grandprairieseminary.com/the-early-years/>): By 1880 the student body had grown to just over 300, so it follows that feeding and housing this many students became a challenge for Onarga. The solution was the construction in 1888 of a three story brick dormitory for ladies only, but male students were permitted to take meals there as well. In 1892, a new brick and stone two story auditorium was built to serve as a cultural center for the entire area. Of note, in 1867, shortly after its founding in 1863, the school was racially integrated

1898 - Emma moves to Ashkum with parents

1900 Census - Frank, 22. - Ashkum, Iroquois, IL (meat market porter)

Emma - Ashkum, Iroquois, IL (Emma - servant)

Emma living with parents and twin brothers, 19, farm laborers

1901 - Marriage of Frank Clifton and Emma Norman

After he was first married he was in business with his father.

11 FEB 1906 - Death of John Norman

22 JUL 1907 - Birth of Eula Clifton

i was born in a house that no longer exists but it was across the street from St Mary's Hospital Kankakee

1909 when Eula was about two the family moved to a house on Oak street and apparently the yard needed a lot of fixing up and maybe the house, too, We were renting and the house was sold and so my father vowed that he would never rent again.

He bought the house on South Rosewood that Charlotte Strasma's parents had built.

Charlotte was Eula's sister-in-law.

1 JUL 1910 - Birth of Velma Clifton

1910 Census - Kankakee, Kankakee, IL (Living on S Rosewood)
Frank is listed as a "commission" merchant on his own account
Census - Ashkum - Lucinda Norman living with Oscar, tile burner

Kankakee City Directory 1911

Frank A Clifton (wf Emma) commission merchant t r 89 Rosewood Av

Frank sold his wholesale produce business and went with Erzingers" stores - grocery store, bakery, meat market. so he was working for somebody else? He subsequently went to work for F. O. Savoie's wholesale grocery. He was one of the men who put up the wholesale order. He was just in their warehouse.

25 OCT 1912 - Birth of Lucille Clifton

8 NOV 1916 - Birth of Florence Clifton

FEB 1918 Kankakee Journal story on food shortages during war:

A sugar shortage is also with us and has been for several days. F.O. Savoie, who supplies 95 percent of the sugar of Kankakee, declared this morning that it would be a week or 10 days before the supply of sugar in the city was normal again. He attributed the shortage to the difficulty the railroads are having in moving consignments at this time. He stated that he had plenty of sugar ordered and that the whole trouble lay in getting it.

Interview with Eula Clifton Strasma, mid-1990s:

Was your life style typical? -- with a job like that [order filler at wholesale grocer] you wouldn't consider yourselves well to do? No, i would say it was modest. But comfortable? Yes. When you had to do work on the house did your father do it or did you hire someone -- we hired someone. you never had a car did you. in the days when my father had the wholesale fruit and vegetable place he had a horse for delivery and then we had a surrey with the fringe on the top and i can remember going out into the woods on Sunday in the horse and buggy -- where would you go? -- i don't' know i'd say north of town some place there was some private property that the man was very willing for us to come but he didn't have it open to the public but we didn't abuse the privilege -- take a picnic, and pick wildflowers.

1920 Census - Frank Shipping Clerk - Grocery House
Lucinda Norman living with family

6 AUG 1923 - Death of Alice Ann Hargreaves Clifton

22 JUL 1934 - Death of Lucinda Douglass Norman

16 JUL 1943 - Death of Worsley Clifton

7 MAR 1951 - Death of Emma Clifton



Frank and Emma Clifton with daughters
on the porch at 643 S. Rosewood

643 South Rosewood

The house at 643 S. Rosewood in Kankakee holds more than 50 years of Clifton memories. The four Clifton daughters grew up there and grandchildren found it to be an ideal, comfortable home for visits.

Living in Kankakee Norman and Jan had the most time to visit the Rosewood house. With the house midway between his home on Chicago Avenue and Steuben School, it was a frequent stop for Jan after school. Grandpa Clifton and Velma had a television, too, which was an additional attraction. The Krizans visited on weekends and during holidays and vacations, first from Chicago and later from Monee. The Nolands lived briefly in Kankakee and visited from the Paxton and Gibson City farms before moving to Indiana.

