

## Research on Robert Williams and Martha Badrock

Up until January 2007, our research into the Williams family was been at a standstill as we tried to locate records of g.g. grandfather Robert Williams and his wife Martha Badrock. We had their names from the marriage registration of their son Andrew James Williams to Jane Elliot in 1882 in Paisley, Scotland but we did not know where they were from. Oral family history indicated that Robert was from Shrewsbury, Shropshire and worked later in Crewe, probably with the railroads in boiler making. Unconfirmed information that Robert's daughter Alice is buried a Shrewsbury Abbey kept us searching in that area. Minor confusion over Andrew's name didn't help (he tended to go by James) and various census reports only indicated that he was from England. Internet searches turned up too many results for the name Robert and there were no marriages found for Badrock after numerous tries.

Our break came with the discovery that the LDS records had misspelled Martha's name as Bodrock. A simple error but one that kept us in the dark. The LDS record (page attached) made it fairly simple to locate the family in the Cheshire census. This research work was done by Eleanor Gill, a family relation on my mother's side, and we were able to assemble the data below. Andrew James is shown as simply James. A second LDS record (page attached) has subsequently been found that spells the name Badrock correctly and provides exact dates for the birth of Robert, the deaths of Robert and Martha and the birth and death of their daughter Martha (but no marriage date). Martha and her mother both died at Prescott, Manchester, Lancashire. We presume that these records differ because the first is the government registration and the second may be church records.

The addresses below are all within a few miles of each other in the Borough of Crewe. The townships, parishes and electoral districts changed names quite frequently. In the 1891 census Robert's occupation is listed with the initials of his employer. It reads "L&NW Ry" which would be the London and North Western Railway which had large workshops at Crewe. All of the other people on the same census page have the same employer so one would presume that the company owned the houses.

### 1891 Census – 8 Ramsbottom , Crewe, Cheshire (Coppenhall Monks district 33)

Robert Williams	Head	M	62	General Labourer <i>R&amp;NW Ry Plate</i>	Acton	Cheshire
Martha do	Wife	M	61		Tilston	do
Ellen do	Daur	S	25	Dressmaker	Crewe	do
Elizabeth do	Daur	S	19		Coppenhall	do
Richard do	Grandson	S	5	Scholar	Crewe	do
Elizabeth do	Grandaur	S	3		do	do

### 1881 Census – 8 Adelaide St., Crewe, Cheshire (Monks Coppenhall district 11)

Robert Williams	Head	Mar	52	General Labourer	Acton N. Nantwich	Cheshire
Martha do	Wife	Mar	51		Bunbury	Cheshire
David do	Son		19	No Profession	Crewe	do
Walter do	Son		17	do	do	do
Martha do	Daur		12	Scholar	do	do
Elizabeth do	Daur		9	do	do	do

1871 Census – 7 Church Coppenhall , Crewe, Cheshire (Coppenhall Church district 6)

Registration District: Nantwich, Sub District: Wybunbury

Robert Williams	Head	Mar	42	Labourer	Cheshire Acton, Rare Bridge
Martha	do	Wife	Mar	41	do Tilston, Bunbury
Marriah	do	Daur	Un	21	Servant do Bunbury
James	do	Son		12	Scholar do Church Coppenhall
David	do	Son		9	do do do
Walter	do	Son		7	do do do
Elen	do	Daur		5	do do do
Martha	do	Daur		2	do do do

1861 Census: #6 Marshfield Lane, Crewe, Cheshire (Monks Coppenhall district 6)

Robert Williams	Head	Mar	33	Labourer, Rail	Cheshire Acton
Martha	do	Wife	Mar	31	do Bunbury
Ann	do	Daur		9	Scholar do Coppenhall
Emma	do	Daur		7	do do do
Alice	do	Daur		4	do do do
James	do	Son		2	do do do

*Note: Marshfield Lane does not appear to exist any longer. It may now be Marshfield Avenue.*

1851 Census:

Robert appears as a farm labourer in Bostock Township, working for Samuel Sherman, a farmer of 207 acres. This is consistent with his marriage certificate. This farm may be a part of the Bostock Hall estate owned by the France-Hayhurst family. Robert's place of birth is listed as Stoke, which is a township in Acton Parish, Nantwich Hundred. This revises/confuses things, as we thought that he was born in the town of Acton but then again there is Acton Township to deal with as well.

There is a Martha Badrock, age 21, born about 1830 in Tilston, Cheshire who is a servant for Grocer & Tea Dealer, John Sutcliffe and family at 33 Heaton Lane, Stockport, Parish of Heaton Norris, County of Lancashire. This only about 18 miles from Bostock.

There are some interesting entries in 1841 for Williams and Badrock. Further research is required in various parish records to confirm that these are related families.

