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James Patrick Hoy Biographical Sketch

James Hoy was born in Ireland to James & Elizabeth Hoy¹ on June 27, 1831.² He probably came to America between 1845³ and 1850.⁴ James may have been born in “East Meath, Ireland”, according to a school report written by Patricia Gill of Canal Fulton, Ohio. Patricia is a granddaughter of Genevieve (Hoy) Gill and a great granddaughter of James Hoy. Patricia stated that her grandmother told her much of the information in her report.⁵ Wayne County Ohio naturalization records show a James Hoy of Ireland who arrived in the United States before reaching the age of 18, being naturalized in 1856 after residing in the U.S. for the required minimum 5 years.⁶ This fits with our James Hoy who would have been between 13 and 18 when he arrived in America. A Michigan obituary for James, states that James came to America at the age of 13⁷, which would make his arrival date approximately 1845.

¹ James Hoy, death certificate no. 731 (1914), Michigan, County Clerk Shiawassee County.

² Family data, Genevieve Hoy Gill Family Bible, *The Holy Bible Translated From The Latin Vulgat*, published by Eugene Cumiskey, Philadelphia, 1840, First Stereotype, From The Fifth Dublin Edition, owned in 2006 by Patricia and Marilyn Gill of Canal Fulton, Ohio. The Hoy/Gill family Bible was given to Pat & Marilyn by their grandmother, Genevieve Hoy Gill, the believed author of the family data written in the Bible.

³ Harry Hoy household, 1910 U.S. census, Saginaw County, Michigan population schedule, town of Chesaning Township, enumeration district [ED] 37, supervisor’s district [SD] 8, sheet 11A, dwelling 310, family 327, National Archives micro publication T624, roll 671 image 671.

⁴ Edward Lacey household, 1910 U.S. census, Saginaw County, Michigan population schedule, town of St Charles, enumeration district [ED] 74, supervisor’s district 8, sheet 8A, dwelling 121, family 123, National Archives micro publication T624, roll 671, image 992.

⁵ Family data, Patricia Gill school report, “Pitty Pat”, abt 1945, owned in 2006 by Patricia Gill of Canal Fulton, Ohio. Much information in the report was told to Patricia by her grandmother, Genevieve (Hoy) Gill at the time it was written; Genevieve would have been about 70 years old and Patricia about 15 .

⁶ James Hoy, naturalization of foreigners under 18, open court session, September 1856, state of Ohio, county of Wayne.

⁷ James Hoy obituary, *Owosso Argus*, Owosso, Michigan, 5 June, 1914

James Hoy & Mary Jane McMurphy were most likely married on October 4, 1852 in Stark County, Ohio by Rev. A. Champion⁸. The Hoy/Gill family Bible shows a date of marriage of November 4, 1853⁹ and the “Pitty Pat” report¹⁰ says that James & Mary were married on that date in Wooster, Wayne County, Ohio. I believe this information to be incorrect after searching Wayne County marriage records and not locating any document to support this alternative data. Mary McMurphy is believed to be the daughter of James McMurphy and Rebecca Macknet. James McMurphy reportedly died not long after he and Rebecca were married. Rebecca then moved to the Canal Fulton, Ohio area with Mary and married a man named Thomas Boyle.¹¹ Thomas, Rebecca and 12 year old Mary Boyle are listed on the 1850, Lawrence Twp, Stark County census.¹² I have not yet located James Hoy on the 1850 census but using the assumption of “courting distance” he most likely lived within a half days walk of Mary by 1852 when they were married. I have also not yet located James and Mary on the 1860 census. In 1870 James and Mary are reported on the Lawrence Twp, Stark County Census. Also shown living in the household is Mary’s mother, Rebecca Boyle.¹³ In 1880, the family including Rebecca Boyle, are shown in Franklin Twp, Summit County, Ohio¹⁴

James and Mary had 4 known children who survived to adulthood, Evalyn Marie born 9 Feb 1866, Rosa Ann born 28 April 1869, Patrick Henry (Harry) born 17 Nov 1870 and Genevieve born 17 May 1873. Along with these four children, seven additional children are also listed in Genevieve’s Bible with ages next to their names that I believe are the child’s age at their time of death; John Hoy 31 days, Rebecca Elizabeth Hoy 9 yrs, Julia ? Hoy 7 yrs, Mary Jane Hoy 6 yrs, Margery Ellen Hoy 2 yrs 6 months and twins James & Peter Hoy 9 mos 1 day.¹⁵ A grave marker originally at Sts Phillip & James Catholic Cemetery in Canal Fulton, is inscribed, “Rebecca E, dau of James & Mary Hoy, Died

