

# **Ancestors of John Reginald Smith**

**Ancestor Narrative Sample Report**

**John Smith**

# Ancestors of John Reginald Smith

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## Ancestors of John Reginald Smith

### *First Generation*

1. **John Reginald Smith**, son of John and Maria (Sauvé) Smythe, was born on 2 July 1836 in Murray Twp., Newcastle District, Upper Canada<sup>1</sup> and died on 12 March 1897 in Brighton Twp., Northumberland Cty., Ontario, Canada.<sup>2</sup> Cause: Heart Disease. John was buried on 16 March 1897 in Brighton Twp.<sup>3</sup> He married on 15 August 1880 in Brighton, Brighton Twp, Northumberland Cty, Ontario,

**Rosamund Henson**,<sup>4</sup> who was born before 1862.

John had a property change on 15 August 1858 at Lot 12, Concession 8, Brighton Twp.<sup>5</sup> He was christened on 2 December 1858 in Brighton Twp.<sup>6</sup> He filed for divorce from Rosamund on 22 September 1882 in Toronto, Ontario.<sup>7</sup> John and Rosamund were divorced there on 10 August 1883.<sup>8</sup>

### *Second Generation*

2. **John Smythe**, son of Reginald Edward and Rachel (Woods) Smythe, was born on 14 May 1813 in Ilford, Essex, England<sup>9</sup> or John was born on 14 April 1814 in Little Chesterford, Essex.<sup>10</sup> He died on 12 December 1891 at home, Lot 32, Conc. 10, Brighton Twp.<sup>11</sup> Cause: Heart disease. John was buried on 15 December 1891 at MacPhail Cemetery, Brighton Twp., Northumberland Cty., Ontario, Canada.<sup>12</sup> He married on 2 July 1834 at Lot 32 Concession 10, Murray Twp., Newcastle District, Upper Canada,

3. **Maria Sauvé**,<sup>13</sup> who was born on 5 May 1815 in Quebec, Lower Canada<sup>14</sup> and died on 6 June 1896 in Brighton Twp., Northumberland Cty.<sup>15</sup> Cause: Old age. Maria was buried on 10 June 1896 at MacPhail Cemetery.<sup>16</sup>

John was blessed on 30 May 1813 at St.Mark's, Ilford.<sup>17</sup> He was baptized there the same day.<sup>18</sup> He was confirmed on 12 April 1825 in Brighton, Newcastle District.<sup>19</sup> He received John's first communion there on 15 September 1826.<sup>20</sup> John Potter Smith is an alias of John. His religious affiliation was Church of England.<sup>21</sup> He resided at Lot 32, Concession 10, Brighton Twp, Northumberland Cty, Ontario from 1835 to 1891.<sup>22</sup> He was ordained on 30 June 1843 in Brighton, Brighton Twp (Deacon).<sup>23</sup> He appeared on the census of 1851 in Brighton Twp (Nominal and Agricultural).<sup>24</sup>

Maria Sauvé's religious affiliation was Roman Catholic.<sup>25</sup>

The children of John and Maria (Sauvé) Smythe were as follows:

- 1 i. JOHN REGINALD SMITH was born on 2 July 1836 in Murray Twp.<sup>26</sup> He died on 12 March 1897 in Brighton Twp., Northumberland Cty.<sup>27</sup> He was buried there 4 days later.<sup>28</sup>

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- ii. CHARLES SMITH was born on 6 January 1838 in Murray Twp.<sup>29</sup> He died on 22 December 1900 in Bountiful, Utah.<sup>30</sup> He was buried there 2 days later.<sup>31</sup>
- iii. ANGELINE SMITH was born on 1 May 1840 in Murray Twp.<sup>32</sup> She died on 4 September 1910 in Toronto, Ontario.<sup>33</sup> She was buried there the following day.<sup>34</sup>
- iv. MARIA SMITH was born on 2 April 1846 in Brighton Twp., Northumberland Cty.<sup>35</sup> She died there on 15 February 1916.<sup>36</sup> She was buried 3 days later at MacPhail Cemetery.<sup>37</sup>

### *Third Generation*

4. **Reginald Edward Smythe**, son of Sir Charles and Jane (Edwards) Smythe, was born on 3 August 1780 in Little Chesterford, Essex, England.<sup>38</sup> Reginald's mother died in childbirth. Anna Chordray, the wife of Sir Charles' gardener, was enlisted to serve as wet nurse and nanny. Reginald died on 14 April 1826 at Lot 32 Concession 10, Murray Twp., Newcastle District, Upper Canada.<sup>39</sup> Cause: Drowning. Reginald married (1) on 15 July 1803 in Burnt Pelham, Hertfordshire, England,

**Elizabeth Conyer**,<sup>40</sup> who was born on 15 September 1786 in Ickleton, Cambridgeshire, England.<sup>41</sup> Reginald married (2) on 10 June 1810 in Malta,

