

Wife: **Elizabeth DUCK** #4773

Born: cir 1757 in Osmotherley, Yorkshire <sup>1</sup>  
 Died: 23 Feb 1841 at Wildon Grange, Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1</sup>  
 Buried: 26 Feb 1841 in Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>2</sup>  
 Father: William DUCK #4929  
 Mother: Alice HENDERSON #4972

## NOTES:

Elizabeth was brought up as a Catholic and continued as such even though the remainder of the Smith family converted to Methodism. It was only in later life that she converted to become a Methodist. Whilst living at Wildon Grange, she worshipped at the RC Church at Ampleforth (about 4-5 miles from her home).

Age at death - 83 years.

Husband: **Joseph SMITH** #4772

Married: 5 Feb 1782 in Kirby Knowle, Yorkshire <sup>3</sup>

Born: 1749 in Bishop Wilton, Yorkshire <sup>4</sup>  
 Died: 12 Jan 1835 at Wildon Grange, Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1</sup>  
 Buried: 15 Jan 1835 in Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>2</sup>  
 Father: Robert SMITH #5044  
 Mother: Mary COOK #5216

## NOTES:

Information from Linda Nelson<linda.nelson3@btopenworld.com>

Joseph Smith obtained the right to collect the tithes for Coxwold and area - 13 parishes in all. The Smiths were quite an affluent family and very religious. Although they still had children christened in the Anglican Church, they had support for the Wesleyan Methodist movement, with several of the males becoming methodist ministers and some of the girls marrying ministers.

## RESEARCH NOTES:

Joseph was married in Kirby Knowle in 1782. At that time he was living in Kirby Knowle.

Elizabeth was "of Kilvington" at that time and probably living with her brother, William. They were married by Banns. Witnesses at the marriage were Robert Smith (Joseph's brother) and William Duck (probably Elizabeth's brother).

M Child 1: **Robert SMITH** <sup>5</sup> #4258

Born: 1782 at Knayton, Yorkshire <sup>6,1</sup>  
 Died: 26 Sep 1863 in Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>7</sup>  
 Buried: 29 Sep 1863 in Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1</sup>  
 Wife: Dorothy ROBINSON #4265 b. 1786 d. 15 Oct 1866  
 Married: 26 May 1808 in Alne, North Yorkshire <sup>8</sup>

## NOTES:

Born at Knayton in 1782, Robert and the rest of the family were raised at Wildon Grange, Coxwold from around 1785. Aged about 25, he married in 1808 at Alne (parish of Dorothy Robinson), but the first children were born at Kildale (1809-1813) and then Stainton (1815-1826). Sometime during the 1826-1851 period, Robert moved the family back to Coxwold, where he remained until his death in 1863.

Robert was a witness at the wedding of his sister Elizabeth in 1806.

Following the death of his father Joseph, in conjunction with his brothers and sisters, he inherited some of the rights to the Tithes for the parish of Coxwold. In subsequent census records he is described as proprietor of leasehold tithes and farmer of 9.5 acres.

## MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTION:

From a gravestone in Coxwold churchyard (next to one for his brother John, of Oulston) - "Erected in memory of (Rob)ert Smith, who died Sept 26th 1863 aged 80 years. Also Dorothy his wife who died Oct 15th 1866 aged 80 years"

## CENSUS:

1851 - Coxwold, Yorkshire

Robert SMITH	Head	M	68	Proprietor & Leaseholder Farmer of 9.5 acres	Knayton, Yorkshire
Joseph SMITH	Son	U	42	African Trader	Kildale, Yorkshire
George SMITH	Son	U	40	Schoolmaster	Kildale, Yorkshire
Ellena THOMPSON	Serv	U	28	House Servant	Ampleforth, Yorkshire

1861 - Coxwold, Yorkshire

Robert SMITH	Head	M	78	Income from Tithes & Retired Farmer	Knayton, Yorkshire
Dorothy SMITH	Wife	M	74		Alne, Yorkshire
George SMITH	Son	U	50	Schoolmaster	Kildale, Yorkshire

Eliza J. SMITH	GDau	10	Scholar	Liverpool, Lancashire
Ann METCALF	Serv U	17	Servant	Great Ouseburn,
Yorkshire				

TRADE DIRECTORY:  
1823 (Baines) - Farmer, Stainton

LAST WILL & TESTAMENT (1863):

In the Name of Goden Amen. I Robert Smith of Coxwold in the N.R. of the County of York Gentleman do appoint this to be my last Will and Testament in manner and form as follows

