

## McLEAN FAMILY (1)

*NB: The following is prepared from Falkland Islands Registers and files – there may be other family born outside the Falklands. Unless stated otherwise, all dated births, deaths and marriages occurred in the Falklands and all numbered graves are in Stanley Cemetery. Any variations which may occur in the spellings of names are recorded as written in the records at the time.*

### Children of Archibald and Catherine McLEAN

1. **Peter McLEAN** was born in Fifeshire, Scotland. Peter was married to **Catherine Dundas Dunnet HENDERSON** (*not in the Falkland Islands*). Peter & Catherine left Southampton 9 November 1876 on board the *Elbe*, arriving in Stanley 23 December 1876. [H22; D18, pg 52; FIC/C1, desp 507] Peter was under contract to the Falkland Islands Company Ltd and worked for them in their Camp area. Peter, Catherine and their seven children departed on board the *Abydos* 6 April 1896 bound for England. On 24 June 1902 Peter wrote a letter article which was published in the FIM of October 1902 under Emigration.

EMIGRATION.

It is well that people in these islands should think of other Countries than Patagonia as desirable to settle in. A former resident of many years on the East Island writes, June 24th, from Canada (Alberta, N.W.T.) after two years there "I did not like the country at first, like it a little better now. As for my family they have taken better to it than myself and the eldest of them are getting along fairly well and have better prospects before them than if they had stayed in the Falklands, but I can assure you the difficulty of this country seemed more than I could overcome and had therefore made up my mind to leave here and go back to Scotland, however my brother advised me to stop and give it a trial, glad now I did so, for I have already got over many obstacles and am determined to get over the rest of them as they turn up. In fact, if I have my health, this country has got to keep me. But I would not advise anyone to come here, more so any from the Falklands; it is so great a change that, I am sure, no one would like it. Shepherding is a poor job here, even tho' it be for oneself; there are so many drawbacks. In winter, some days, when the thermometer goes down below zero, it is misery for sheep and shepherds; again, for about three months in summer the mosquitoes and other kinds of flies, on some days are a terror to man and beast. These flies in summer and the excessive cold in winter are drawbacks to the country, and do drive some people away from it. Supposing — came here I think he would do best to buy cattle, *not sheep* as his family are at present too young to help

him to herd them. He could rent a place of some sort for a year till he had seen about him. The 1st of April is the best season to land here and this is the best district to come to, for anyone who has lived in the Falklands. They must be aware of what they term here, "crooked people," who make it their business to prey on new comers; their ways are not straight, more especially in money matters. This part of Canada is better adapted for horses and cattle than sheep. The sheep want a lot of attention, besides in many parts, spear grass injures or kills many of them, also, there is a blue flower that comes up first in spring that kills them; we have a sort of foot rot here that causes many of them to go lame and of course makes them poor. Wolves are always sneaking about ready to destroy them and cause us many a weary hour of watching. The only good point with the sheep is that we get a good price for mutton, the wool at present is very low in price. I cannot tell you much about Mrs. R., she lives about 50 miles from here; we have never seen her, but have heard that she still keeps the place going that her husband had; they have cattle. G. C. and family live at Calgary, about 40 miles from here; we have seen them often; he is boss over some department of the railway blacksmith's shop; he has also a small farm where the family live 2 miles from town. James S. works on the railway not far from here, he lived with my brother P. last winter. My brother and family live about 15 miles from us, they are all well and getting on fairly well with their flock of sheep. James N. that used to be a shepherd in Lafonia (his wife died there) lives, near P., with his daughter; he has a flock of sheep; they came out from Scotland with us; he doesn't like the country. There are other old Falkland Islanders round this district, but the country being so large, we have not as yet seen any of them." On another page will be found an interesting article from a Canadian paper on how to start a sheep farm in that country. Another correspondent writes from England "I think if I were emigrating again I should settle in South Africa. Canada is almost too much a country of snow. Not long ago a book came out written by a non-com. in the first contingent of Australian horse, that came to our help in South Africa; he marched right through to Pretoria, and in speaking of the country says it is better land for pastoral and agricultural purposes than Australia, the water supply is better. Nothing has been done yet in the way of sinking wells and the country, as a whole is far better supplied with water than Australia. Englishmen writing of the country and accustomed to our fertile land, don't think much of it, but only a Colonial's opinion in this case is of any value."

In 1908 Peter was living at Fitzroy Rancho, Bassano, Alberta, Canada. Catherine, age 61 and a native of Caithness, Scotland, died 9 January 1913 in Bassano and was buried in Section K, Union Cemetery, Calgary. According to the 28 October 1915 issue of the Bassano Mail Peter, the well-known sheep rancher of the district had arrived back safely in Scotland after dodging submarines, etc.