5. **Rachel Woods**,<sup>42</sup> who was born on 2 May 1785 in Ilford, Essex<sup>43</sup> and died in October 1818 at sea.<sup>44</sup> Death attributed to complications due to pregnancy and seasickness

Reginald was christened on 20 August 1780 at St Margaret's, Ickleton.<sup>45</sup> Anna Chordray acted as surrogate mother in the absence of Reginald's parents. Reginald was educated between September 1785 & June 1797 at Ridgeway's, Braintree, Essex.<sup>46</sup> He was educated between September 1797 & June 1801 at King's College, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire.<sup>47</sup> He graduated from there on 12 July 1801.<sup>48</sup> He and Elizabeth obtained a marriage license on 10 July 1803 in Cambridge.<sup>49</sup> The marriage of Reginald and Elizabeth was annulled on 10 August 1803 at Chancery Court, London, England.<sup>50</sup> The bride's father, Sir Rodney Conyer, Knight, discovered his underage daughter was planning on marrying Reginald Smythe using a license obtained fraudulently. Arriving too late to stop the marriage he took his daughter home by force and applied to his friend, the Bishop of London, for an annulment. Reginald served in the military on 10 October 1805 in London.<sup>51</sup> To ensure Reginald created no further embarrassment for the family Sir Charles prevailed upon his friend, Lord Thompson, Colonel of the 8th Dragoons, to obtain a commission for his son. On the 10th of October 1805 Reginald was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the 8th Dragoons. He was shipped to Malta shortly thereafter. A marriage contract for the marriage of Reginald and Rachel was signed on 1 May 1810 in Malta.<sup>52</sup> Marriage Banns for Reginald were published on 20 May 1810 in St. Stephen's, Malta.<sup>53</sup> He adopted Rebecca Moore on 14 November 1810 in Malta.<sup>54</sup> Reginald had a total of 2 marriages. He was a client of George Van Stone. George van Stone handled all of Reginald Smythe's legal affairs. George was Reginald's administrator. He participated in a military promotion on 15 March 1812 in Malta.<sup>55</sup> He retired on 15 July 1816 in London.<sup>56</sup> He emigrated from there on 10 August 1818.<sup>57</sup> He had a property change on 25 August 1818 at Lot 32 Concession 10.<sup>58</sup> He immigrated on 1 November 1818 to Coburg, Newcastle District.<sup>59</sup> Arriving in Coburg Reginald needed both help and advice. George van Stone, local business man and entrepreneur, who was handling Reginald's land grant

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suggested he could either give up the grant and take employment as a laborer or prove the grant. Either way he would require someone to care for the children. He suggested the Potter Valois family in Brighton. They had a son John's age and at 13, Rebecca would be a help to Mrs. Valois. Reginald spent Christmas with the Valois and decided to accept their help. It would prove a good decision. Reginald signed a will on 12 January 1825 in Coburg.<sup>60</sup> His estate was probated there on 28 April 1826.<sup>61</sup>

Reginald Edward Smythe and his second wife, Rachel Woods, were parents of one child:

- 2 i. JOHN SMYTHE was born on 14 May 1813 in Ilford.<sup>62</sup> He was born on 14 April 1814 in Little Chesterford.<sup>63</sup> He died on 12 December 1891 at home, Lot 32, Conc. 10, Brighton Twp.<sup>64</sup> He was buried 3 days later at MacPhail Cemetery, Brighton Twp., Northumberland Cty., Ontario, Canada.<sup>65</sup>

## ***Fourth Generation***

8. **Sir Charles Smythe** apparently married

9. **Jane Edwards.** Sir Charles was a successful East India merchant and maintained residences in Little Chesterford and London. His staff was composed of native Indians whose service had impressed him during his years in India.

Sir Charles and Jane (Edwards) Smythe were parents of one child:

- 4 i. REGINALD EDWARD SMYTHE was born on 3 August 1780 in Little Chesterford, Essex, England.<sup>66</sup> He died on 14 April 1826 at Lot 32 Concession 10, Murray Twp., Newcastle District, Upper Canada.<sup>67</sup>

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### Notes

1. Smith Family Bible (London: Royal Bible Society, 1812). Present owner: Edgar Cagney. Present whereabouts are unknown. Last known location: Coburg ON 1996. Condition at time of examination was good.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.
4. Ibid.
5. Land Titles Office, *Land Titles for Northumberland County* (Toronto, Ontario, Canada: Queen's Printer, Government of Ontario, no date), Land Record Office.
6. Smith Bible, Took place at a Methodist camp meeting.
7. Ibid.
8. Ibid.
9. Ministry of Defense, Great Britain, *Service of Officers Retired on Full and Half Pay, 1828* (Kew, England: Public Record Office, no date), Public Record Office. Records are not indexed. Use of a professional researcher is required.
10. International Genealogical Index Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Salt Lake City: 1993, Family History Library, Salt Lake City. This data is from an index and must be considered questionable until confirmed.
11. Reginald Edward Smythe monument, MacPhail's Cemetery, Lot 34 Concession 3, Brighton Twp, Ontario, Canada.
12. Ibid.
13. "Ceremony was held at John's home by a Roman Catholic missionary at Maria's request." Smith Bible.
14. Ibid.
15. Ibid.
16. Ibid.
17. Ministry of Defense, Great Britain, *Officer Service*.
18. Ibid.
19. Smith Bible.
20. Ibid.
21. Ibid.

