

Samuel KEIGHTLEY 1818 – 1878

Web page: <https://iansquire.com/tng/getperson.php?personID=I378&tree=squire>

Samuel's family had farmed in the Loughborough area of Leicestershire for generations, but by the 1841 census, his father had died at a relatively young age. As the youngest of five children, and having an older brother, Samuel probably felt he had little chance of inheriting the family farm. In 1842, at the age of 24 years, he married Eliza STEWART, in the wonderfully named village of Thorpe Acre, in Leicestershire. The couple stayed in the county of Leicestershire, but their first four children were born in Leicester, Loughborough and Nottingham, all quite close to the farm. Samuel would have spent some of this time working on the farm, but, after his marriage, may have worked and lived in the towns where his children were born. Samuel set off for Australia in 1850, bringing his wife and four young children to a new land in Adelaide, Australia.

Samuel's great grandfather was Jarvis KEITLEY, as recorded on his marriage certificate, and he was Jervis on his birth certificate. Clearly, spelling was not important at this time. It indicates Jervis was probably illiterate and the church rector wrote his name as it sounded. He was born in 1740, in Hathern (1), which is around 20km south of Nottingham. He married Catharine BROWN in 1760, and had a son Thomas KEIGHTLEY in 1760.

Jervis KEITLEY,
born, married
and died at
Hathern (1).



Samuel's grandfather Thomas KEIGHTLEY was born in 1760, at Hathorn in Leicestershire. Hathorn, Thorpe Acre, Dishley and Loughborough are within about one kilometre from each other, and some 20 km south of Nottingham in central England. These places all feature in this story. Thomas married Mary HEARNE in 1782 in the village of Frisby on the Weake, a bit further to the east of Hathern. They moved to Loughborough where their three children were born (that I can find records for), and the eldest of these was John KEIGHTLEY, born 1783.

Samuel's father, John, was a farmer at Thorpe Acre, Dishley. He married Eleanor PALMER in 1803 in Loughborough, and had five children. John had died before 1841, and Eleanor was shown as head of household in the 1841 census, so would have been running the farm with the help of her two sons and five boarders. However, one son was soon to marry and head to Australia.

During John's lifetime, Loughborough was growing in size rapidly, with around 10,000 inhabitants in the early 1800s. It was a small manufacturing town, and worsted hosiery, and cotton hosiery, were being produced at this time. The river Soar flows near the town, and there is a major rail line and canal nearby as well. The town has a large bell foundry, a locomotive manufacturing works, and William MORRIS built cars there.

Samuel KEIGHTLEY was born in May 1818, the youngest child of John and Eleanor. Samuel stayed on the farm until he married Eliza STEWART in December 1842. Their first child was born in Leicester in 1843, and the next three were born in or near Loughborough, County Leicestershire. Samuel and his small family left England in June and arrived at Port Adelaide on 7 September 1850. Five more children were born in Angaston, so this was likely the location of his first residence. He is recorded in the almanac of 1864, in Angaston, as 'farmer, near Angaston'.

At the time of Samuel's death in 1878, at Napperby, twenty or so kilometres east of Port Pirie, Samuel was listed as a butcher and baker. He probably learnt one of these skills in England before he emigrated, and the other in Angaston. He also had farming experience, so these occupations would have been an unusual but quite a good mix for a small country town. It is not clear what caused the move to Napperby, but Samuel and Eliza brought 9 children into this world, with seven living into adulthood. Four were born in England, and five in Angaston.

The third son and fourth child was Herbert KEIGHTLEY. He was only a few months old when the family left England, but grew up in Angaston, and married an Adelaide girl, Helen THOMSON, in Napperby in 1877. Herbert and Helen seemed rather nomadic, for their children were born in Warnertown, Quorn, Exeter, North Adelaide and Moonta. The youngest child was born in 1891. Soon after, the whole family moved to Perth, where Herbert had a number of failed farming ventures. He was trying to farm in poor areas, and a 'rust' disease and drought did not help his endeavours. Helen died in Perth in 1924, and Herbert in 1934. His obituary stated he was a long-time commercial traveller in the wine industry, always moving around on foot.

It is always instructive to search for names in TROVE, and for Herbert, we find quite a bit. Herbert was a baker in Napperby in the mid 1880's, according to the 1885 Sands and Mac directory. Other family members also ran a grocery shop, probably in the same premises. It was reported in local papers (TROVE) that the general store caught fire and burnt to the ground on the night of 18 January 1888. Unfortunately, the smouldering fire flared up a couple of hours later, in strong winds, and destroyed the hotel next door as well (see a newspaper report, below). Herbert must have left Napperby before the fire, because he is shown as the publican of the Pier hotel in Port Germein in 1887, the Oxford hotel in North Adelaide 1888-1890, and the Royal hotel in Moonta 1890-1894. Later, he is listed as Storekeeper at Maylands, from where the family moved to Western Australia. While in Moonta in 2019, Anne and myself had a meal in the Royal hotel, and I have attached a photo as it is now. Outside, it does not seem to have changed much.



