**POVALL, John**

Born *c*. 1823, England. Died 6 November 1887, Durban.

Boat builder

1823 *c*. Born.

1823.00.00 Baptised, Birkenhead, Liverpool. Son of William and Sarah Povall, born Jones. (Ros Lumley)

1839.01.08 Marion [Elizabeth] b., dau. of John and Mary Mann. She was from Bromley, Kent. (Ros Lumley)

1857.06.24 Married Marion Elizabeth Mann in the Wesleyan Chapel, Dbn. (*NW* 03.07.57). He was a boat builder aged 32, and she was aged 18 and was the dau. of John Mann, a machinist. (R. Wes. Dbn)

1860.05.22 A ship’s carpenter, Dbn., he wrote to the Colonial Secretary asking for half an acre of land in the new town of Addington presently being surveyed. (CSO 2251 no. E607)

1867.09.00 One of his fishing boats upset on the bar. (*T of N* 04.09.67)

1869.06.24 With money belonging to his son John William, he purchased on his behalf,

No.13, Block X, Dbn. (RSC 1/8/70 no. 6525)

1869.08.27 Lodged an affidavit at Dbn. A boat builder of Dbn, he has a £50 claim against Henry Fell for repairs to his cargo boat *The Roe*. On 25th Aug. he served notice on Fell that the boat was not to be removed from the yard at Cato’s Creek until the claim was adjusted. Despite this Fell, with two Europeans and about ten Africans, removed the boat to a spot a short distance from the yard and the next day moved it further from the yard and was only prevented from entirely removing it by the lack of water to float it. Since then further work has been done on the boat and he is afraid that Fell will remove it at the first available tide. An order interdicting Fell from removing the boat was issued on 01.09.69. (RSC 1/8/38 no. 3579)

1870.08.01 His occupation given as ship builder when a son was b. (DGR births)

1872.05.30 His occupation given as boatman when a dau. was b. (DGR births)

1874.07.12 His occupation given as ship builder when a dau. was b. (DGR births)

1876.03.14 His occupation given as shipwright when a son was b. (DGR births)

1877.04.08 His occupation given as shipwright when a son was b. (DGR births)

1877.07.06 He submitted a petition in regards to No.13 Block X, Dbn, purchased on 24.06.69. He has been unable to use the land because of its sandy nature, being portion of the Back Beach and very close to the sea.. He has had an offer for the land and asks leave to sell it and use the proceeds to improve a dwelling house belonging to his son on Sub 4, Lot 13, Block K, Dbn. The petition was referred to the Master on 10.07.77. (RSC 1/8/70 no. 6525). The Master reported in favour of the petition on 27.07.77. (RSC 1/8/70 no. 6565)

1878.04.12 His occupation given as shipwright when a son was b. (DRG births)

1878 end A shipwright, Stanger St, Dbn. (*DNA* 1879 p. 368)

1886.08.12 Wife Marion Eliza made a will at Dbn. Annie Young (b. Povall), wife of Thomas Young of Dbn, painter, was to be an executor. (MSC 86/1886)

1886.11.23 Wife Marion Eliza d. at *Spring Grange* aged 46. He was a shipwright. (DGR deaths). Marion Eliza (b. Mann), wife of John of Dbn, shipwright, d. at her residence in Westville. They were married in Natal in *c*. 1857. (MSC 86/1886)

1887.11.06 John Povall d. in Dbn aged 64, boat builder. (DGR deaths)

CHILDREN

**John William** (16.05.1858, Dbn – ?1906)

1858.05.16 John William b. (R.Wes. Dbn). (Born Dbn. (*NM* 27.05.58)

1879.01.15 Blacksmith, Pinetown, 21, m. Alice Martha Sinclair, 18, in her father’s house, Pinetown. (RSC II/5/36 no.1)

1879.11.03 Blacksmith, child b. in Dbn. (DGR births)

1880.07.28 He left home, telling his wife that he was going to ? Zourberg in Natal for a week. (RSC II/5/36 no.1)

1880.08.11 Wrote to his wife from Harrismith saying he was going to the Diamond Fields and suggesting she go to her mother until he sent for her. . She was not to tell anyone, even his mother, where he was. (RSC II/5/36 no.1)