I give and bequeath to my brother Thomas Smith of Wildon Grange Farmer and to my nephew Joseph Smith of Risebro Farmer and my son William Smith of Coxwold Station Master All my share of leasehold tithes and Glebe lands in the Parishes of Coxwold and Husthwaite & elsewhere

And all my other property & effects that I now or might hereafter possess of whatever kind or description In trust for the following purposes

My will is that all my just debts funeral & testamentary expenses should be paid as soon as convenient and for that purpose I empower the said trustees to borrow money on security of my tithes or to sell all or any part of my cattle fodder implements & ??? shares as they may deem advisable

My will then is that my wife Dorothy have paid her yearly (by two equal half yearly instalments) during her life the income arising from my tithes or any other source whatsoever after first paying or reserving for payment all interest monies and other charges which do or may hereafter arise therein

My will is that my wife also have for her own use & benefit all or any remaining part of my cattle fodder fixtures books & furniture or any other article whatsoever as long as she shall live

My will is that at her decease my trustees should if they think proper sell all my interest in the tithes all my stock furniture or any effect whatsoever that may remain at the death of my wife and after paying all my debts & legal expenses pay at 12 months after her death to my grandson Frederick Dempster Smith (son of my late son John) the sum of fifty pounds and pay to my sons Joseph George & William Smith the remainder of the proceeds of each sale in the following proportions ??? that George & William have each the double amount of Joseph and that the amount to be paid to Joseph be invested and the interest therefrom be paid him by my trustees in equal weekly instalments

My will is that if it is inconvenient or if it appear to my said trustees not advisable to sell the whole or any part of the said tithes stock and furniture, that my sons named shall continue to receive the income arising therefrom in the same proportions named i.e. George and William shall receive double the amount of Joseph and that Joseph's share be paid in equal weekly instalments

My will is that if any of my sons or grandson named die without lawful issue before their legacies are paid that the survivors or their lawful issue have equally divided amongst them the deceased share, Should any of my sons or grandson die leaving lawful issue my will is that each one should have paid them for their maintenance and education their father's share until the youngest of that family arrive all the age of 21 years Then their father's share to be paid them in equal proportions

And I hereby nominate constitute and appoint the said Thomas Joseph and William Smith to be the Executors of this my last Will and Testament In Witness thereof I hereto subscribe my name this 16th day September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty three

Robert Smith

We the undersigned at the request of the testator do sign our names in his presence and in the presence of each other as Witnesses to this his Will & Testament

Thomas Hanley Barker  
Henry Skaife

Probate (1864):

In Her Majesty's Court of Probate, The District Registry of York, In the Goods of Robert Smith deceased, I Henry Skaife of Coxwold in the County of York Surgeon make oath that I am one of the subscribing witnesses to the last Will and Testament of Robert Smith late of Coxwold in the North Riding of the County of York Gentleman deceased the said will being now hereinto annexed bearing date the sixteenth day of September one thousand eight hundred and sixty three and that the said testator executed the said Will on the day of the date thereof by signing his name at the foot and thereof as the same now appears thereon in the presence of me and Thomas Hanley Barker the other subscribed witness thereto both of us being present at the same time and thereon we attested and subscribed the said Will in the presence of the said testator

Henry Skaife

Sworn at the City of York on the third day of March 1864 before me Wm.Hudson  
District Registrar In Her Majesty's Court of Probate York District Registry

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On the eighth day of March 1864 the Will of Robert Smith late of Coxwold in the North Riding of the County of York Gentleman deceased who died on the twenty fourth day of September 1863 at Coxwold aforesaid was proved in the District Registry attached to Her Majesty's Court of Probate at York by the oaths of Thomas Smith of Wildon Grange in the Parish of Coxwold in the said County of York Farmer the Brother of the said deceased, Joseph Smith of Risebrough in the Parish of Normanby in the said County Farmer the Nephew of the said deceased, William Smith of Coxwold aforesaid Station Master the Son of the said deceased, the Executors therein named they having been first sworn duly to administer.

Effects under £1,500

KEY POINTS FROM WILL:

- 1) Executors named as Thomas Smith of Wildon Grange (his brother), Joseph Smith of Riseborough (his nephew) and William Smith of Coxwold (his son).
- 2) Main benefactors were:
  - a) His wife Dorothy, who received an annuity
  - b) His grandson, Frederick Dempster Smith (son of his deceased son, John) - a legacy
  - c) His son William (the Station Master), who received 40% of his remaining assets
  - d) His son George (the schoolmaster), who received 40% of his remaining assets
  - e) His son Joseph (the African Trader), who received 20% of his remaining assets
- 3) Total assets at death were assessed at less than £1500.