Emma's mother, Lucinda Norman, lived with the Cliftons after the death of her husband in 1906. She remained in Ashkum for some years - the 1910 census shows her living here with unmarried son Oscar - but Oscar's 1918 World War I draft registration shows him working as a farm laborer in Montana while his mother was living in Kankakee with daughter Emma's family. Lucinda was with the Clifton's in the 1920 census but by 1930 she had returned to Ashkum where she was the live-in housekeeper for Worsley Clifton, Frank's father. She later returned to the Rosewood house where she died in 1934. Worsley Clifton had remained in Ashkum but by the 1940 census he had moved to the Rosewood house. He died there in 1943 at the age of 92.

Daughter Eula recalled that her Grandmother Norman, when she lived with the family, had the front upstairs bedroom. Frank and Emma had a second bedroom, and the daughters shared the third bedroom and attached store room. By the time Worsley moved to Frank and Emma's house his rheumatism kept him from climbing the stairs to an upstairs bedroom. He slept on a small bed

in the dining room, according to Eula. She also recalled that he tended to wander off from the house, and they put a baby gate across the porch to discourage him. But even with his limitation, he managed to climb over the gate, she said.

Eula was gone from home for two years attending DePauw University 1926-1928 and then for another year while teaching at a school in the eastern part of the county. She returned home in 1929 to teach at Franklin School in Kankakee for a year before her marriage on July 12, 1930.

C;Clifton sisters in front of 643 S. Rosewood - about 1917

Velma, left; Eula, center; Lucille, right: and Florence in "stroller"



Her marriage to Edward Strasma was in the family home. The Ashkum Journal recounted the wedding scene at the Rosewood house:

One of the prettiest weddings of the season took place at the home of the bride's parents in Kankakee Saturday morning July 12 at 10:00 o'clock when Miss Eula Margaret Clifton eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Clifton was united in marriage to Edward J. Strasma eldest son of Mrs. and Mrs. H. C. Strasma also of Kankakee. Rev. W. H. Craine performing the ceremony using the impressive single ring service.

Promptly at 10 o'clock the maid of honor Miss Charlotte DeSelm, another June graduate of the University of Illinois descended the stairs followed by the bride. Miss Ethel Strasma, sister of the bridegroom and Miss Lucille Clifton sister of the bride held white satin ribbon to form an aisle leading to the south side of the living room where a bower of ferns and bright flowers gave the effect of an old fashioned garden.

Emma's mother, Lucinda, died there in 1934, and Frank's father, Worsley, died there nine years later at the age of 92. Emma Clifton died there in 1951. Daughter Velma, who had remained with her parents and never married, died at home at the age of 47 in 1957. Frank died at home at the age of 82 in 1960.

Frank and Emma Clifton had been married for four years when they moved from Ashkum to Kankakee in 1905. Oldest daughter Eula recalls that they first lived in a house on Fifth Avenue where she was born two years later. They moved to a rented house on Oak Street when she was two. Eula said, "Apparently the yard needed a lot of fixing up and maybe the house, too. We were renting and the house was sold and so my father vowed that he would never rent again."

They purchased the house on Rosewood Avenue that had been built by J. E. DeSelm — whose daughter Charlotte would later become Eula's sister-in-law. DeSelm's scheme was to build a house, live in it for a few years, sell it and build another house for himself. From the 1910 census it appears that there were just six houses on the block at that time. The census 10 years later lists 14 houses on the block. (Initially the street address of the house was 89 Rosewood Avenue, but the city apparently revised its number system and by 1920 the address was 643 S. Rosewood.)

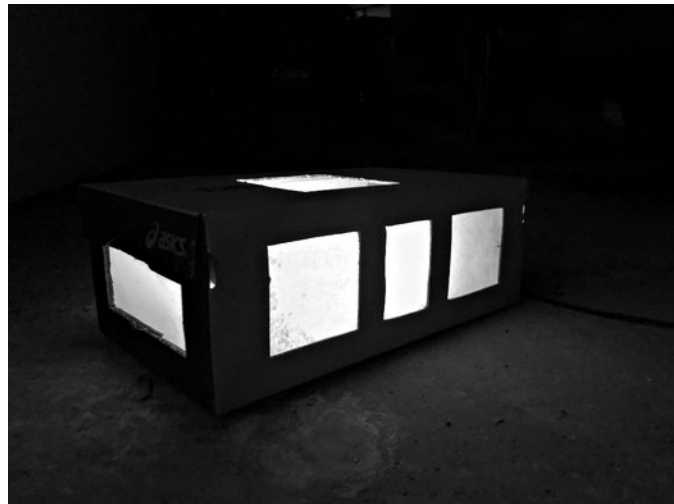
The three younger daughters were born in the Rosewood house. Velma was born there in 1910, followed by Lucille in 1912, and Florence in 1916.

