

MOORE James and DORAN Margaret, and son David

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James Moore (aged 28) and **Margaret Doran** (some alternative renderings: '**Dornan**' and '**Darinan**') (aged 27), together with their three-year-old daughter, **Mary**, emigrated to New Zealand, departing Greenock, Scotland, on 9 June 1842 on board the '*Duchess of Argyle*', as part of the first organized emigration scheme to Auckland. Tragically, **Mary** died at sea on 31 July 1842. The Moore family were amongst a small number of Irish emigrants, along with many Scots; an obituary for James noted 'they came from the North of Ireland.' It has not been possible to locate their place of birth, however it is possible, perhaps likely, that James, was from Oughteragh Parish, County Leitrim. County Leitrim is adjacent to County Fermanagh, the latter being part of Ulster. There are varying estimates for their birth dates, with varying dates 'calculated' from ages given in various New Zealand documents.

The possible connection with Oughteragh comes from the Will of **Charles Moore**, who came to New Zealand under the *Fencible Scheme* in 1847 and settled in Onehunga. His history has been well-documented. Charles Moore made a Will in 1865 in which he appointed as executors Dr A.G. Purchas and a James Moore, Farmer. This Will was not discovered until 1883, some 10 years after Charles' death. In applying for probate Dr. Purchas stated 'that James Moore had been dead for 7 years past' (i.e. 1876). This date coincides with the death of James Moore in that year and may suggest that James was a younger brother of Charles.

The '*Duchess of Argyle*' arrived at Auckland on 8 October 1842. It is not known what the family did in Auckland. James is not recorded on Jury Lists until 1847 (just why is not known as he would certainly have been liable for Jury service). What is known is that he purchased a section in Auckland town in 1849 and in 1851 applied for a licence to cut timber on Crown Land at Kakamatua, which is on the shore of the Manukau Harbour, near Cornwallis. In his application he gave his address as 'Karangahape' which is in the Cornwallis area. In 1854 he obtained a Crown Grant for 195 acres at Kakamatua and in 1857 two further Grants of 220 acres each at Big Muddy Creek. These Grants were all in the Cornwallis/Huia area.

There he engaged in pit-sawing kauri timber. He subsequently sold the timber milling rights, and later sold the three properties to another saw-miller. He then established a business operating small-ship-trading on the Manukau Harbour, likely moving timber from the mills near Cornwallis and bringing it to Onehunga, and otherwise supplying the communities established there. He also engaged in a number of property developments in Onehunga. In later years, he and Margaret moved to Thames, where he died in 1876, his death certificate noting his occupation as an 'iron founder'. His body was returned to Onehunga and interred in Plot 302 at **Saint Peter's Cemetery**, alongside his second son **David**, who had died in 1864.

James and Mary had four children in New Zealand:

Edward O'Brien: born 1845; baptised Saint Paul's Anglican Church, Auckland; the Baptismal Register described James' occupation as 'labourer'

David: born 1847; baptised Saint Paul's Anglican Church, Auckland; the Baptismal Register described James' occupation as 'labourer'

- Sarah Jane:** born 1850, near Cornwallis; baptised Saint Peter's Church, Onehunga, Nov 1850; the Baptismal Register described James' occupation as a 'sawyer at Kaitarakihi' (near Cornwallis)
- Anne Caroline:** born 1852 near Cornwallis, and baptised Saint Peter's Church, Onehunga, May 1853; the Baptismal Register described James' occupation as 'sawyer at Karangahape' (near Cornwallis)
- Edward O'Brien:** married **Jane Muir** in 1865; they had a number of children; for a time he was captain of a scow, trading in the Hauraki Gulf; later he owned a store at Te Aroha, but following a business failure, returned to captaining a scow in the Hauraki Gulf
- David:** aged but 17 years, died of tetanus 1864; he died at Geddes Point, Onehunga, where he worked as a 'mariner' (possibly working on his father's vessels that traded on the Manukau Harbour)
- Anne Caroline:** married **Scott Hunter** in Thames, 1877
- Sarah Jane:** married **Matthew Hunter** (Scott's brother) in Thames, 1880

After living in Thames for a while, both **Hunter** families shifted to Mercer, where the two brothers owned and operated a general store.

Following her husband's death in 1876, **Margaret** returned to live in Onehunga, with her later years being spent in Mercer, where her married daughters lived.

It was at Mercer that she died in 1900. Her body was brought back to Onehunga and interred alongside her husband and son, Plot 302, at **Saint Peter's Cemetery, Onehunga**.



Margaret Moore