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F Child 2: **Elizabeth SMITH** #4783  
 Born: 1784 in Osmotherley, Yorkshire <sup>7,8</sup>  
 Died: 13 Apr 1846 in Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1</sup>  
 Buried: at Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1</sup>  
 Husband: George SPENSLEY #4820 b. cir 1780 d. 20 Nov 1862  
 Married: 21 May 1806 at Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>2</sup>

NOTES:

Following the death of her father Joseph, she received an interest in the leasehold Tithes for the parish of Coxwold.

Witnesses at her marriage in 1806 were Robert Smith (her brother) and Thomas Hall.

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M Child 3: **Thomas SMITH** #4784  
 Born: 18 Feb 1786 at Wildon Grange, Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1,2</sup>  
 Died: 24 May 1803 at Wildon Grange, Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1,2</sup>  
 Buried: 27 May 1803 in Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>7,2</sup>

NOTES:

Died at the age of 17, cause of death - white swelling.  
 He is buried next to his parents in Coxwold.

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M Child 4: **Joseph SMITH** #4781  
 Born: 11 Jan 1788 at Wildon Grange, Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>8,1</sup>  
 Wife: Alice LAVERACK #4798 d. 1839  
 Married: 01 Jul 1811 at Shipton by Thorpe, Yorkshire <sup>8</sup>

DIRECTORIES:

1834 Electoral Role (Mkt Weighton) - Joseph Smith, qualification - copyhold house and shop, Market Place.  
 1834 Pigot's Directory (Mkt Weighton) - Joseph Smith, grocer and draper.  
 1840 White's Directory (Mkt Weighton) - Joseph Smith, grocer and draper.

NOTES:

Info from Pat Smith <darkwing@iafrica.com> in South Africa:  
 Joseph Smith (born 1788) emigrated to South Africa aboard the sailing ship called Haidee in July 1850. Joseph was living in Market Weighton where he was a grocer from as early as 1834 - this according to the 1834 electoral roll for Market Weighton. He married Alice Laverack and they had 5 children that I am aware of namely Eliza, Joseph, Anne, Mary and William - this according to the 1841 census for Market Weighton. Alice died in November 1839 and is buried in Sancton.  
 See website <http://sa-passenger-list.za.net/index.php>

NOTES:

(from Report on the Emigration of settlers to Natal, South Africa on the ship "The Haidee")

Joseph was part of the organising committee for the expedition, under the leadership of his son-in-law, Henry Boast. Following the untimely death of Henry in May 1850, Joseph made a significant financial contribution to the expedition (about £800) and then took on the leadership of the party.

## NOTES:

In the book entitled "The Life Story of Joseph Smith" (a biography of Joseph Smith, b.1854 Wildon Grange, son of Thomas Smith), there is a reference to "An uncle who left the old country, chartered a vessel and took a large party out to Port Natal, South Africa, where he secured a large tract of land and never came back". This is most likely a reference to Joseph Smith, b.1778 Wildon Grange, son of Joseph Smith, b.circa 1750.

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M Child 5: **William SMITH** #4782  
 Born: 15 Jun 1789 at Wildon Grange, Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1,2</sup>  
 Died: 4 Mar 1845 at Wildon Grange, Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>9,1,7</sup>  
 Buried: 8 Mar 1845 in Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>7,2</sup>  
 Wife: Elizabeth GILL #4799 b. 1802 d. 3 Feb 1834  
 Married: 19 Oct 1826 in Easingwold, Yorkshire <sup>1</sup>

## NOTES:

Following the death of his father Joseph, William inherited a share in the Leasehold Tithes for Coxwold and surrounding villages. He was described as a Gentleman Farmer and collector of tithes.

In the 1841 census, William was living at Wildon Grange at the next farm to his brother Thomas.