2. **Archibald McLEAN** was born 22 November 1852 in Fifeshire, Scotland. Archibald was married to **Agnes SUTTIE/SUTTER** (*not in the Falkland Islands*). Archibald, age 25, Agnes, age 23, and Archibald, under 1 year old, departed September 1878 on board the *Guadiana*, arriving in Stanley 4 November 1878 under the system of Land Orders. [D18, pg 211; FIC/C1, desp 528] Archibald was under contract to the Falkland Islands Company Ltd. On 6 December 1899 W A Harding wrote to F E Cobb in London to say that he regretted to learn that A McLean of Hillside was intending to leave and had given his formal notice. Archibald, Agnes and their eleven children arrived in Stanley 28 May 1900 on board the *Hornet* from Bluff Cove and departed 1 June 1900 on board the *Modestia* bound for London. Their fares were equivalent to 9 ¾ full fares and were paid by the Falkland Islands Company Limited. [FIC//D10; pg 162] They arrived in London 4 July 1900 and departed Glasgow, Scotland 4 August 1900 on board the *Corinthian* bound for Calgary, Canada, Archibald and Agnes arrived with their family in Montreal, Quebec, Canada 15 August 1900. By June 1902 they were living on Hillside Ranch, Cheadle, Alberta, North West Territory and were getting their new home in order [FIM Sep 1902: Mar 1906]

CANADA. H-s-e Ranch, Cheadle, Alberta, N.W.T.  
June 6th, 1902.

Dear Sir,

.....We are still very busy getting our new home put in order. I do all the carpentry work myself. I have our eldest son, A., at home helping me, he drives the horse in the waggon, plough, &c.: we are about 12 miles from the railway, we have all our wood to haul from there. But this country is better for that sort of work than the Falklands, as it is harder and more level. We ploughed up nearly an acre of prairie for a garden and planted it this year mostly with potatoes. No mistake there is fine land here in some places. We are beginning to like this part of Canada better than we did at first.

If it were not for the cold snaps in winter and the mosquitoes in summer we would like it very well. Our sheep have done very well lately, the price of wool is low here, we only got 4½d. per pound for it last year. There is plenty of demand for mutton, we can get 4½d. per lb. for all the fat sheep we will have for sale for some time to come. At present this country is what they call "booming," most things bring a good price and lots of new settlers coming in; in the

first four months of this year, I see by the papers, there were 75,000 new comers: still this vast country has room for millions of people.

So far as we know this leaves all our family in good health, except our eldest girl, C., she has been and is still a cripple from rheumatism for the past six months. Two of the girls are in service at Calgary, J., our second son is working for a farmer about 50 miles from here: the younger ones have to herd sheep and cows, &c., &c., so that we are all working less or more. We have named our place here H—s—e after our old home in the Falklands.....

A.M.

Archibald, age 77, died 25 November 1929 in Nightingale, Strathmore, Alberta, Canada and was buried in Section R in Union Cemetery, Calgary, Alberta. Agnes, born 18 October 1854 in Dunshalt, Scotland, a 35 year resident of Nightingale, Alberta and age 81, died 15 April 1936 in Calgary General Hospital, Calgary, Alberta, Canada and was buried in Section R, Union Cemetery, Calgary.

Peter and Archibald were cousins to **Meyrick McLEAN** and **John McLEAN** (*see separate family trees*).

## FIRST GENERATION

### Children of Peter (1) and Catherine McLEAN:

1. **Archibald MacLEAN** born 20 May 1877 at Egg Harbour. His father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Archibald, age 2 years and 8 months, was lost in the Camp 11 January 1880.
2. **Catherine Forbes MacLEAN** born 2 July 1881 at Fitzroy River. Her father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Catherine, age 26 years and 3 months, died 22 October 1907 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada and was buried in Section K, Union Cemetery, Calgary. Her parents were living on Fitzroy Ranche, Bassano, Alberta at the time.
3. **Ann Dunnet MACLEAN** born 18 September 1882 on Fitzroy Farm and baptised 28 November 1882 by the United Non-Conformist Church. Her father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Ann, age 13, died at Leith, Patagonia 26 June 1896. [FIM Sep 1896]
4. **Helen Peterina McLEAN** born 25 January 1884 at Fitzroy and baptised 22 September 1884 by the United Non-Conformist Church. Her father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Hellen Petrisa, youngest surviving daughter of Peter Maclean, Fitzroy Ranche Bassano Alberta, was married to **Frank Gordon NEWMAN**, cattle rancher, Red Deer River, second son of the late Theodore J Newman Inland Revenue, Leighton Buzzard Bedfordshire, 1 January 1908 at Calgary, Alberta, Canada by Reverend John W Clark, Knox Presbyterian Church. [FIM Apr 1908] Helen, age 74, died 21 May 1958 in Alameda, California, USA and was buried in Mountain View Cemetery, Oakland, Alameda.
5. **William MACLEAN** born 27 December 1885 at Fitzroy and baptised 22 January 1886 by the United Non-Conformist Church. His father's occupation was recorded as shepherd.
6. **John H MacLEAN** born 1 January 1888 at Fitzroy and baptised 16 January 1888 by the United Non-Conformist Church. His father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. John, age 54, died 20 May 1942 in Craigmyle, Strathmore, Alberta, Canada and was buried in Craigmyle Cemetery.
7. **Archibald MacLEAN** born 22 March 1889 at Fitzroy River and baptised 8 September 1889 by the United Non-Conformist Church. His father's occupation was recorded as shepherd.
8. **Magnus Alexander MacLEAN** born 28 July 1890 at Fitzroy and baptised 26 November 1890 by Holy Trinity Church. His father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Magnus, 71" tall and a cow boy, enlisted 17 November 1914 in the 31<sup>st</sup> Battalion in Calgary. He was awarded a military medal 9 August 1918 for making several runs through heavy fire delivering messages from Battalion Headquarters to the front line and back bringing back vital information. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/182094718/> Magnus died in 1965 in Bassano, Alberta, Canada and was buried in Bassano Cemetery.