The two story house had five rooms on the first floor - a front room, living room, dining room, bathroom, and kitchen with a pantry. Upstairs were three bedrooms and an unheated, unfinished store room.

The porch stretched across the front of the house. It first had a porch swing, but later a “glider” with vinyl cushions replaced the swing.

The porch steps were the focus of front yard activities. The steps had small holes drilled in each tread for drainage, and the grandchildren would collect sticks from the yard and push them through the holes.

A modern
recreation of a
"sidewalk
streetcar"



The main activity though was a game of “off the steps” baseball. The “batter” stood in front of the steps and threw a tennis ball at the steps, bouncing the ball as a “hit.” The infield bases were trees in the yard. Grounders were off the back of the steps while a well placed throw on the edge of the step was a fly ball. A fly ball that carried all the way to the street was a home run.

The grandchildren also made “street cars” - shoe boxes with windows cut into the side and covered with tissue paper. Then at night, with a candle burning inside, the street cars were pulled by a

string along the sidewalk.

Inside the house, the front room was furnished with a couch, arm chairs, a console radio/record player, and a glass fronted bookcase. Two identical arm chairs, with grey slipcovers, could be pushed together for a bed which grandchildren used for overnight visits.

Music from the record player, like the “Parade of the Wooden Soldiers,” accompanied the grandchildren as they marched around the house, through the dining room and kitchen and back to the front room. “How Much is that Doggie in the Window” was a particular favorite of granddaughter Betty Krizan and was played repeatedly.

The Christmas tree would be set up in the front room windows. The families of Eula, Lucille, and Florence gathered with Grandma and Grandpa Clifton and Aunt Velma for the holiday. Presents from each family were placed under the tree, but the real highlights were the stockings. Heavy, opaque stockings were filled with small gifts from each family with an apple and an orange in the toe from the grandparents. These stockings were stretched out on the pink chenille bedspread of Velma’s bedroom upstairs and, once filled, were passed out to each family member. We grandchildren found a place on the steps leading from the front room to the upstairs to open the gifts.

For Christmas and birthdays, Velma had a \$3 budget for her gifts for each niece and nephew, money earned with baby sitting.

A Christmas side story: After the gift opening one year Jan recalls going up to Velma's bedroom, the one with the pink chenille bedspread, for a nap. Uncle Bud offered to go too and when they climbed on the bed, it collapsed.

The living room was where Grandpa Clifton watched

television with an arm chair in one corner. He had a rocking chair, too, that he used while reading the paper or listening to the radio. He and Velma were avid Chicago Cubs fans and listened to each game on the radio and, later, watched on TV. Velma kept detailed score cards for each the games with meticulous play-by-play records. Opposite the television was a desk with a hole for a chair that formed a perfect cubby hole for a grandchild to curl up with a pillow watch TV.

The bathroom was at the back of the house, next to the kitchen. Grandson Jan recalls that in his younger years there was no hot water heater in the house, and heated water from an iron kettle was used for the bath tub.

The kitchen had a pantry and doors to the basement and the small back porch. Counter space was limited to a built-in ledge over the steps leading to the basement and a narrow table against one wall. In the pantry, Grandpa Clifton kept his ever-growing ball of string. He also had a tin of Tavener's fruit drops which were a particular treat for the grandchildren.

The dining room held a large table which had once belong to Grandma Clifton's brother Orville Norman and his wife Ella along with a buffet. In later years, when Grandpa Clifton could not climb the steps he had a small bed in the dining room. (The dining room had been used earlier for a bed for Great-grandpa Clifton who lived there until his death in 1943.)

Upstairs were three bedrooms. The first bedroom, which was Velma's room, had a bed with turned spindles and a pink chenille bedspread. In front of the windows was a couch table. The second bedroom was Grandpa and Grandma's bedroom. And the front bedroom had been used by Great-grandma Norman when she lived with Grandpa and Grandma after Great-grandpa Norman died.

The real treat for the grandchildren was a unheated, unfinished store room off of Velma's room. There were old chests

and trunks kept there with clothes used for dress up.

One holiday that was a special observance was May 1 when Grandma Clifton distributed May baskets that she had created over the winter and spring. The baskets were round ice cream containers decorated with crepe paper and containing candy and other goodies. The May baskets went to family members and neighbors, but especially to shut-ins visited by members of Grandma's Sunday School class.