Four of Herbert and Helen's seven children eventually came back to South Australia to live, some marrying in Perth, and others in Adelaide. We are interested in Herbert's third son, Herbert Clair KEIGHTLEY, born in Quorn in 1882, and marrying Amy CHAMBERS, an Adelaide girl, in Perth in 1916. Did she follow her sweetheart interstate? Herbert and Amy's first child was born in Perth, and the next two in Adelaide. Bert, as he was known, died in 1960, so was known by Anne and Barbara. Bert was described both as a farmer and retired machinist. He worked for some time with the Cyclone Wire Works, a Company set up by his wife's family in Melbourne, but expanded into NSW and SA.

Raymond KEIGHTLEY was Bert and Amy's middle child, born in 1920. We know much more about Ray as he lived within our lifetime. Ray met Joan LANGDON at an Adelaide dance, and married in 1943, during a short period where Ray organised Army Leave. His apprenticeship was as a fitter and turner, and later he worked with the Caroma company for many years, ending up as factory manager. He served in World War Two with Engineer teams, building roads in the Northern Territory, and serving in Papua New Guinea and Borneo at the time of the Japanese surrender. We have many photographs from this time. There is sufficient material to write a separate book on Ray's life, including his army service. He was also a highly skilled operatic bass singer, but his post war traumatic stress did not allow him to reach his full potential.

Ray returned from war service early in 1946, and he and Joan lived with Joan's parents, Gordon and Effie LANGDON until 1948 when their new house was built. They lived at 13 Cooper Angas Grove, Wattle Park till Ray's death in 1998. Joan sold the house in 2000 and lived in a retirement village till 2010, when she moved to an aged care home, where she died in 2014. It was at Wattle Park that their four children, Anne, Barbara, Paul and Pam, were born. They have all married and themselves have children and grandchildren. Ray and Joan's descendants now live in South Australia, Victoria, and Queensland. Between the people in these families, they have a wide range of skills and professions, including computing, accounting, teaching and nursing.

Wattle Park house, 1996.



Anne married Graham SQUIRE in 1970, and had two children, Michael and Christopher.

Barbara married John HURST in 1970, and had two children Nathan and David.

Paul married Gina WINES in 1977, and had three children, Stephen, Erika and Ryan.

Pamela married Grant CARMAN, and had two children, Zoe and James.

NEWS – Transcribed from ‘The South Australian Advertiser’ (Adelaide, SA 1858-1889) Tuesday 22 January 1878, page 6.

PORT PIRIE. [From our own Correspondent.] January 17.

It is with regret I have to chronicle another disastrous fire at the Government Dam, Napperby, following within a few hours on the heels of the destruction of Messrs. Keightley's store and premises. Between 1 and 2 o'clock this morning Mrs. Goldney, wife of the lessee of the Dam Hotel, noticed a glare outside, and on going out to see the cause found the wood heap and a wooden attachment of the hotel on fire. The alarm was immediately given, but in less than half an hour the flames had a complete hold of the building, and before much could be done the place was gutted. Some energetic volunteer neighbors and the occupants of the hotel, amongst whom I am told Police-trooper Newenham was conspicuous, worked hard to stay the progress of the flames, and save whatever could be removed.

The roof was cut in two places, but without avail, the strong and boisterous winds prevailing causing the fire to sweep everything before it. Some furniture was saved from three bedrooms, but that was all. The servant girl had only been got out of the kitchen about two minutes when the roof fell in. The property, like that of Mr. Keightley, was uninsured, with the exception of the haystack, which was left intact through the wind blowing from it.

It is supposed the fire originated through the high winds blowing off the ashes from burning embers at Keightley's fire of the previous morning, and carrying sparks to the wood heap of the hotel, which was not far from Keightley's. The hotel and Keightley's store were on the same reserve, and only a few yards from each other. I have been assured by a farmer who was on the scene of Keightley's fire at 8 o'clock last night that there was no more sign of fire where the store had stood than could be found on a bare floor.

Everybody else was under the impression also that the fire was safely out, and that no danger was to be apprehended. These facts tend to point the finger of suspicion to incendiarism, and may lead to further enquiry. In my report of last night I stated that an enquiry would be held as to the cause of the fire, but the places being uninsured it was not necessary in either case.

