

Following, is the version of the pedigree that I (JBR) have been able to verify from the primary records evidence I've assembled below, in a [TIMELINE](#), and from [the Canadian Census](#). Data that I haven't been able to verify is enclosed [within editorial square brackets].

- 1-Samuel Shaw (abt 1811 IRE - 31Aug1858 SimcoeCo, Ontario, CAN)
 - m. 1Oct1835 Mary Ann ROSS, in Mono Twp, Home District, Ontario, CAN
- 2-Robert [Harper?] Shaw (abt Sep1838 Ont,CAN - 13Mar1915 Mulmur, DufferinCo, Ontario, CAN)
 - m. 12Aug1863 Jane GILPIN, in Mulmur, SimcoeCo, Ontario, CAN
- 3-Samuel Shaw (19May1864 Shelburne, DufferinCo, Ontario, CAN - [?10Jan1918 Lethbridge, Alberta, CAN?])
 - m. 12Jul1886 Hannah Jane CUNNINGHAM, in Barrie, SimcoeCo, Ontario, CAN
- 4-Samuel Henry Shaw (7Aug1893 Everett, SimcoeCo, Ontario, CAN - 31Dec1969 Victoria, BC, CAN)
 - m. Christine Jean STAFFORD
- 5-Samuel Henry Shaw
 - 6-Leslie Wayne Shaw
- 3-Robert Shaw ([18Feb1868 - 21Sep1937 Mulmer, DufferinCoOnt) s/o Robert & Jane GELPIN {DC}
- 2-Samuel [Edward?] Shaw (abt 12Jul184[9?] - 7Aug1918 MonoTwp, DufferinCo, Ontario, CAN)
 - m. May1871 Elizabeth ROBB (abt 18Nov1846 Ontario - 18Dec18[21?])

Although I've made no effort here to fill out any of these families, I've abstracted the data for 1-Samuel's son 2-Samuel, because I searched comprehensively for Samuel SHAWs and he came up in the same areas as 2-Robert, and with the same parents, buttresses Robert's story. Likewise, I abstracted the birth record of 3-Samuel's daughter Harriett because it helps tie together the census records for this couple.

Some jurisdictional place notes and maps

The early SHAWs of this line first appear with Samuel's 1835 marriage to Mary [Ann] Ross in Mono Township, Home District, Ontario—not in Algoma District, which wasn't organized until 1858, and is well to the NW, just north of Michigan.

Later records place Samuel and offspring in Mono, adjacent Mulmur Twp, or in Shelburne town (adjacent to both), all of them falling into newly organized DufferinCo as of 1881. Mono and Mulmur in SE Dufferin were contributed by SimcoeCo, and Shelburne by GreyCo.

The township of Tosorontio, SimcoeCo, which figures into a couple of the following vital records was amalgamated in 1894 into the township of Adjala, SimcoeCo, both of them adjacent to NE DufferinCo to the west.

[MAPs of Early Ontario Districts](#)

[MAP of Northern Ontario Districts](#) (Algoma created there in 1858)

[MAP of Ontario South counties and their townships](#)

There's a Simcoe County in Southern Ontario, and also a Simcoe District in NorfolkCo, Southern Ontario

[Early MAP of SimcoeCo, Ontario, townships](#)

[Early MAP of DufferinCo, Ontario, townships](#)

Key search portals for genealogical records, primary and secondary

[The LDS FamilySearch Catalog](#)

(a search by Place brings up records categories, then specific record sets, each with links to digitized films)

[The general FamilySearch Search form](#)

[The Canadian Census databases at Ancestry.com](#) (requires a paid subscription to access)

[Miscellaneous Ontario Genealogical Resources](#)

TIMELINE of Evidence, in chronological order

Virtually all of this evidence cites primary (original manuscript) sources, and provides links to the images of those sources.

Surnames other than those of officials, have been rendered in all caps in the following abstracts to facilitate eyeball scanning..

Standard abbreviations of given names have been expanded within square brackets (e.g. “W[illia]m”), and quoted extracts, in accord with the conventions defined for [my REM transcription rules](#).

For some of these images of primary records, I chased down and cited the digitized FamilySearch film, and the original record citation information; for others, though, I just linked to the generically cited, out of records context, Ancestry.com image.

Photographic images of gravestone inscriptions come from either the [Findagrave](#) or the [CanadianHeadstones](#) databases, and I've provided links to those pages, but the only data I used from these pages came from my own transcriptions from the stones themselves.