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F Child 6: **Mary SMITH** #4780  
 Born: 23 Feb 1791 at Wildon Grange, Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1,2</sup>  
 Died: 24 Feb 1791 at Wildon Grange, Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1,2</sup>  
 Buried: 25 Feb 1791 in Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1,2</sup>

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M Child 7: **John SMITH** #4785  
 Born: 1793 at Wildon Grange, Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1</sup>  
 Died: 3 Jan 1849 at Oulston, Yorkshire <sup>9</sup>  
 Buried: 6 Jan 1849 at Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1,2</sup>  
 Wife: Eleanor DICKINSON #4793 b. 1790 d. 14 Feb 1870  
 Married: 13 Jun 1821 at Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>9,1</sup>

## NOTES:

Extract from the book "Memoirs of Joseph Smith", son of John Smith, where Joseph writes about his father:

John Smith and his brothers, were the lessees of the tithes owned by the Trinity College, Cambridge, in the parishes of Coxwold, Husthwaite, Oulston, Yearsley, Carlton, etc., and having in their hands the gift of the ecclesiastical living of Coxwold.

In the year 1821 he entered into the marriage state, and lived four years upon an adjoining farm to that of his father's at Wildon Grange, from which he removed to Osgoodby, about three miles distant where he lived six years, and continued his attentions to the means of grace and the Sabbath school at Kilburn. During his residence at Osgoodby he suffered under a severe dispensation of God's providence, by losing his sight in the right eye, which was caused by the lash of a thorn. His sufferings were excruciating. The brain, because of its intimate connection with the eye, became feverish and delirious. He was reduced to a skeleton, but God in His mercy restored him to health of body though he continued quite blind in that eye to his death.

However, God sanctified this affliction. He came out of the furnace a new man.

The change was perceptible, and remarked by all his friends; his piety assumed a more settled and solid character and his anxiety to do good became more and more manifest. In the year 1831, he and his family left Osgoodby in the Easingwold circuit, and came to reside at Normanby, in the Pickering circuit, where he found religion but little known and practised. There were no means of grace in connection with Wesleyan Methodism; but as there was a little chapel built by a private individual, he soon commenced prayer-meetings and secured regular preaching. A small Society was formed, over which he was appointed leader. Its numbers gradually increased until he left in the spring of the year 1848, when he left two flourishing classes.

In the spring of 1848, after having settled a part of his family in the neighbourhood, he removed to Oulston, in the Easingwold circuit. After having spent seventeen years at Normanby, he was anxious to return to the neighbourhood of his early days, to mingle with his numerous relatives, and spend his declining days amongst them. Some time previous to his removal from Normanby, he felt that some of the pins of life were becoming loose, but his activity was unabated, and it was not till a few weeks before his death that any fearful apprehensions as to his life were entertained.

About the latter part of November, 1848, when on a visit to Normanby, his horse fell with him in the gig. He was thrown out and severely bruised; and though he

so far recovered as to feel nearly free from pain, yet the effect was such as to feel nearly free from pain, yet the effect was such as undoubtedly to hasten the end.

On Saturday December 30th, a week after he was confined to his room, he was visited by the usual number of friends. He seemed to have uncommon power to converse; his mind seemed to possess unusual strength and clearness; his replies to the numerous questions put to him were remarkably clear and pointed; the quotations from scripture and our beautiful hymns were appropriate, striking, and numerous. When asked if he was harrassed by temptation, his reply was, that he was in better hands than to be tempted. "In my weak state I have not strength to combat the enemy, therefore my God, whom I serve, will not suffer me to be tempted." When a friend remarked to him that God dealt with him better than he did with his brother William, who instantly expired two or three years before, and his brother in law, Mr Rimmington, who had died a few months before, who only had a short affliction, and was scarcely able to express himself any of the time, he replied: "They were quite ready for their change, but that it was necessary for God to put me in the furnace to be purified and made ready to join them."

The clock had not long announced the hour of five on the Wednesday morning of January 3rd, 1849, when the curtain of life was let down, and his happy spirit took its flight to Paradise. On the Saturday, at twelve o'clock, the last debt of nature to him was paid by depositing his remains in Coxwold churchyard, in a sure and certain hope of a glorious resurrection, when they shall again be re-united to the sould to spend an eternity of happiness together.

## CENSUS:

1841 - John was with his wife and sons, Joseph, John & William at Normanby.

## NOTES:

Witnesses at marriage were Ann Smith & William Smith.

F Child 8: **Ann SMITH** #4786

Born: 20 May 1797 in Wildon Grange, Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1</sup>

Died: 14 Dec 1881 <sup>1</sup>

Buried: at Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>7</sup>

Husband: Thomas BARKER #4827 d. 28 Feb 1874

Married: 1850 <sup>1</sup>

## NOTES:

Marriage reference - Easingwold Reg.District, Vol.24, p353. Thomas Barker was a widower.