Granddaughter Sally wrote of Grandpa Clifton's cooking and his tending of the fruit, vegetable, and flower garden in the back of the house:

It is interesting that Frank Clifton liked to cook, a rather unusual avocation for a man of his generation. His daughter Florence recalled that while her mother was a good cook, it was her father who seemed to enjoy that role. He often would work all day and then come home and put a meal together. On Sundays, Frank's wife Emma would take their four daughters -- Eula, Velma, Lucille and Florence -- to Sunday services at the First Methodist Church in Kankakee, and they would come home to find a wonderful meal prepared and waiting for them to eat.

Sundays were also a time for other family activities. Florence recalled that "on Sunday, Dad would make taffy. Then we would all butter our hands. As soon as (the taffy) was cool enough to handle, we would all pull it till it got white and solid enough to make a long 'rope.' Then Dad would cut it into pieces." Eula remembered the taffy pulls and also making popcorn and fudge: "We used to have popcorn --- maybe on Sunday nights. My dad would pop the popcorn. You know he was very handy in the kitchen. We would make popcorn balls, and we used to make homemade fudge. We did a lot of things that people don't do any more."

The food for those wonderful family meals came both from

the wholesale food business where Frank Clifton worked and also from his vegetable garden and from his fruit trees and arbor. His yard contained a grape arbor, a pear tree, an apple tree, a cherry tree and a mulberry bush, which grew on the back fence. Both Emma and Frank Clifton were involved in the canning process that preserved these wonderful fruits and vegetables for use through the cold winters. Jams and jellies were favorites of the girls, especially Concord grape jelly and pear butter.

Grandpa Clifton would fix dinner for the grandchildren and one of his specialties, a child favorite, was “spaghetti meat,” ground beef browned and then added to a can of Franco-American spaghetti. Grandson Jan also recalls that he would slice peaches and add sugar, then letting them sit until dinner, creating lots of sweet juice.

Jan also remembers that Lucille and Ray helped maintain the Rosewood house, wallpapering and painting. He particularly recalls Ray, sitting in the kitchen repairing a plug on a lamp cord. He showed Jan how to correctly use a screw driver, positioning the tool in the palm of his hand and using his fingers to twirl it to tighten a screw.

May 1 - May Day - and May Baskets

Monday, May 1, 1944, was a busy day in the Clifton household. Mother Emma had been busy all weekend filling the dozens of May baskets that she and her friends from the Methodist Church had made for the elderly and shut-ins of the church. Another four dozen were ready for family, friends, and neighbors.

Velma was the only daughter still at home to help. Florence was off to her job at the Kroehler furniture factory, and Eula, who usually was so helpful, was just days away from the birth of her second child. The fourth daughter, Lucille, now lived in Chicago and had her hands full now with month-old twins and two year old son.

Eula's son, Norman, now 11, had helped fill the May baskets on Sunday afternoon but was now off to his sixth grade class at nearby Steuben School.

A photographer from the Kankakee Republican had visited Emma and her friend Gladys Bunny earlier to photograph the two with an array of the completed baskets for the following newspaper.

May baskets were a Clifton family and neighborhood tradition with baskets of treats being passed around on the first day of the month.

The baskets made by Emma and her church friends were particularly elaborate.

Daughter Florence later recalled the family tradition:

Every May Day we would hang our May baskets on our door and run. Of course they all knew who sent it because Mom would start at least two months ahead of time to make them. They would look beautiful all lined up in room.

They were made out of cottage cheese cartons covered with ruffled pastel crepe paper with fringe around the edges. (Paper) flowers such as rose, daffodils, daisies, and tulips on the side of the handle. They looked so real you wanted to lean down to smell them. We filled them with candy then added a small bunch of violets or buttercups to them.

Eula remembered receiving her first May basket: I was a my Grandmother Norman's [in Ashkum south of Kankakee] I got my first May basket. She knew that one of the neighbor girls was going to hang one on the door. And so she took me for a walk and when we came back there was a May basket hanging on the door knob that had the best butterscotch candy I've ever eaten.

She added; And my father used to have fun with one of the neighbor girls. He used to take an old hat and fix it up for a May basket and give it to her just because she got such a charge out of it.



Emma Clifton and her four daughters:
From left: Florence, Eula, Velma, Emma, and Lucille