HOLGATE, Joseph Benjamin

Born *c*. 1813, Burnley, Lancashire. Died 07.08.1889, Barberton, Tvl.

Son of Rev. Benjamin Holgate. (TE 0/4837). Baptised at Burnley 18.11.1813. (Shuttleworth). A wool-comber, he enlisted in October 1831. (WO 12/5764). This was presumably in the 33rd, the Duke of Wellington’s Regiment of Foot. His service number was 543. On 05.04.1836 he married Maria Jacobs who was born in Dublin on 10.03.1821. (Holgate papers in KCL)(Shuttleworth). He was a sergt. In the 45th, the 1st Nottingham Regiment (later the Sherwood Foresters), when it was detached for service at Port Natal for the initial period of 01.08.1843 – 30.09.1843. His service number was 2536. (WO 12/5751). The 45th did not leave Natal until 1859. (Brookes & Webb p. 51). To Maria was given the honour of hoisting the Union Jack when it was raised for the first time on 31.08.1843 at the newly established camp at Fort Napier, Pietermaritzburg. (Holgate papers KCL)(*NW* 10.05.95)

1854.01.00 Discharged at Fort Napier. Name spelt Holdgate. (WO 12/5764)

1854.05.30 Of 43 Berg St, Pieternaritzburg, gardener, proprietor. (NGG 30.05.54)

1854.08.08 Of 43 Berg St, landowner. Name spelt Holdgate. (NGG 08.08.54)

1855.11.00 Had 22 years service. Petitioned with seven others for land grants. They all had large families to support, they all belonged to the Natal Rifle Corps and offered themselves and their services for the protection of the Colony. (CSO 56 no 169)

1855.12.00 Signed a petition of day labourers asking that they be given preference over military parties. (CSO 2244 no D280)

1856.01.28 A Joseph and an Eliza [*sic*] Holgate appeared in the Resident Magistrate’s Court, Pietermaritzburg. It is not known if this was Joseph Snr or Jnr. Also it is probable that Eliza was in error for son Elijah. The charge was for the theft of a purse containing 11 sovereigns. Joseph found not guilty, Eliza [*sic*] sentenced to three months’ imprisonment with alternate weeks on spare diet. The crime took place on 26 or 27 Dec. 1855. (NPP 86 no 37)

1856.03.30 Maria stole pumpkins. Sentenced in April to 10 days’ imprisonment on spare diet. (NPP 86 no 37)

1867.08.06 Sawyer, *Clarendon*, Karkloof, occupier. (NGG 06.08.67)

1870.08.16 Sawyer, *Clarendon*, Karkloof, occupier. (NGG 16.08.70)

1877 J. Holgate owned Sub L, Erf 34 (1rood 16¼ perches) Pietermaritz St, in City of Pietermaritzburg, worth £100, buildings worth £100 and Sub J, Erf 33 (1 rood 22¼ perches) Pietermaritz St, in City of Pietermaritzburg, worth £100, buildings worth £300. (NGG 08.03.81)

1889.08.07 Died at the Barberton goldfields. (Holgate papers KCL)(Shuttleworth)

1889.08.17 Died at Barberton aged 75. Married. Children are Annie Hazelhurst, George, Emma Macrae [*sic*], Mary Phillips – all majors. Death notice signed by veldkornet, Barberton, 30.08.89. (TE 0/4837)

1894.00.00 Widow Mary [sic] alive and active in Barberton. (news cutting 00.00.94 in Holgate papers, KCL)

1895.04.26 Widow Mary [*sic*] died at Barberton. (Holgate papers, KCL). Aged 74.

(*NW* 10.05.95)

CHILDREN

**Joseph Enoch** (07.05.1837 – dead by 30.08.89 )

1837.05.07 Born. (Holgate papers, KCL)

1856.01.28 Possibly the Joseph Holgate who appeared with Eliza [*sic*.] Holgate in the RM’s Court, Pmb for the theft of a purse containing 11 sovereigns. Joseph found not guilty. (NPP 86 no 37)

1889.08.30 Dead by this date. (TE 0/4837)

**Baby**(1839.00.00 – died young)

1839.00.00 Born. (Shuttleworth)

**Elijah** (19.09.1841 – dead by 30.08.89)

1841.09.19 Born. (Holgate papers, KCL)

1852.08.16 Elijah, a minor, apprenticed to William Bottrell, wagon maker, all of Pietermaritzburg. Is to remain until he turns 18 on 19.01.1859. Witnesses W. Briggs and C.J. Braithwaite. (RSC IV/23/1 no 29)

1856.01.28 Eliza [*sic*] and Joseph Holgate appeared in the RM’s Court, Pmb, for the theft of a purse containing 11 sovereigns. Eliza [*sic*] found guilty and sentenced to three months’ imprisonment, alternate weeks on spare diet. Crime took place on 26 or 27 Dec. 1855. (NPP 86 no 37)

1889.08.30 Dead by this date. (TE 0/4837)

**Ann** (02.02.1843 – still alive 30.08.89)

1843.02.02 Born. (Holgate papers, KCL)(R. Wes. Dbn)

1844.08.12 Baptised at Pietermaritzburg. (R. Wes. Dbn)

1858.03.00 Aged 15, m. Edward Hazelhurst, sawyer, both of Zwart Kop. (R. St P. Pmb.)

1860.01.00 Joseph born. Baptised March 1860. Father a sawyer of Boston Saw Mills. Sponsors Ann Holliday, father and Joseph Enoch Holgate. (R. St P. Pmb.)