1881.05.28 Wrote to his wife from Port Said. (RSC II/5/36 no.1)

1881.12.17 Wrote to his wife a second time from Port Said saying that he intended to return to her. (RSC II/5/36 no.1)

1882.12.29 He has not returned home. They have a son now aged four. Sued for divorce by his wife. (RSC II/5/36 no.1)

1883.07.02 Notice of divorce posted to him c/o Great Western Coffee Tavern, St Mary’s St, Cardiff. (RSC II/5/36 no.1)

1884.02.14 Divorce granted. (RSC II/5/36 no.1)

1906 *c*. Was he the John William Povall who died ? (MSC Index to Deeds/Wills)

**George Morris** (*c*. 1860, Dbn – 00.07.1923, Pmb.)

1880.05.09 George, bricklayer, m. Louisa Clara Wheatley. She signed with a X. Witnesses J.Tosen and ? (name illegible). (R. St S. Pmb)

1882.10.00 With Thomas Green, a quarier of Slang Spruit, visited a native beer shop. Green passed out and Povall left him in the company of an African named Philip who had also been in the beer shop. When Green awoke his money was gone. Green accused Philip of the theft. (RSC 1/8/98 no. 9184)

1887 end Bricklayer, 55 Pietermaritz St, Pmb. (DNA 1858)

1904.05.10 Miriam [*sic*] Povall, b. in Pmb., a dau. of George Morris and Louisa Clara Povall of Mountain Rise m. Thomas Clark. (MSCE 31/247)

1904.06.00 They were living at Mountain Rise, Pmb., when their dau. Marian, wife of Thomas Clark d. aged 18 yrs 2 mths. Her uncle A.F. Frara filled in the death notice. (MSCE 29/202)

1904.06.08 Miriam [*sic*.] Clark, housewife, d. in the Lazaretto, Pmb., was of the farm *Ashburton*. (MSCE 31/247)

1905.07.00 Martha Elizabeth [Povall, dau. of GM and LC Povall. (Ros Lumley)] m. Thomas Clark. (MSCE 31/247)

1907.05.09 Thomas Clark died. (MSCE 31/247)

1923.07.00 George Morris b. in Durban, bricklayer, married, d. aged 73\*. (PGR deaths)

[\* Is it possible that the given age at death made him 10 years older than he actually was? If he had d. aged 63 it would make his date of birth *c*. 1860 which fits.]

**Charles** (00.07.1861, Dbn – )

1861.07.00 Charles b. (R.Wes. Dbn)

**Frederick** (1862.10*c*., Dbn – 1863.01.01)

1862.10*c*. Frederick b.

1863.01.01 Frederick d. aged 3 mths. (*NCPA* 07.01.63)

**Frederick Charles** (00.10.1863, Dbn – 17.02.1929, Himeville)

1863.10.00 Frederick Charles b. (R.Wes. Dbn)

1891.06.00 Married Chrissie Michaux. [Clarissa Maygar Michaux. (Ros Lumley)] (R.Wes. Dbn). Married in the Russell St Wes. Church, Dbn. (HAP)

1894 end Was he the F. Povall, mechanic, May St, Dbn? (DNA 1895)

1929.02.17 Born in Natal, d. at *Walton*, Himeville district, aged 65yrs 3 mths 26 days. Mixed farmer, married. (HGR). A blacksmith from Dbn, lived on *Walton*, was m. to James Alexander Michaux’s sister Clara. They had four children – Fred, May m. to Archie Wilson, Florrie m. to Reg Coleman and Aubrey. (100yrs Underberg/Himeville p.38)

**Sarah** (00.05.1865, Dbn – )

1865.05.00 Sarah b. (R.Wes. Dbn)

**Annie Mary** (1867*c*. – )

1867*c*. Annie Mary b.