⁸ Hoy-McMurphy marriage, Stark County Probate Court Marriages, Ohio, Canton, Vol C, pg 44

⁹ Genevieve Hoy/Gill Family Bible

¹⁰ Family data, Patricia Gill school report, “Pitty Pat”

¹¹ Family data, Patricia Gill school report, “Pitty Pat”

¹² Thomas Boyle household, 1850, U.S. census, Stark County, Ohio population schedule, town of Lawrence Twp, district 138, dwelling no 498, family 491; National Archives micro publication M432, Roll 731; Page: 87; Image: 178.

¹³ James Hoy household, 1870, U.S. census, Stark County, Ohio population schedule, town of Lawrence Twp; National Archives micro publication M59, Page: 236; Image: 474.

¹⁴ James Hoy household, 1880 U.S. census, Summit County, Ohio population schedule, town of Franklin Twp; Roll: T9_1069; Family History Film: 1255069; Page: 244.3000; Enumeration District: 171; Image: 0170.

¹⁵ Genevieve Hoy /Gill Family Bible

Nov 24 1864, agd 8y, 11m. 28d” This marker had fallen over and was taken back to Patricia and Marilyn Gill’s farm in Canal Fulton sometime in the 1970’s or 1980’s. In June 2006, this marker was in the possession of Michelle Boccaccio of Grand Blanc, Mi. Two death records have been located in Franklin Twp, Summit County Ohio that may be for two of the additional Hoy children who died young, Peter Hoy on 13 April 1876 age 1 day¹⁶ and James Hoy also on 13 April 1876 age 10 months 8 days.¹⁷ Although this data differs somewhat with the information in the family Bible, I believe these may be the twin boys listed. The names are the same, they died in Franklin Twp, Summit County where James & Mary were living in 1880 and the reported ages at the time of death are close to the 9 months 1 day reported in the Bible¹⁸ There is conflicting data on if these babies were twins. The Bible data indicates that they were, but the death records indicate that they were not born on the same day but died on the same day. No names of parents are listed on either death record. The data in the Bible could be incorrect as Genevieve Hoy most likely wrote it many years after these deaths. She would have been approximately 3 years old when these boys died.

Rebecca Boyle, Mary Hoy’s mother, reportedly died 31 Jan 1891.¹⁹ Mary Hoy’s death is reported in the Hoy/Gill Bible as 17 Sept 1891²⁰ and confirmed in Summit County death records. Mary’s cause of death was reported as Consumption on her county death record.²¹

According to his Ohio obituary, James came to Michigan around 1904.²² This would indicate that he continued to live in Ohio for approximately 13 years after his wife Mary died in 1891. Did he remarry? There is a marriage record in 1896 for a James Hoy & Harriet Ware in Wayne County, Ohio.²³ A James & Harriet Hoy are reported on the 1900 Franklin Twp, Summit County, Ohio census. This census reports James Hoy’s date of birth as Jun 1831 in Ireland and length of time married to Harriet as four years.²⁴ This is consistent with known data on our James Hoy including the Hoy/Gill Family Bible which

¹⁶ Peter Hoy, Ohio, Summit County Deaths, #247, 7 June, 1877

¹⁷ James Hoy, Ohio, Summit County Deaths, #246, 7 June 1877

¹⁸ James Hoy household, Summit County, Ohio, U.S. population schedule, enumeration district 171, image 0170.

¹⁹ Genevieve Hoy/Gill Family Bible

²⁰ Genevieve Hoy/Gill Family Bible

²¹ Mary Hoy, death certificate no 134 (1891), Ohio, Summit County Clerk, Akron

²² James Hoy obituary, Massillon Evening Independent, Massillon, Ohio, 9 June 1914, pg 6

²³ Hoy-Ware marriage, 19 Sept 1896, Ohio, Wayne County

²⁴ James Hoy household, 1900 U.S. census, Summit County, Ohio, population schedule, Franklin Twp, enumeration district [ED] 89, page 8B, National Archives and Record Administration Roll T623 1324.

reports his date of birth as 27 June 1831 in Ireland. However, this James was reported as a farmer not a miner unlike most other data found on James and he had a date of immigration of 1862 that does differ with other data on our James that indicates he immigrated before 1850. Could he have taken a trip back to Ireland and returned in 1862?