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22. "On reaching his majority John came into his inheritance. At this time he changed his name to John Potter Smith." Township of Brighton, *Township Papers* (No place: Archives of Ontario, no date), Archives of Ontario, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
23. Smith Bible.
24. "John Smith, age 38, Maria, age 35, John age 14, Charles, age 13, Angeline age 11, Maria age 5. John and boys religion is Methodist. Maria and girls, Roman Catholic. John was born in England, Maria in Quebec, children in Ontario. John has square timbered 4 room house, a barn, two horses, one cow, 2 pigs, 20 acres in peas and potatoes, 50 acres in wheat a wagon and a sleigh." Government of Canada, *1851 Census of Ontario* (Ottawa, Ontario, Canada: Queen's Printer, no date); LDS #s 1432567-1432988, Family History Library, Salt Lake City.
25. Smith Bible.
26. Ibid.
27. Ibid.
28. Ibid.
29. Ibid.
30. Ibid.
31. Ibid.
32. Ibid.
33. Ibid.
34. Ibid.
35. Ibid.
36. Ibid.
37. Ibid.
38. Clarence Alexander Smythe II, *Smythe Family Records* (The Strand, London: Vanity Publishers, no date), Page 36; Call number 93 V32 nm, Saffron Walden Public Library, Essex, England. Condition, fair. This is a limited edition book. Only known copy is in the Saffron Walden Library.
39. Ibid.
40. Ibid.
41. Curate Edward Gregg, *St Margaret's Parish Registers, Ickleton, Cambridgeshire, England* (No place: Church of England, no date), Page 26, Item 3; LDS # 462789, Family History Library, Salt Lake City. Registers cover the period from 1865 to 1837. Registers are in excellent condition.

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42. Ministry of Defense, Great Britain, *Officer Service*.
43. "Reginald and his wife, the former Mrs. Rachel Moore, nee Woods, born in Ilford on May 2, 1785, left for Canada today." Smythe, *Smythe Family Records*, Pages 56.
44. "Letter from Reginald. Anna died three days from port. Buried at sea." *Ibid.*, Page 62.
45. "Reginald Edward, son of Sir Charles Smythe and his late wife, the Lady Jane Edwards." Gregg, *Par Reg Ickleton*, Page 26.
46. "Sir Charles sent Reginald to Ridgeways in the hope they would discipline the child." Smythe, *Smythe Family Records*, Page 40, Paragraph 2.
47. "Reginald entered King's College on September 12, 1797." *Ibid.*, Page 42, Paragraph 1.
48. "Sir Charles was greatly pleased." *Ibid.*, Page 44; "Reginald Edward Smythe, Bachelor of Arts." Registrar of King's College, *Cambridge University, Graduate Lists 1455-1939* (Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, England: Cambridge Press, no date), Page 56, Line 4.; LDS # 1234567, Family History Library, Salt Lake City. Lists not complete.
49. Smythe, *Smythe Family Records*.
50. *Ibid.*
51. Ministry of Defense, Great Britain, *Officer Service*, Page 52.
52. *Ibid.*
53. *Ibid.*, Banns were read May 20, 27 and June 3rd.
54. *Ibid.*
55. "Lt. Smith promoted to Captain" *Ibid.*, 65.
56. "Captain Reginald Smythe retired at half pay." *Ibid.*, Page 76.
57. "Reggie and wife left for Canada today." Smythe, *Smythe Family Records*, Page 62.
58. Archives of Ontario, *Land Records Index* (No place: Archives of Ontario, no date), Free Grant, RG Series, Vol 2. Page 141; LDS # 0609876, Archives of Ontario, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
59. Smythe, *Smythe Family Records*.
60. Reginald Smythe Will, Address: Coburg, ON, 12 January 1825; Will was found with land records for lot 32, concession 10, Brighton Township, Northumberland County, Ontario, Canada., Land Record Office.
61. "I, Reginald Smythe, do leave my land and implements to my son, John. To my adopted daughter, Rebecca I leave my household goods. Any moneys remaining after my funeral expenses shall be equally divided between the two aforementioned." *Ibid.*

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62. Ministry of Defense, Great Britain, *Officer Service*.
63. IGI, 1993, FHL.
64. MacPhail's Cemetery.
65. Ibid.
66. Smythe, *Smythe Family Records*, Page 36.
67. Ibid.

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Reginald Smythe Will, Address: Coburg, ON, 12 January 1825. Will was found with land records for lot 32, concession 10, Brighton Township, Northumberland County, Ontario, Canada. Land Record Office.

Registrar of King's College. *Cambridge University, Graduate Lists 1455-1939*. Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, England: Cambridge Press, no date.

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