1Oct1835 {Home District, Ontario Marriage Register, p236; FS [Im#178](#) (DGS 7860269, Im# 152)}
Samuel SHAW & Mary ROSS, married by banns in Mono Twp; Wits: W[illia]m FLETCHER?, Janet ROSS

31Aug1858 {Samuel and Mary A. Shaw gravestone inscriptions, Findagrave}
at St.Luke's Anglican Cemetery, Mulmur, Dufferin County, Ontario, Canada

[Samuel Shaw Gravestone](#)

“SAMUEL // SHAW // DIED AUG 31 // 1858, // AGED // 47 Y'RS”

[Mary Shaw Gravestone](#)

“MARY A // WIFE OF // S. SHAW // DIED NOV 21 // 18[91?] // AGED // 77 YR”

13Feb1862 {SimcoeCo, Ont., Marriage Register, 63:G97; FS DGS 7859253/7, [Im#520](#), citing AoA MS248, Reel 14}

Robert SHAW, aged 23, of “Gore of Toronto” (residence and birthplace), s/o Samuel & Margaret

& Mary ELLIS, 21, of Caledon,C.W. (residence and birthplace) d/o Edward & Jane

Wits: robert DUFFY or Gore of Toronto, Mary Ann SHAW of Mono

by Rev. Alexander Henderson, Minister, Church of England, Missionary for Mono [Township]

12Aug1863 {SimcoeCo, Ontario, Marriage Register, 63:I125; FS [Im#130](#) (DGS 7859253/7, Im#548), citing AoA MS248, Reel 14}
Rob[er]t SHAW, aged 23, of Mulmur, s/o Samuel & Mary Ann & Jane GILPIN, 21, of Mulmur, d/o Joseph & Mary
Wits: Robert WHITLEY, Mary GILPEN, both of Mulmur
by John McCLEARY, Missionary of Mulmur, County Simcoe, C.W. {FS DGS 7859253, Im#548}

24May1870 {SimcoeCo, Ontario, Marriage Register, [p.R162](#), Ancestry.com Ontario Marriage Records database}
Samuel SHAW, aged 21, of MulMur, farmer, born Mono Twp s/o Samuel & Mary Shaw
& Elizabeth ROBB, aged 23, of Tosorontio, born Tecumseh Ontario to Thomas & Mary Robb
both Presbyterian
Wits: Aug[us]t ROBB, James CROSBIE
by Duncan McDonald, minister, performed in Nottawasaga Twp

12Jul1886 {SimcoeCo, Ontario, Marriage Register, [p.437](#), Ancestry.com Ontario Marriage Records database}
Samuel SHAW, aged 22, bachelor, mechanic, of Barrie, Ontario, s/o Robert & Jane
& Hannah Jane CUNNINGHAM, aged 19, spinster, of Tossorontio, d/o Joseph H & Harriet
Wits: J.B. CUNNINGHAM, Martha Jane HARRIER
by Rev. J.W. Armis

9Feb1890 {Harriet Ann Shaw birth record, Births Register, Mulmur, DufferinCo, p455, Reg# 6238, FS DGS 4656893, [Im# 275](#)}
Harriet Ann Shaw, born to Samuel Shaw, stone mason, and Hannah Jane Cunningham

7Aug1893 {Samuel Henry Shaw birth record, Births Register, Mulmur, DufferinCo, p485, Reg# 31193, FS DGS 4656730, [Im# 168](#)}
Samuel Henry Shaw, born to Samuel Shaw, mason, of Everett, and Hannah Jane Cunningham

13Mar1915 {[Robert Shaw and wife Jane Gilpin gravestone inscriptions, Findagrave](#), CanadianHeadstones}
at Christ Church Anglican Cemetery, Whitfield, DufferinCo, Ont.

I've used the CanadianHeadstones photos for Robert and Jane's gravestone inscriptions as they are of slightly higher quality.

[Robert SHAW gravestone inscription](#)

"ROBERT SHAW // died // Mar. 13. 1915 // AGED // 76 Yrs 5 Mos" so born abt Oct1838
and on the adjacent side of this obelisk monument

[Jane \(GILPIN\) SHAW gravestone inscription](#)

"JANE GILPIN // wife of // ROB[ER]T SHAW // died // May 14. 1893 // aged // 52 Yrs"

Although I've found is no death record for Robert, there is, in the notes to the Findagrave entry, reference to a NY Death Register (Certificate # 18385) for a Robert Shaw who supposedly died in Niagra Falls 13Mar1915, and to an obituary published for a Robert who died 13Mar1915 in the Orangeville Banner, Orangeville being the seat of DufferinCo.