## CENSUS:

1841 - Ann was living with her brother Thomas, at Wildon Grange.

1851 - Ann was living with her husband Thomas and his children, at Preston, Tynemouth.

1861 - Ann was living with her husband Thomas and his children, at Rosella Cottage, Tynemouth.

1881 - Ann was living at The Villa, Uppleleby, Easingworld and Elizabeth Smith, wife of her brother Thomas was with her at the time.

F Child 9: **Jane SMITH** #4787

Born: 1802 in Wildon Grange, Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1</sup>

Died: 15 Feb 1881 <sup>1</sup>

Buried: at Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>7</sup>

Husband: Edward RIMMINGTON #4800 b. 9 Jul 1803 d. 25 Aug 1848

Married: 13 Jun 1827 at Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1,2</sup>

## NOTES:

Witnesses at marriage were Robert Smith and Ann Smith.

## CENSUS:

1841 - Jane & Edward were living at Monk Fryston.

1851 - Jane, widow, living at Hutton Sessay.

1861 - Jane, widow, living at Hutton Sessay.

1871 - Jane, widow of Wesleyan Minister. Her neice, Elizabeth Ann Smith, was visiting her.

M Child 10: **Thomas SMITH** #4774

Born: 20 Jul 1803 at Wildon Grange, Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1,2</sup>

Died: 14 Apr 1889 at Wildon Grange, Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1</sup>

Buried: 18 Apr 1889 at Coxwold, Yorkshire <sup>1</sup>

Wife: Elizabeth FAWCETT #4775 b. 11 May 1816 d. 6 Feb 1900

Married: 1841 at Thirkleby, Yorkshire <sup>1</sup>

## NOTES:

Thomas was born less than 3 months after the death of his older brother of the same name, so this is probably the reason he was given the name Thomas.

At the time of marriage, Elizabeth Fawcett was living with her brother John, at Osgoodby.

Thomas and his brothers were Methodists and along with his older brother

William, he had significant financial input when the Methodist Chapel at Kilburn was built. They also sent their farm labourers to dig foundations and act as labourers for the builders.

In later life he got himself into an unfortunate financial situation as he became involved in a business partnership where the partner defaulted on all his debts, which meant that Thomas was then liable for his partners debts. This more or less bankrupt him and was such a shock that he died soon afterwards, leaving his son Joseph to clear his debts.

TRADE DIRECTORY:

1840 (White's) - Smith, Thomas, lessee of the rectorial tithes of the parish under Trinity College, Cambridge.

CENSUS:

1841 - Wildon Grange, nr.Coxwold, Yorkshire					
Thos SMITH		33	Farmer		Yorkshire
Anne SMITH		37			Yorkshire
William SMITH		50	Farmer		Yorkshire
1851 - Wildon Grange, nr.Coxwold, Yorkshire					
Thomas SMITH	Head M	47	Farmer of 388 acres		Wildon Grange,
					Yorkshire
					employing 8 labourers
Elizabeth SMITH	Wife M	35			Tollerton, Yorkshire
William SMITH	Son	8	Scholar		Wildon Grange,
					Yorkshire
Elizabeth Ann SMITH	Dau	5			Wildon Grange,
					Yorkshire
Jane SMITH	Dau	3			Wildon Grange,
					Yorkshire
Mary SMITH	Dau	1			Wildon Grange,
					Yorkshire
(plus 6 servants)					
1861 - Wildon Grange, nr.Coxwold, Yorkshire					
Thomas SMITH, living with wife & 6 children - farmer of 388 acres.					
1871 - Wildon Grange, nr.Coxwold, Yorkshire					
Thomas SMITH, living with wife & 4 children - farmer of 682 acres, empl.10					
labs.					
1881 - Wildon Grange, nr.Coxwold, Yorkshire					
Thomas SMITH, living with son, Joseph.					

<sup>1</sup> Info from Linda Nelson <linda.nelson3@btopenworld.com>.

<sup>2</sup> Parish Register - Coxwold.

<sup>3</sup> From posting on www.rootschat.com.

<sup>4</sup> Parish Register - Bishop Wilton.

<sup>5</sup> British Vital Record Index.

<sup>6</sup> 1851 Census.

<sup>7</sup> M.I. - Coxwold.

<sup>8</sup> IGI, IGI, IGI.

<sup>9</sup> Memoirs of Joseph Smith (1823-98), Wesleyan Preacher.