In 1910, 78-year-old James is reported on the census in the household of his daughter, Rose Lacey in St Charles, Saginaw County, Michigan²⁵ and in the household of his son Harry Hoy in Chesaning, Saginaw County, Michigan.²⁶ The information on James reported in Harry's household indicated he had no profession but "owns farm" Could he have owned a farm in Ohio perhaps with Harriet where his occupation was reported as a farmer? Harry is also listed as a farmer on this census, renting a farm in 1910. All previous censuses have reported Harry's occupation as a coal miner. James's 1914 Ohio obituary, states that he came to Michigan 10 years ago or in approximately 1904 and that before moving to Michigan he had lived on a farm near Canal Fulton.²⁷ If Harriet Ware was his wife, perhaps she died sometime between 1900 when she is reported on the Summit County census and 1904 when James came to Michigan.

James Hoy died in Caledonia Twp, Shiawassee County, Michigan at his son Harry's home on 4 June 1914.²⁸ A Michigan death record does not list a cause of death but does give the names of his parents as James and Elizabeth Hoy.²⁹ Information from his funeral record at Sts Phillip and James Catholic Church in Canal Fulton, reports that James died from "paralysis." This funeral record also indicates that he is buried in the church cemetery although he does not have a headstone. The church is unable to provide an exact burial location due to a fire in 1945 where many records were lost.³⁰ Both the Michigan and the Ohio obituary confirm that James's body was sent back to Canal Fulton, Ohio for a funeral at Sts Phillip & James.

²⁵ Edward Lacey household, 1910 U.S. census, Saginaw County, Michigan, St Charles Twp, federal population schedule, Enumeration District 74, National Archives and Records Administration, Roll T624-671, page 8A, image 992, dwelling no 121, family no 123.

²⁶ Harry Hoy household, 1910 U.S. census, Saginaw County, Michigan, Chesaning, federal population schedule, enumeration district 37, National Archives and Records Administration, Roll T624-671, page 11A, image 671, dwelling no 310, family no 327.

²⁷ James Hoy obituary, *Massillon Evening Independent*, 9 June 1914

²⁸ James Hoy obituary, *Owosso Argus*, Owosso, Michigan, 5 June 1914

²⁹ James Hoy, death certificate no. 731, 11 June 1914, Shiawassee County, Michigan

³⁰ Telephone interview with Rose, secretary at Sts Phillips & James Catholic Church, Canal Fulton, Ohio, May 2006, by Michelle Boccaccio

Things I Don't Know

Specific place of birth in Ireland.

Did James have any siblings?

Where is James on the 1850 and 1860 census?

Immigration record for James.

Did James ever own any land?

Research Plan

- 1) Research Harriet Ware Hoy. Try to find **burial place, any probate records and an obituary** for Harriet to confirm she was married to our James.
- 2) Check **land records in Summit County** where Harriet and James were living in 1900. The 1910 census with son Harry reports that James “owns farm” and his Ohio obituary stated that he “lived on a farm near Canal Fulton for many years.”
- 3) **Research a boarder, Michael Goff** born in Ireland in approximately 1823 listed in the household of James and Mary on the **Summit County, Ohio 1880 census** to see if any of his records give a specific place of birth in Ireland as this may also be where James was from.
- 4) **Note witnesses and neighbors** on all known documents and see if there are any repeat people that may be related or connected to James in some way. These people could be relatives or friends from the same village in Ireland.
- 5) Check **1845 – 1850 immigration records for a 13 – 18 year old James Hoy.**
- 6) **Browse area newspapers for Canal Fulton** to get a feeling for what things were like when James and Mary lived there, watching particularly for any mention of the Hoys or Boyles in **birth, marriage, death or social columns**. (*Massillon Evening Independent, Canton Repository, Akron Beckon Journal, ect*)