This Findagrave entry also claims that Robert had the middle name Harper, but without supplying any evidence for such, and none of the records I've abstracted here for Robert even include a middle initial.

Also put forward here are names and thumbnail photos of Robert's putative parents, his six putative siblings, and four putative children, but with no evidence offered for these attributions. However, there are thumbnail photos of gravestones for all but one of them, which, though not links, are presumably to be found in the Findagrave database.

10Jan1918 {[Samuel Shaw death date, Findagrave webpage](#)}

supposedly from a cemetery record of Mountain View Cemetery, Lethbridge, Alberta, CAN, but no gravestone marker was found for him there. This Samuel is identified as a son of Robert & Jane (GILPIN) SHAW and is not to be confused with this Robert's brother, Samuel, who died the same year.

7Aug1918 {Samuel Shaw death record, {Mono Twp, DufferinCo, Ont. Death records; FS DGS 4170887, [Image# 940](#)}

Samuel SHAW, died 7Aug1918, aged 69y1m, of stomach cancer, in Mono Twp, DufferinCoOnt. Buried in Shelburne.

Married. Occupation: farmer

Born in Canada [abt Jul1849] to Sam[ue]l & Mary Shaw. Informant: James Armstrong

7Aug1918 {Samuel Shaw gravestone inscription, Findagrave}

[Samuel SHAW gravestone inscription](#)

"SAMUEL SHAW // DIED AUG. 7. 1918, // AGED 69 YEARS // HIS WIFE // ELIZABETH ROBB // DIED DEC.18.1931 // AGED 74 YEARS"

This findagrave entry identifies this Samuel as Samuel Edward Shaw, but since not even a middle initial appears for him in any of the primary records I've seen, I've included this middle name in my tree only provisionally, within square brackets.

I also found, in the Ontario Archives database:

24Dec1919 {[Robert Shaw death record](#)}

Robert SHAW, died 24Dec1919, aged 70, of heart failure arteriosclerosis, in Mono Twp, DufferinCoOnt. Married.

Born in Ontario. Parents not recorded. Informant: H.J. Kinsey

This is presumably the other Robert of the 1901 census - the one married to Mary. The fact that the informant didn't know who this Robert's parents were, raises questions about whether the round number 70 was his actual age at death.

CANADIAN CENSUS Abstracts, 1871-1911

I've been unable to find Samuel Henry Shaw in either the 1911 or 1921 Canadian nation censuses, or in the 1916 census of just the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta

The full title of the Age field in the Canadian censuses is "Age at last birthday", but this in turn is a function of the date that the information was actually elicited by the enumerator from his subjects, or of a particular "as of" date that he may have been instructed to predicate for them. For the USCensus, for most of the 19th century, the "as of" date was June 1st, the first day of the Census Year, though this changed to April 1 and January 1 in later censuses. I haven't researched the Canadian census to determine what the official policy was, if there even was any, but for the USCensus, the official policy evidently was typically not fully grasped by both the enumerator and his subjects, so birth years calculated from ages in the USCensus should always be qualified by "about <year>". That can even be true for the USCensuses of 1900 and 1910, which, like the Canadian censuses, which evidently copied them, included the full birth date; however, for most of the USCensuses, although the year was often calculated by the enumerator from the date, for the most part he correctly took the relation between the birth date and the "as of" census date, into consideration.

That does not seem to have been the case for at least some of the Canadian census abstracts I've made for the 1901 and 1911 censuses. For most, it appears that the enumerator just subtracted the birth year from the census year, regardless of the birth month, resulting in ages for the majority of his subjects that were one year too much. On the other hand, the enumerator for the Robert & Mary couple of 1901 Grey East, seems to have subtracted one more year for all, thus lopping off an extra year from the ages of Robert and Mary, both of whom were born in the first five weeks of the year.

Thus, for the Canadian censuses of 1901 and 1911, when birth date was recorded (ddMMMyyyy for 1901, and MMMyyyy for 1911), the best policy would be to ignore ages altogether, and just use the birth dates.

My very extensive experience with the USCensus has led me to believe that many people (1) didn't track their ages from year to year with much care (as we moderns do, who are constantly being called on to fill out governmental and other forms); (2) weren't, for the same reason, as experienced in handling hypothetical questions, such as "How old were you as of a certain date"; and (3) weren't as practiced in arithmetic as we are. Consequently, birth years or dates calculated from censuses, and even sometimes from ages at death on gravestones or death records, should normally be qualified with "about"—unless they are particularly consistent across a set of independent primary records.