Related Surnames Through Marriage

This section is rather sparse because Samuel and Eliza came to Adelaide quite early, in 1850, and reliable, earlier information is harder to find. I am quite confident that this information is the correct lineage, but I cannot ask anyone who was there at the time. There is, however, another researcher who does not think John KEIGHTLEY is correctly linked with this family. I cannot find evidence to support the claim to my satisfaction, but I need to research this some more.

Eliza Wilson STEWART 1821-1895

Samuel KEIGHTLEY's wife was Eliza, born in 1821 in Walsingham, Norfolk. Her parents were Ebenezer STEWART and Eliza WILSON, but I cannot find a transcript of their marriage record.

Eleanor PALMER 1780-1845

Eleanor was Samuel KEIGHTLEY's mother, and she married John KEIGHTLEY in 1803 in Loughborough. Eleanor PALMER was born in 1780 in Bishop Middleham, Durham. Her parents were William PALMER and Elizabeth HARRISON.

Mary HEARNE

Mary was Samuel KEIGHTLEY's grandmother, and she married Thomas KEIGHTLEY in 1782 in Frisby on the Weake, Leicestershire. Mary HEARNE was born in 1760 in Hathern Leicestershire. I could not find details of her parents.

Catharine BROWN

Catharine was Samuel KEIGHTLEY's great grandmother, and she married Jervis KEITLEY in 1760 in Hathern. Catharine BROWN was born around 1740 in Hathern, and heavily pregnant at the time of their marriage. I could not find a birth certificate for her, nor a marriage certificate for her parents.

Facebook Summary

Samuel's family had farmed in the Loughborough area of Leicestershire for generations, but by the 1841 census, his father had died at a relatively young age. As the youngest of five children, and having an older brother, Samuel probably felt he had little chance of inheriting the family farm. In 1842, at the age of 24 years, he married Eliza STEWART, in the wonderfully named village of Thorpe Acre, in Leicestershire. The couple stayed in the county of Leicestershire, but their first four children were born in Leicester, Loughborough and Nottingham, all quite close to the farm. Samuel would have spent some of this time working on the farm, but, after his marriage, may have worked and lived in the towns where his children were born. Samuel set off for Australia in 1850, bringing his wife and four young children to a new land in Adelaide, Australia.

Samuel's parents were John KEIGHTLEY and Eleanor PALMER. They married in 1803 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, where Samuel grew up.

Samuel's grandparents were Thomas KEIGHTLEY and Mary HEARNE. They married in 1782 in Frisby on the Weake, which is about 15km east of Loughborough.

Samuel's great grandparents were Jervis KEITLEY and Catharine BROWN. They were married in Hathern in 1760, very close to Loughborough.

These four generations did not stray very far at all, till Samuel took off to the other side of the world in 1850.

Samuel KEIGHTLEY

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♂ 1818 - 1878 (60 years)

Generation: 1

[More detail](#)

1. Samuel KEIGHTLEY was born on 2 May 1818 in Thorpe Acre, Dishley, Leicestershire, England (son of [John KEIGHTLEY](#) and [Eleanor PALMER](#)); died on 4 Jun 1878 in Napperby, South Australia, Australia.

Samuel married Eliza Wilson STEWART on 13 Dec 1842 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England. Eliza (daughter of [Ebenezer STEWART](#) and [Lucy WILSON](#)) was born on 14 Jul 1821 in Walsingham, Norfolk, England; was christened on 30 May 1821 in Walsingham, Norfolk, England; died on 16 May 1895 in Whitmore Square, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia. [[Group Sheet](#)]

Children:

- i. John Charles KEIGHTLEY was born in 1843 in Leicester, Leicestershire, England; died on 8 Jan 1925 in Truro, South Australia, Australia; was buried in Truro, South Australia, Australia.
- ii. Caroline James KEIGHTLEY was born in 1845 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England; died on 30 Dec 1906 in Frederick Street, Gilberton, South Australia, Australia.
- iii. Charles Stanford KEIGHTLEY was born on 21 Feb 1848 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England; died on 4 Feb 1927 in Wakefield Street, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia; was buried in Methodist Cemetery, Warooka, South Australia, Australia.
- iv. Herbert KEIGHTLEY was born in 1850 in Nottingham, England; died on 5 Jun 1934.
- v. Stewart Palmer KEIGHTLEY was born on 20 Oct 1853 in Angaston, South Australia, Australia; died on 15 Apr 1887 in Whitmore Square, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia.
- vi. Clarendon KEIGHTLEY was born on 21 Jul 1856 in Angaston, South Australia, Australia; died on 28 Dec 1871 in Angaston, South Australia, Australia.
- vii. Angelina KEIGHTLEY was born on 9 May 1860 in Angaston, South Australia, Australia; died on 25 Jan 1861 in Angaston, South Australia, Australia.
- viii. Florence Eleanor KEIGHTLEY was born on 17 May 1862 in Angaston, South Australia, Australia; died on 20 Oct 1869 in Angaston, South Australia, Australia.
- ix. Stanley Morton KEIGHTLEY was born on 9 Mar 1864 in Angaston, South Australia, Australia; died on 14 Sep 1937 in Glenelg, South Australia, Australia.

