Houghton Family

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Joshua Weston Houghton was the patriarch of the Houghtons that resided in Cooperstown for many years. He came to Cooperstown very late in life and died shortly after arriving here, but all 8 of his sons had already moved here.

Joshua’s parents were Asa Houghton, born in Vermont on June 19, 1800 and Rebecca Conkling, born in New York on March 20, 1796. They were married in 1819. They had seven children. They were all born in Haldimand, Northumberland, Canada between 1819 and 1833.

Joshua Weston Houghton was the fifth child of Asa and Rebecca. He had three older sisters and one older brother. He had one brother and sister that were younger than him. Joshua and his future wife, Miranda Marie Button were both born on the same day of June 22, 1828. She was born in Montgomery, New York and they were married on October 2, 1849 in Ontario, Canada.

Joshua’s birthplace of Haldimand County is about 170 miles east of St. Clair, Michigan. He and Miranda moved to St. Clair and lived there many years. They had eleven children, eight boys and three girls. All 8 of the boys moved to the Cooperstown area, but none of the girls. The girls were the two oldest and the next to youngest children. Their names were John, George, Benjamin, Wilmot, Charles, Western, Horace and Douglas.

John Lutmann Houghton was the 3rd child of Joshua and Miranda and the first one to come to Cooperstown. He was born on October 22, 1854 in Haldimand and died on March 1, 1926 in Cooperstown. He came to the Cooperstown area in 1882. He was a carpenter and built some of the first buildings on the Cooper Ranch and also the granary where the county records were stored. He married Sarah Abbie Pike on December 31, 1884 in Cooperstown. She was from Maine and was born on February 10, 1954. They are both listed in the 1900, 1910 and 1920 Cooperstown censuses. John and Sarah had two sons, Walter and Willard.

Walter was their oldest child and was born on July 3, 1885. He married Nihla Nellie Bartron on November 28, 1906. He was born and married in Wilmot, North Dakota. They moved to Griggs County by 1920 and he farmed, sold insurance and was a school clerk while she taught in the Houghton School. His wife Nellie taught in the Houghton school. She was the daughter of James Bartron II and is story can be seen here. Walter and Nellie had three children between 1907 and 1914. Walter and Nellie were both killed in an auto accident on September 27, 1940.

Robert Joshua Houghton was the oldest child of Walter and Nellie and he was born in Cooperstown on October 2, 1907.

Timeline

1796, March 20, Rebecca Conkling born in New York

1800, June 19 Asa Houghton born in Vermont

1819 Asa and Rebecca married

1828, January 22 Joshua Weston, 5th child of Asa and Rebecca was born Haldimand.

1828, January 22 Miranda Marie Button, future wife of Joshua is born in Montgomery, New York.

1849, October2 Joshua and Miranda are married in Ontario, Canada

1854, October 22 John Lutmann Houghton, 3rd child of Joshua and Miranda is born in Haldimand.

1856, November 8, George Kimbrell Houghton, 4th child of Joshua and Miranda is born in Haldimand.

1959, December 28 Benjamin Luther Houghton, 5th child of Joshua and Miranda is born in Haldimand.

1860 St. Clair Census Joshua and Miranda and their 5 oldest children ranging in age between 1 and 10 are all listed.

1861, March 25 Wilmot Peter Houghton, 6th child of Joshua and Miranda is born in Haldimand.

1864, September 12 Charles Walter Houghton, 7th child of Joshua and Miranda is born in St. Clair, Michigan.

1866, April 26 Western Houghton, 8th child of Joshua and Miranda is born in St. Clair, Michigan.

1868, August 15, Horace Houghton, 9th child of Joshua and Miranda is born in St. Clair, Michigan.

1870 St. Clair Census Rebecca and Maria, the two oldest daughters are 20 and 18 years old and no longer listed. Joshua and Miranda and the next 7 boys ranging in age between 2 and 16 are all listed.

1874, August 20, Douglas J. Houghton , 11th child of Joshua and Miranda is born in St. Clair, Michigan.

1880 Michigan Census Joshua and Miranda and their last 8 children ranging in age between 6 and 24 are all listed. They are all listed as living in St. Clair except for Wilmot who was 19 years old and had moved to Oxford in Oakland County, Michigan.

1882 John Houghton came to Cooperstown.

1884 December 31 Joshua and Miranda are married in Cooperstown.

1885 July 3, Walter, first child of Joshua and Miranda is born in Wilton, North Dakota.

1888 March 30, Willard second and last child of Joshua and Miranda is born in Cooperstown, North Dakota. He worked for the post office for a time and was still living in Cooperstown in 1910 when he was 22 years old.

1900 Griggs County Census John and Sarah and their son Willard, 12 years old, are listed.

1906 November 28, Walter and Nellie Bartron are married.

1910 Griggs County Census John and Sarah and their youngest son Willard, 22 years old are listed.

1915 Willard moved from Cooperstown to Olympia Washington between the 1910 and 1920 census.

1920 Griggs County Census John and Sarah and their oldest son Walter are listed.

1925 Walter moved from Wells County to Griggs County sometime between the 1920 and 1930 census.

Joshua and Miranda moved to the Cooperstown area in 1898 when they were 70 years old. They both died in Cooperstown and are buried in the Cooperstown Cemetery. She died on March 30, 1910 and he died on October 6, 1898 shortly after arriving in Cooperstown.

Sources:

1. <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~houghtonfamily>