### Children of Archibald (2) and Agnes McLEAN:

1. **Archibald McLEAN** born circa 1878 (*not in the Falkland Islands*). Archibald started work for the Falkland Islands Company Ltd in their Camp 9 October 1893 and worked for them until 19 May 1900. Archibald arrived with his family in Montreal, Quebec, Canada 15 August 1900 on board the *Corinthian*.

2. **James McLEAN** born 22 October 1879 at Hillside. His father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. James started work for the Falkland Islands Company Ltd in their Camp 3 December 1894 and worked for them until 19 May 1900. James arrived with his family in Montreal, Quebec, Canada 15 August 1900 on board the *Corinthian*.
3. **Margaret McLEAN** born 2 August 1881 at Fitzroy. Her father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Margaret, a domestic, arrived with her family in Montreal, Quebec, Canada 15 August 1900 on board the *Corinthian*. Margaret, daughter of Archibald late of Hillside, Darwin, was married to **John W BRADLEY** 6 August 1902 by Reverend J W Litch in Calgary, Canada. [FIM Dec 1902] Margaret, age 37, died 11 May 1919 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada and was buried in Section S, Union Cemetery, Calgary.
4. **Catherine McLEAN** born 11 February 1883 at Hillside and baptised 13 March 1883 by The United Non-Conformist Church. Her father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Catherine arrived with her family in Montreal, Quebec, Canada 15 August 1900 on board the *Corinthian*. Catherine had a severe attack of rheumatic fever immediately after reaching Canada and never really recovered. Catherine, age 22, died 24 November 1906 in Holy Cross Hospital, Calgary, Alberta, Canada. [FIM Mar 1906] Catherine was buried in Section J, Union Cemetery, Calgary.
5. **Agnes McLEAN** born 30 October 1884 at Hillside and baptised 11 November 1884 by the United Non-Conformist Church. Her father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Agnes arrived with her family in Montreal, Quebec, Canada 15 August 1900 on board the *Corinthian*. Agnes was married to **Lincoln Edward RIDEOUT** (*not in the Falkland Islands*). Agnes, age 78, died 2 May 1963 in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, and was buried in Westlawn Memorial Gardens, Edmonton.
6. **Isabella McLEAN** born 7 May 1887 at Hillside and baptised 12 August 1887 by the United Non-Conformist Church. Her father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Isabella arrived with her family in Montreal, Quebec, Canada 15 August 1900 on board the *Corinthian*.
7. **John McLEAN** born 18 September 1888 at Hillside and baptised 13 November 1888 by the United Non-Conformist Church. His father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. John arrived with his family in Montreal, Quebec, Canada 15 August 1900 on board the *Corinthian*.
8. **Jane McLEAN** born 17 March 1890 at Hillside and baptised 26 November 1890 by Holy Trinity Church. Her father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Jane arrived with her family in Montreal, Quebec, Canada 15 August 1900 on board the *Corinthian*.
9. **Peter McLEAN** born 24 December 1891 at Hillside House and baptised 29 April 1892 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Peter arrived with his family in Montreal, Quebec, Canada 15 August 1900 on board the *Corinthian*.
10. **William McLEAN** born 29 July 1894 at Hillside and baptised 9 August 1894 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. William arrived with his family in Montreal, Quebec, Canada 15 August 1900 on board the *Corinthian*.
11. **Mary McLEAN** born 22 June 1898 and baptised 19 August 1898 by Christ Church Cathedral. Her father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Mary arrived with her family in Montreal, Quebec, Canada 15 August 1900 on board the *Corinthian*. Mary was married to **Arnold Wilfred LONGSON** (*not in the Falkland Islands*). Mary, age 88, died January 1987 in High River, Calgary, Alberta, Canada and was buried in Mountain View Memorial Gardens, Calgary.