1861.08.00 Edward born. Baptised September 1861. Parents of *Woodside*, Umgeni, father a sawyer. Sponsors father and Ann Parsons. (R. St P. Pmb.)

1868.04.00 James born. Baptised May 1870. Parents of Wakkerstroom. Sponsors father, James Holgate and Margaret McGregor. (R. St P. Pmb.)

1870.05.00 Mary Elizabeth born. Baptised May 1870. Sponsors George and Ellen [*sic*] Holgate and Mary Parsons. (R. St P. Pmb.)

1889.08.30 Still alive. (TE 0/4837)

**George** (24.11**.**1845, Pietermaritzburg – *c*. 1930, Northern Rhodesia)

1845.11.21 Born Fort Napier, Pietermaritzburg. (R. St. P. Pmb.)(HJ)

1845.11.24 Born. (Holgate papers, KCL)

1849.05.00 Baptised. Father a corporal in the 45th. (R. St. P. Pmb.)

1868.11.06 Married Helena (Ellen) Elizabeth Jacobz, Potchefstroom, Tvl. (Holgate papers, KCL)

1871.03.31 Living in Wakkerstroom when son Elijah born. (R. Wes. L. Bapts)

1896.00.00 Wagon builder, living with wife and family in Barberton. (Shuttleworth)

1901 01 14 Joined Steinaecker’s Horse, being attested at Komatipoort. Had previously served in the Wakkerstroom Volunteers. Height 5’9’’, blue eyes, fair hair and was a wagon builder. (HJ)

1901.09.20 Discharged from Steinaecker’s Horse at Komatipoort, time expired. (HJ)

1901.10.23 Joined Barberton Town Guard. (HJ)

1901.12.20 Left Barberton Town Guard. (HJ)

1902.02.07 Re-attested at Komati Poort into Steinaecker’s Horse. (HJ)

1902.09.09 Discharged from Steinaecker’s Horse at Komatipoort, time expired. Next of kin given as Capt. J.B. Holgate. (HJ)

1929.00.00 Died, Northern Rhodesia, now Zambia. (Shuttleworth)

1931.10.28 Helena Elizabeth died, Johannesburg. (Holgate papers, KCL)(TE 74778 via Shuttleworth)

**Emma** (21.09.1848, Port Natal – 1926, Tvl)

1848.09.21 Born at Port Natal. (Holgate papers, KCL)

1848.10.21 Born. (R. St P. Pmb.)

1849.05.00 Baptised, father a corporal in 45th. (R. St. P. Pmb.)

? Married Colin Dingwall Macrae/Mcrae.

1885.00.00 Mcrae died. (TE 0/3071/1885)

1926.00.00 Died. (TE 61364/1926)

**Mary** (19.10.1850, Fort Napier – still alive 30.08.1889)

1850.10.19 Born, Fort Napier. (Holgate papers, KCL)

1851.01.19 Born. (R. St P. Pmb.)

1851.02.00 Baptised, father a corporal in 45th. (R. St P. Pmb.)

1869.03.14 Married, in Pondoland, to J. Phillips. Her surname spelt Holdgate. (*NM* 00.04.69)

1889.08.30 Still alive. (TE 0/4837)

**James Lawrence Murray** (27.10.1853, Pietermaritzburg – dead by 30.08.89)

1853.10.00 Born. (R. St P. Pmb.)

1853.10.27 Born, Pietermaritzburg. (Holgate papers, KCL)

1854.03.00 Baptised, father a labourer. (R. St P. Pmb.)

1870.05.00 Godfather to James Hazelhurst. (R. St P. Pmb.)

1889.08.30 Dead by this date. (TE 0/4837)

George and Helena Holgate had 10 children. Their family tree (and other Holgate information) is

in the Holgate Papers, Campbell Collections, 220 Marriott, Durban. Phone 031 260 1720.

There are references to three of George’s sons in Jones, Huw M. *A biographical register of*

*Swaziland to 1902*. University of Natal Press: Pietermaritzburg, 1993.

SOURCES

**Books & Directories**

Brookes, E. H. and Webb,C.deB. *A history of Natal*. UNP: Pietermaritzburg, 1965.

**Church Registers**

R. St P. Pmb. – Register, St Peter’s, Pietermaritzburg.

R. Wes. Dbn – Register, Wesleyan Church, Durban.

R. Wes., L. – Register, Wesleyan Church, Ladysmith.

**Libraries**

KCL – Killie Campbell Collections now Campbell Collections.

**Newspapers**

NM – *Natal Mercury*

NW – *Natal Witness*

**Official Documents**

NGG – Natal Government Gazette

NPP – Natal Parliamentary Papers

**Personal Communication**

HJ – Huw Jones, deceased.

Shuttleworth, Ann.

**Unpublished Official Papers**

CSO – Colonial Secretay’s Office

RSC – Registrar Supreme Court

TE – Transvaal Estates

WO –War Office