

# **McAllisters and Related Families of Eardley and Hull**

**R.E. Butler  
Apr 3, 2014**

# McAllisters and Related Families of Eardley and Hull

**R.E. Butler**  
**Apr 3, 2014**

## I Overview

There were 3 McAllister families in Eardley in the 1842 census and 4 in the 1861 census. The first 3 heads of families John, Coll and Duncan, had arrived between 1832 and 1834. The fourth, Thomas, arrived between 1842 and 1850. The heads of these families had all been born in Ireland. They probably all came from either Antrim or Londonderry. One of them came with a wife and son, but the other 3 married in Eardley or Hull. These families all lived close to each other in Eardley, some on adjacent lots

There were 2 related Benedict families in Hull in 1825 and 1842. The heads of these families, John and Samuel, had arrived with other Benedicts between 1800 and 1812. They came from the USA after the Loyalists and before the war of 1812. The wives of both these Benedict families were McAllister's who had been born in Ireland. Both marriages took place in Hull, one of them in 1836, and the other in 1848. There is no indication as to when these wives of maiden name McAllister arrived in Hull.

There was a related Stewart family in Hull from at least 1834, when Robert Stewart married Clarissa Benedict. Robert had been born in Ireland. Clarissa had been born in Canada in 1813. It appears that John, Samuel and Clarissa Benedict were siblings, with parents David Benedict and Jane McAllister. That Jane McAllister had been born in the USA.

Many, if not all, of these first generation immigrant McAllisters probably knew each other in Ireland, and some may have been related. It seems unlikely that they would have all come to Canada if they did not know they would be given land grants. It is possible that they were part of some planned immigration program that was advertised in Ireland.

There were several cases where the children of these families, the second generation in Canada, had the same names, including for example Coll, which is not a common name.

There were a few cases in the census records where these families seem to have looked after each other's children.

There were at least 6 cases where the second generation McAllisters married Benedicts or Stewarts, and gave several of their children the same names. And there is at least one case where the third generation intermarried.

They were all protestants, mainly Presbyterians or Anglicans. Coll was a protestant who was married twice, both times to Catholic women. His children were brought up as Catholics. Even so, the families were so close together that Coll and his Catholic wife Catherine signed as witnesses to the baptism of one of Duncan's grandchildren in a Protestant church.

This report includes a summary table showing the connections between these 7 families, maps of Eardley showing their lot locations, and descendant reports for each.

## **II Source Material and Acknowledgement**

The research for this report was a joint effort of Dale (Tulloch) Hunchak and Robert Butler. Dale spent many years accumulating much of the source material the hard way, when very little was on-line. Her efforts identified most of the families and provided invaluable guidance for further research. Both Dale, and Robert's wife Bernice (Woods) Butler are great great granddaughters of John McAllister and Rebecca McMullen.

More details and source materials for this research are on the "Butler Family Tree" on Ancestry at: <http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/5219221>  
The author would be very pleased to hear from anyone who can provide any corrections or additional information. Please email: [rebutler@storm.ca](mailto:rebutler@storm.ca)

## **III Family Connection Chart**

## **IV Eardley Map with Family Locations**

## **V Descendant Reports**