

CLARK Andrew and HARGRAVE Annie
Royal New Zealand Fencible Corps

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Andrew Clark was born in Barony, Lanarkshire, Glasgow, Scotland in 1808.

Aged 17, Andrew enlisted as a gunner/driver with the British Royal Regiment of Artillery at Glasgow, Scotland,

2 December 1825. Initially on Royal Duties, he was transferred to the 8th Battalion and was sent to the West Indies where the British Army was helping to quell the slave riots and unrest among the local plantation owners. After five and a half years, he was transferred back to Woolwich Arsenal at Greenwich where he met and married **Annie Hargrave**, an English lass.

In 1839, **Andrew and Annie's** first son **Archibald** was born at Greenwich, Kent, England.

In 1842, while serving in Ireland, Andrew and Annie's first daughter **Sarah** was born.

In 1844, Andrew served in Malta, where second son **George** was born. While serving in Malta, Andrew was hospitalised for 2 months with bowel complaints and eventually invalided back to Woolwich, Kent where he retrained as a tailor.

In 1847, Andrew and Annie's third son **Andrew** was born.

In 1848, Andrew was given a medical discharge after serving 21 years 3 months.

In February 1849, Andrew and Annie's fourth son **Jesse** was born.

In March 1849, Andrew enlisted with the 7th Detachment of the **Royal New Zealand Fencible Corps** and along with Annie and family embarked on the ship *Berhampore* sailing from London, 7 March 1849.

Unfortunately during the early stages of this journey, young **Jesse** died, aged 22 days. The ship arrived in Auckland, 16 June 1849. The 7th Detachment of the Fencibles was based in Onehunga and each member was given an allotment - Andrew's allotment being an acre in Selwyn Street on which he had a licence for 2 cattle.

The following Clark children were born in Onehunga: **William** 24 July 1851, **Elizabeth**, 22 January 1854, **James**, 8 October 1855, and **St John**, 3 September 1857. All four were baptised at Saint Peter's Anglican Church, Onehunga.

Andrew worked as a tailor in Onehunga.

On 16 Dec 1862 Andrew Clark was found drowned in the Manukau Harbour, off the Onehunga wharf; his death was believed to be suicide, as he had been mentally and physically ill for some time. Son, Archibald was called to identify the body. Andrew was buried at **Saint Peter's Cemetery**, in the same grave as his son **James** who had died of whooping cough, 24 January 1859, aged 3.

Andrew and Annie's remaining children:

Archibald, a carpenter by trade, moved off to the Waikato where in 1867 he unfortunately was caught in possession of an illegal still and was given 6 months free accommodation at the bequest of Her Majesty's Government with the opportunity to break some rocks. In 1871 he served in the Armed Constabulary. Aged 35, he married **Louisa Bishop** (a widow with 5 children) on 28 October 1874; they settled in New Plymouth and together had 4 children. Tragically Andrew died in February 1879, aged 39, 1 month before the birth of his 4th child. He was buried at the Old Public Cemetery, Wanganui.

Sarah married **John McNaughton**, 11 April 1864; they had 8 children, all born in Auckland. Sarah died 1921, aged 79, and was buried at Purewa Cemetery.

George, Andrew and **St John** all headed to the Coromandel gold-fields where they worked primarily in the timber industry supporting the mining industry: **George** married **Ellen Burns**, 11 March 1878; they produced ten children. George aged 53, died in 1898 and was buried at Buffalo Cemetery, Coromandel. **Andrew** married **Elizabeth Reid**, 30 November 1876. Three children were born of that union. Tragedy struck in August 1880 when Andrew suffered a ghastly accident, being crushed at the hips between two logs and died 4 days later, just 11 days before the birth of his 3rd child. He was buried at Shortland Cemetery, Thames.

St John tried his hand at mining but on 24 July 1874, aged 18, he died suddenly of apoplexy. His body was transferred to Onehunga and was buried at **Saint Peters Cemetery**, in the same plot as his father **Andrew** and brother **James**.

William, a blacksmith by trade, opened a blacksmith shop in Queen Street, Onehunga (now *The Mall*.) He married **Matilda Edwards** at Onehunga, 20 June 1877, the day of the birth of their first son, **William**, the first of 12 children. The family eventually settled at Otahuhu. Three of William and Matilda's children, **Violet Ann, Beatrice Victoria** and **Archibald Andrew**, died as youngsters and are buried at **Saint Peter's Cemetery**, in the same plot as their grandfather **Andrew** and their two uncles **James** and **St John**. **William** (Snr) died in 1934, aged 83, and is buried at Hillsborough Cemetery together with his wife **Matilda**.

Elizabeth married **Peter Edmond** (an iron moulder), 14 December 1869, at Saint Peters Church, Onehunga. Of their 10 children, 3 were born in Onehunga and the rest in Thames. Elizabeth died in 1927, aged 73, and is buried at Waikaraka Cemetery.

What became of Annie Hargrave, Andrew's wife?

Annie sold their allotment in Onehunga. In August 1890 she was admitted to *Costley Home for the Aged Poor* where she died in 18 January 1892 and was buried at Waikumete Cemetery in an unmarked grave.