1841 Census: Church Bank, Nantwich, Sub-District Bunbury, Cheshire

James Badrock - born about 1806  
Ann Badrock - born about 1811  
*Martha Badrock - born about 1830*  
John Badrock - born about 1833  
William Badrock - born about 1836  
Ann Badrock - born about 1839

*Note: All of the above born in Cheshire*

1841 Census: Winsford, Parish Wharton, Civil Parish of Davenham, Northwich, Cheshire

John Williams born about 1791

Elizabeth Williams, born about 1796

Richard Williams, born about 1826

Mary Williams, born about 1831

*Robert Williams, born about 1831*

Henry Walter Williams, born about 1838

*Note: All of the above born in Cheshire*

*Notes: 1. the names Elizabeth, Richard, Mary and Walter all crop up in later Williams families  
2. Robert and Martha were married at the Wharton church in the Winsford area.*

**In summary** (as is currently known):

Robert Williams, b. 28 Dec 1828 at Stoke, Acton Parish, Cheshire

d. 03 JAN 1896 Crewe, Nantwich, Cheshire, England

Martha Badrock b. abt 1830 at Bunbury, Cheshire

d. 15 OCT 1899 Prescott, Manchester, Lancashire, England

Married 12 Jun 1851 at Wharton Church, Davenham, Cheshire, England

Children of Robert and Martha:

Mariah (Mary)	b. 1850	Bunbury, Cheshire	christened 31 Dec 1850	Tarvin, Cheshire
Ann	b. 1852	Crewe, Cheshire		
Emma	b. 1854	Crewe, Cheshire		
Alice	b. 1857	Crewe, Cheshire		
James	b. 1859	Crewe, Cheshire		
David	b. 1862	Crewe, Cheshire		
Walter	b. 1864	Crewe, Cheshire		
Ellen	b. 1866	Crewe, Cheshire		
Martha	b. 21 MAR 1869	Church Coppenhall, Nantwich, Cheshire, England		
	d. 09 APR 1938	Prescott, Manchester, Lancashire, England		
Elizabeth	b. 1872	Church Coppenhall		

*Notes:*

*1. Although the marriage registration clearly shows 'Bodrick' for both Martha and her father, there have been no births, deaths or other marriages under 'Bodrick' in all of Cheshire from the start of the registration of vital statistics in 1837 until this day. The second LDS record located clearly has it as Badrock.*

*2. The Williams/Badrock marriage registration lists Robert's residence as Bostock Hall. Bostock Hall was the estate of the France-Hayhurst family and no doubt they were his employer. The France-Hayhurst family was were held in very high esteem in the town and formed a major part of Middlewich's history, having taken over the Bostock estate in 1775 and employed many locals in its maintenance. The hall was sold to the council in the 1950s and operated for a time as a school but in the years that followed it was left unoccupied and it began to fall to ruin, until it was transformed into a luxurious new £12 million housing estate in the 1990s.*

*3. The Prescott referred to above may be Prescot Parish or the town of Prescot.*

## **BMD Registration #'s from the website <http://www.cheshirebmd.org.uk/>**

Which states;

“The Register Offices in the county of Cheshire, England, hold records of local births, marriages and deaths back to the start of civil registration in 1837. The county's Family History Society is collaborating with the local Registration Services to make the indexes to these records freely searchable via the Internet.”

I was able to find the following registrations for Williams family members:

Marriage of Robert and Martha	#153/1/9 <i>(copy now held see note 1 above)</i>
Mariah (Mary) b. 1850 Bunbury	3 to chose from # CR/07/047, #CR/07/067 or #CR/09/011
Ann b. 1852 Crewe, Cheshire	#CR/10/086
Emma b. 1854 Crewe, Cheshire	two possibilities #BU/09/100 (Bunbury) or as Emily #CR/12/092 (Crewe)
Alice b. 1857 Crewe, Cheshire	#CR/16/091
James b. 1859 ? Crewe, Cheshire	two James in 1858 #CR/25/041 or #CR/25/051
David b. 1862 Crewe, Cheshire	#CR/21/090
Walter b. 1864 Crewe, Cheshire	two Walters #CR/25/041 or #CR/25/051
Ellen b. 1866 Crewe, Cheshire	#CR/28/081
Martha b. 1869 Crewe, Cheshire	#CR/35/078
Elizabeth b. 1872 Crewe, Cheshire	choice between Elizabeth Ann in 1871 #CR/40/052 and Jane Elizabeth in 1872 #CR/42/054

Grandchildren: Richard b.1886 #CR/80/081

Elizabeth b.1888 #CR/87/018

*These children belong to either David or Walter Williams and may be from one of the marriages listed below.*

### **Deaths**

Martha's death ? in 1899 #CR/59/034 (LDS record says in Lancashire though)

Robert's Death – two choices 1896 #CR/53/031 or 1899 #CR/59/023

### **Possible Badrock Siblings ?**

Since registration started in 1837 the following birth registrations from Bunbury are a stab in the dark trying to identify Martha Badrock's brothers and sisters. These are the only Badrock births in Bunbury between 1841 and 1851.

BADROCK, Ann	Bunbury	Cheshire Central	BU/02/080
BADROCK, George	Bunbury	Cheshire Central	BU/02/100
BADROCK, Joseph	Bunbury	Cheshire Central	BU/02/098
BADROCK, Martha	Bunbury	Cheshire Central	BU/02/080
BADROCK, Samuel	Bunbury	Cheshire Central	BU/02/088

### **Marriages – Children of Robert & Martha ?**

The registration documents of these marriages should show the parents names and perhaps help to find later generations of Williams relatives.