Samuel Shaw household, [Apr]1871 Canadian Census, Ontario, SimcoeCo South, Mulmur (Dist41-D,Div1), pages 26(17-20)-27(01-03), Ancestry.com image 14.

	Marr						
	Aged	Stat	Occupation	Born	Relg	Origin	Misc
Shaw, Samuel	23	marr	farmer	Ont	[CE	Irish]	xW, m.MAY
" , Elisabeth	21	marr		Ire	[CE	Irish]	m.MAY
" , Robert	32	marr	farm laborer	Ont	[CE	Irish]	xW
" , Jane	28	marr		Ont	[CE	Irish]	xW
---next page---							
Shaw, Samuel	7	----		Ont	CE	Irish	AS
" , Robert	3	----		Ont	[CE	Irish]	
" , Mary Jane	2mon	----		Ont	[CE	Irish]	b.FEB

[Robert Shaw household, 1881 Canadian Census](#), Ontario, [DufferinCo,] Mulmur (Dist138-2,Div1), page 50(16-23), Ancestry.com image 73.

	Aged	Stat	Occupation	Born	Relg	Origin	Misc
Shaw, Robert	44	marr	farmer	Ont	CE	Irish	
" , Jane	40	marr		Ont	[CE	Irish]	
" , Samuel	17	----		Ont	[CE	Irish]	AS
" , Robert	13	----		Ont	[CE	Irish]	AS
" , Mary J	10	----		Ont	[CE	Irish]	AS
" , Sarah E	8	----		Ont	[CE	Irish]	AS
" , Margaret *	6	----		Ont	[CE	Irish]	
" , Isabella	2	----		Ont	[CE	Irish]	

[Robert Shaw household, 25Apr1891 Canadian Census](#), South Simcoe[Co], Mulmur (Dist118-E,Div2), pages 32(25)-33(01-08), Ancestry.com image 56.

	Aged	Rel2	Marr	Occupation	Self	Fath	Moth	Relg	Wage	Misc
Robert Shaw	52	----	marr	farmer	Ont	Ire	Ire	CE		
---next page---										
Shaw, Jane	49	wife	marr		Ont	Ire	Ire	CE		xW
" , Robert	23	son	----	farm laborer	[Ont]	Ont	Ont	[CE]	yes	
" , Mary Jane	20	dau	----	general servant	[Ont	Ont	Ont	CE]	yes	
" , Sarah E	18	dau	----	[general servant	Ont	Ont	Ont	CE]	yes	
" , Margaret A	16	dau	----		[Ont	Ont	Ont	CE]		
" , Isiballa	11	dau	----		[Ont	Ont	Ont	CE]		
" , Annie	9	dau	----		[Ont	Ont	Ont	CE]		
" , Thomas J	7	son	----		[Ont	Ont	Ont	CE]		

[Samuel Shaw household, 9May1891 Canadian Census](#), Simcoe South (actually DufferinCo as of 1881), Mulmur (Dist118-E,Div2), page 48(18-20), Ancestry.com image 64.

	Aged	Rel2	Marr	Occupation	Self	Fath	Moth	Relg	Wage	Misc
Shaw, Samuel	26	----	marr	brick layer	Ont	Ont	Ont	Meth	yes	
" , Hannah J	23	wife	marr		[Ont	Ont	Ont	Meth]		
" , Harriett [A?]	1	dau	----		[Ont	Ont	Ont	Meth]		

This Samuel is a close neighbor of Robert, above, and closely matches the age of the Samuel (aged 17) in the 1881 household of Robert (44).

[Samuel Shaw household, 3&4Apr1901 Canadian Census](#), Manitoba, Selkirk, St. Clements (Dist11-M,Div3), page 3(46-49), Ancestry.com image 64.