1884.05.00 Aged 17 m. Thomas William Young, 25, painter. (R.Wes. Dbn)

**James Joseph** (01.08.1870 – 04.09.1937, Scottburgh)

1870.08.01 James Joseph b. (Tomb Scott.)

1889.11.00 Aged 20, wagon maker, m. Eleanor Mary Bowden (neé Low), widow, 21. (R. St S. Pmb)

1894 end Was he the James Povall, hotelkeeper, Richmond? (DNA 1895)

1937.09.04 James Joseph d. (Tomb Scott.)

**Ellen Gertrude** (30.05.1872, Dbn – )

1872.05.30 Ellen Gertrude b. Dbn. (DGR births)

1892.06.00 Married James Richardson, clerk. (R.Wes. Dbn). Marriage took place on 02.06.1892. (Ros Lumley)

**Agnes Lizzie** (12.07.1874, Berea, Dbn – 13.11.1906, Umlaas Rd)

1874.07.12 Agnes Lizzie b. Berea, Dbn. (DGR births)

1892.10.26 Antony Francis Frara b. in Italy. (Ros Lumley)

1906.11.13 Agnes Elizabeth b. Dbn, dau of John and Marian (both deceased) d. aged 32 years 3 months and 18 days at Umlaas Rd. Her husband Anthony Francis Frara, hotelkeeper of Camperdown, signed the death certificate. They were m. at S*pring Valley*, Beaumont. (MSCE 28/128)

1906.11.30 Frara, Agnes Lillie [*sic*], spouse of Anthony Francis, d. 30.11.1906 aged 32. (Tomb C RC 3)

1906.11.30 Frara, Agnes Elizabeth buried, aged 32. (R. St M. Pmb)

**Bertram** (14.03.1876, Dbn – 07.05.1876, Dbn)

1876.03.14 Bertram b. Dbn. (DGR births)

1876.05.07 Bertram d. Dbn aged 7 wks 4 days. (DGR deaths)

**Charles Mann** (08.04.1877, Dbn – 16.02.1878, Dbn)

1877.04.08 Charles Mann b. Dbn. (DGR births)

1878.02.16 Charles Mann d. Dbn aged 10 mths 8 days. (DGR deaths)

**Frank Ethelbert** (12.04.1878, Dbn – 30.10.1878, Dbn)

1878.04.12 Frank Ethelbert b. Dbn. (DGR births)

1878.10.30 Frank Ethelbert d. Dbn aged 5 mths 21 days. (DGR deaths)

**Walter Frederick** (*c*. 1884 – 00.06.1932, Greytown)

1908.04.28 Bricklayer and builder of Greytown m. Janet Mitchell, widow, of Greytown.

(R. Wes. G.). Walter Frederick’s wife Mrs Janet Mitchell was Jessie Janet McKenzie. (HAP)

1932.06.28 Walter Povall buried aged 48. (GMR burials)

SOURCES

**Books & Directories**

Nagy, DdeF. Ed. *The first 100 years of the Underberg – Himeville District 1887-1987*. Underberg, The Historical & Museum Society, 1987.

*DNA* – *Natal Almanac and Yearly Register*. Pietermaritzburg. P.Davis, 1863-1905.

**Cemeteries**

Tomb Scott – Scottburgh cemetery.

CRC 3 – Commercial Rd cemetery, Pmb., Catholic section.

**Church Registers**

R. St M. Pmb. – St Mary’s Catholic Church, Pmb.

R. St S. Pmb. – St Saviour’s Anglican Church, Pmb.

R. Wes. Dbn – Wesleyan Church Dbn.

R. Wes. G. – Wesleyan Church Greytown.

**Newspapers**

*NCPA – Natal Courier & Pietermaritzburg Advertiser*

*NM – Natal Mercury*

*NW – Natal Witness*

*T of N – Times of Natal*

**Official Documents**

CSO – Colonial Secretary’s Office

DGR – Durban Govt Register. Births/Deaths

GMR – Greytown Municipal Register. Burials

HGR – Himeville Govt Register

PGR – Pinetown Govt Register. Deaths

MSC – Master of the Supreme Court. Wills. (In the MSC’s office – now Master of the High Court)

MSCE – Master of the Supreme Court. Estates. (In the Pmb. Archives Repository)

RSC – Registrar of the Supreme Court

**Personal Communication**

Lumley, Ros

Povall, H Alan