WILLIAMS, David	JEFFS, Mary	Alvanley, St John	Cheshire Central	102/1/42
WILLIAMS, Walter	SPARKE, Christina	Nantwich, Civil Marriage	Cheshire Central	N19/91
WILLIAMS, Walter	SANDBACH, Louisa	Northwich, Civil Marriage	Cheshire Central	NOR/11/93
WILLIAMS, Mary	BICKERTON, Joseph	Coppenhall (Crewe), St Michael	Cheshire Central	120/3/30

### **Badrock Marriages - Children of James & Ann ?**

BADRICK, William	DEVENPORT, Elizabeth	Burwardsley, St John	Cheshire West	CE8/1/15
BADROCK, William	WOOLLEY, Mary	Hartford, St John	Cheshire Central	127/1/36
BADROCK, Ann	DAVIES, John	Chester, St Mary	Cheshire West	CE14/5/99
BADRICK, Joseph	BAILEY, Ann	Bunbury, St Boniface	Cheshire Central	111/2/227
BADROCK, Joseph	EDGLEY, Elizabeth	Coppenhall (Crewe), St Michael	Cheshire Central	120/2/331
BADROCK, Joseph	ELLIOT, Lavinia	Crewe, Christ Church	Cheshire Central	114/1/204
BADROCK, Joseph	WILLIAMS, Ann	Chester, St Mary	Cheshire West	CE14/6/345
BADRICK, John	JOHNSON, Charlotte	Church Minshull, St Bartholomew	Cheshire Central	113/1/103
BADRICK, Joseph	BLACKBURN, Louisa	Nantwich, Civil Marriage	Cheshire Central	N9/57
BADRICK, William	BENNETT, Ellen	Acton, St Mary	Cheshire Central	101/2/349
BADROCK, John	DAVIES, Annie	Heaton Mersey, St John	Stockport	ST3/1/172
BADRICK, Joseph	HEATH, Frances	Bunbury, St Boniface	Cheshire Central	111/3/99

## Family Group Record

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### Husband

[Robert Williams](#)[Pedigree](#)

**Birth:** 1828 Acton, Nantwich, Cheshire, England  
**Christening:**  
**Marriage:** 12 JUN 1851 Wharton Church, Davenham, Cheshire, England  
**Death:**  
**Burial:**

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### Wife

[Martha Bodrock](#)[Pedigree](#)

**Birth:** 1829 Bunbury, Cheshire, England  
**Christening:**  
**Marriage:** 12 JUN 1851 Wharton Church, Davenham, Cheshire, England  
**Death:** 15 OCT 1899 Crewe, , Cheshire, England  
**Burial:**

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### Children

1. [Mary Bodrock Williams](#)[Pedigree](#)

Female

**Birth:** 1850 Bunbury, Cheshire, England  
**Christening:** 31 DEC 1850 Tarvin, Cheshire, England  
**Death:**  
**Burial:**

2. [Alice Williams](#)[Pedigree](#)

Female

**Birth:** About 1857 Coppenhall, Cheshire, England  
**Christening:**  
**Death:**  
**Burial:**

3. [James Williams](#)[Pedigree](#)

Male

**Birth:** About 1859 Coppenhall, Cheshire, England  
**Christening:**  
**Death:**  
**Burial:**

4. [Ellen Williams](#)[Pedigree](#)

Female

**Birth:** 1866 Coppenhall, Cheshire, England  
**Christening:**  
**Death:**  
**Burial:**



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**Husband**[Robert Williams](#)[Pedigree](#)**Birth:** 28 DEC 1828 Acton, Nantwich, Cheshire, England**Christening:****Marriage:****Death:** 03 JAN 1896 Crewe, Nantwich, Cheshire, England**Burial:**

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**Wife**[Martha Badrock](#)[Pedigree](#)**Birth:** 1830 Bunbury, Cheshire, England**Christening:****Marriage:****Death:** 15 OCT 1899 Prescott, Manchester, Lancashire, England**Burial:**

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**Children**

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1. [David Williams](#)[Pedigree](#)

Male

**Birth:** 1862 Crewe, Nantwich, Cheshire, England**Christening:****Death:****Burial:**

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2. [Walter Williams](#)[Pedigree](#)

Male

**Birth:** 1864 Crewe, Nantwich, Cheshire, England**Christening:****Death:****Burial:**

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3. [Martha Williams](#)[Pedigree](#)

Female

**Birth:** 21 MAR 1869 Church Coppenhall, Nantwich, Cheshire, England**Christening:****Death:** 09 APR 1938 Prescott, Manchester, Lancashire, England**Burial:**

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4. [Elizabeth Williams](#)[Pedigree](#)

Female

**Birth:** 1872 Crewe, Nantwich, Cheshire, England  
**Christening:**  
**Death:**  
**Burial:**

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