	Aged	Born	Rel2	Marr	Occupation	Born	Racial Origin	Relg
Shaw, Samuel	63	19May1864	head	wid	plasterer	Ont	Irish	SlvAr
" , Harriet A	11	9Feb1889	dau	sing		[Ont	Irish	SlvAr]
" , Samuel H	9	7Aug1891	son	sing		[Ont	Irish	SlvAr]
" , Robert J	--	15Mar1901	son	sing		Man	[Irish]	

Samuel's age is wildly inconsistent with his birth date (it should be 36; perhaps the enumerator was dyslexic), and his religion in this crabbed writing appears to be "Salvation Army". But he is widowed, as he would be if wife Hannah had died in childbirth with Robert, and an 1890 birth record for Harriet Ann Shaw (parents Samuel and Hannah J Cunningham) Harriet, identifies this head of household and his son Samuel H, born 7Aug1891 (though his birth certificates says 7Aug1893).

Samuel's father, Robert, is supposed to have survived until 1915. I find just two plausible candidate to be him: East GreyCo is adjacent to SimcoeCo, and both Shelburne and Mulmur fell into DufferinCo, which was later carved out of Grey. Euphrasia township is still part of Grey, but it's just as close to the border with Simcoe.

[Robert Shaw household, 1901 Canadian Census](#), Ontario, Grey East, Euphrasia (Dist64-C,Div4), page 5(21-22), Ancestry.com image 29.

	Aged	Born	Rel2	Marr	Occupation	Born	Racial Origin	Relg
Shaw, Robert	61	3Feb1839	head	marr	farmer	Ont	Irish	[CE]
" , Mary	59	11Jan1841	wife	marr		Ont	Irish	[CE]

This Robert is close, but no cigar. The following Robert, a widower, is probably the Robert who married Jane Gilpin (who died in 1893).

[Rob\[er\]t Shaw household, 3&4Apr1901 Canadian Census](#), Ontario, Grey East, Shelburne (Dist64-J,Div-), page 25(11), Ancestry.com image 25.

	Aged	Born	Rel2	Marr	Occupation	Born	Racial Origin	Relg
Shaw, Rob[er[t]	60?	14Jul1838	head	wid	laborer	Ont	Irish	----

The one's digit of age might be a "2", which would be consistent with a birth year of 1838, given that his birthday for 1901 was still pending in April when the census was taken.

[Samuel Shaw household, 2Apr1901 Canadian Census](#), Simcoe South (DufferinCo), Mulmur (Dist115-F,Div3), page 1(24-26), Ancestry.com image 64.

	Aged	Born	Rel2	Marr	Occupation	Born	Racial	Relg
			Head	Stat		Origin		
Shaw, Samuel	54	12Jul1847	head	marr	farmer	Ont	Irish	CE
" , Elizabeth	54	18Dec1847	wife	marr		IRE	[Irish	CE]
Price, Tho[ma]s Geo.	12	18Mar1888	adson	sing		Ont	[Irish	CE]

This is the brother of Robert Shaw of Mulmur. The one's digit of Elizabeth's birth year, "7", appears to have been overwritten as "6" (but without correcting her age), which best accords with Elizabeth's age (23) at her 24May1870 marriage. Her birth day was likely the 18th as given, but her birth month is Dec here, and Sep in 1811. The gravestone she shares with husband Samuel reads "ELIZABETH ROBB // DIED DEC.18.1931 // AGED 74 YEARS", but I suspect that the year of her death should have been 1921. My guess, therefore, is that she was born abt 18Nov1846.

Samuel's birth day was probably 12Jul as given here, but he seems to have fiddled extensively with both his and his wife's age in the census, to ensure that she was never older than him. In fact, in the 1871 census, compiled in April, when he and Elizabeth were said to have been married the previous May, his age is listed as 23 and hers 21, and in the 1901 and 1911 censuses their ages were made the same. Probably his death record and gravestone had it right: died 7Aug1918, aged 69y1m, and "SAMUEL SHAW // DIED AUG. 7. 1918, // AGED 69 YEARS", both of which would make his birth year 1849. I suspect, therefore, that though he said he was 21 when he presented himself on 24May1870 for marriage, that he was anticipating his birthday a couple of months hence, and was actually born 12Jul1849.

[Samuel Shaw household, 2Apr1911 Canadian Census](#), DufferinCo, Mulmur (Dist62,Div6), page 11(32-35), Ancestry.com image 11.

	Aged	Born	Rel2	Marr	Occupation	Born	Racial	Relg
			Head	Stat		Origin		
Shaw, Samuel	63	Jul1848	head	marr	farmer	Ont	Irish	Ang
" , Elizabeth	63	Sep1848	wife	marr		Ire	Irish	Ang
Robb, James	72	May1830	bro-il	sing	farmer	Ire	Irish	Ang
Wells, Freddie	3	Jun1908	1*****	sing		Ire	Irish	Ang