Generation: 2

2. John KEIGHTLEY was born in 1783 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England; was christened on 31 Jan 1783 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England (son of [Thomas KEIGHTLEY](#) and [Mary HEARNE](#)); died on 22 Sep 1829 in Thorpe Acre, Dishley, Leicestershire, England.

John married [Eleanor PALMER](#) on 6 Jun 1803 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England. Eleanor (daughter of [William PALMER](#) and [Elizabeth HARRISON](#)) was born in 1780 in Bishop Middleham, Durham, England; was christened on 23 Aug 1780 in Bishop Middleham, Durham, England; was buried in Mar 1845 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England. [[Group Sheet](#)]

3. Eleanor PALMER was born in 1780 in Bishop Middleham, Durham, England; was christened on 23 Aug 1780 in Bishop Middleham, Durham, England (daughter of [William PALMER](#) and [Elizabeth HARRISON](#)); was buried in Mar 1845 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England.

Children:

- i. Jane KEIGHTLEY was born on 11 May 1805 in Thorpe Acre, Dishley, Leicestershire, England.
- ii. John KEIGHTLEY was born on 29 Mar 1807 in Thorpe Acre, Dishley, Leicestershire, England.
- iii. [Helen KEIGHTLEY](#) was born on 24 Dec 1808 in Thorpe Acre, Dishley, Leicestershire, England.
- iv. [Mary KEIGHTLEY](#) was born on 5 Sep 1810 in Thorpe Acre, Dishley, Leicestershire, England.
- v. 1. [Samuel KEIGHTLEY](#) was born on 2 May 1818 in Thorpe Acre, Dishley, Leicestershire, England; died on 4 Jun 1878 in Napperby, South Australia, Australia.

Generation: 3

4. Thomas KEIGHTLEY was born in 1760 in Hathern, Leicestershire, England; was christened on 14 Jun 1760 in Hathern, Leicestershire, England (son of [Jervis KEITLEY](#) and [Catharine BROWN](#)); died on 24 May 1835 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England.

Thomas married [Mary HEARNE](#) on 7 Jan 1782 in Frisby on the Wreake, Leicestershire, England. Mary was born in in Sheepshead, Leicestershire, England. [[Group Sheet](#)]

5. [Mary HEARNE](#) was born in in Sheepshead, Leicestershire, England.

Children:

- i. 2. **John KEIGHTLEY** was born in 1783 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England; was christened on 31 Jan 1783 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England; died on 22 Sep 1829 in Thorpe Acre, Dishley, Leicestershire, England.
- ii. **Charles KEIGHTLEY** was born in 1786 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England; was christened on 14 Oct 1786 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England; died in Oct 1800 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England; was buried on 5 Oct 1800 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England.
- iii. **Mary Ann KEIGHTLEY** was christened on 1 Aug 1789 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England.

6. William PALMER

William married **Elizabeth HARRISON**. [[Group Sheet](#)]

7. Elizabeth HARRISON

Children:

- i. 3. **Eleanor PALMER** was born in 1780 in Bishop Middleham, Durham, England; was christened on 23 Aug 1780 in Bishop Middleham, Durham, England; was buried in Mar 1845 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England.

Generation: 4

8. **Jervis KEITLEY** was born in 1740 in Hathern, Leicestershire, England; was christened on 5 Oct 1740 in Hathern, Leicestershire, England; died on 10 Sep 1782 in Hathern, Leicestershire, England; was buried on 11 Sep 1782 in Hathern, Leicestershire, England.

Jervis married **Catharine BROWN** on 16 Mar 1760 in Hathern, Leicestershire, England. [[Group Sheet](#)]

9. Catharine BROWN

Children:

- i. 4. **Thomas KEIGHTLEY** was born in 1760 in Hathern, Leicestershire, England; was christened on 14 Jun 1760 in Hathern, Leicestershire, England; died on 24 May 1835 in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England.