

Appendix 3 **The Howie family**

The following is a brief background of the family of Martha Douglas Howie, great grandmother of Douglas Ramon Ward.

Martha Douglas Howie's parents came from Williamsburg and were married at Paisley Abbey, Renfrew, Scotland on the 8th November 1844.

(source: Ancestry.com from FHL Film Number 104109, 089472.)

Williamsburgh today is a residential area, but in 1844 it was a separate village outside the boundary of Paisley.

A scan from the Abbey Parish Register, page 138, is provided by the website Scotland's People:

4 November 1844
Thomas Howie Labourer and Martha Sloan both residing at Williamsburgh in this parish have been regularly proclaimed in order to marriage and no objection made Booked 19 October Procl^d 20th & Days and Married at Paisley 8 Nov by the Rev^d Dr. McVair Abbey Manse

Thomas Howie died in Ngapera, Otago in 1879 and the following fragments from the registration of his death provide confirmation that we have the right couple.

DESCRIPTION OF DECEASED.		PARENTS.		WHERE BORN.	IF DECEASED WAS MARRIED.	
1. Name and Surname.	Sex and Age.	1. Name and Surname of Father. 2. Name and, if known, Maiden Surname of Mother. 3. Rank or Profession of Father.		1. Where born? 2. How long in New Zealand?	1. Where married? 2. At what age married? 3. To whom married?	If Issue living state Number and Sex.
(1) Thomas Howie (2) Labourer	M 54 years	(1) Daniel Howie (2) Mary Howie		(1) near Glasgow (2) 25 years	(1) Paisley Scotland (2) 24 years (3) Martha Sloan	5 male 2 female

(Cropped from the New Zealand death registry.)

Thomas Howie, labourer, 54 years, parents Daniel and Mary Howie, born (indecipherable) in New Zealand for 25 years, married: Paisley, Scotland, age 24, to Martha Sloan.

His date of birth is around 1820 or 1824, depending on whether we calculate from age at death, or age at marriage. (The informant was the coroner, not a family member.)

The document tells us also that in 1879 there were 5 sons and 2 daughters living.

It is not certain when the couple arrived in New Zealand.

The statement made on the death certificate of Thomas Howie in 1879, that he had been in New Zealand for 25 years, is probably approximate.
It would suggest that they might have arrived around 1854.

There is a record of a Thomas Howie, farm servant, 24, arriving in Otago in 1849 on the ship *Larkins*. (Scan was downloaded from the Familysearch website.)

LIST of Steerage Passengers on board the Ship												Lark	
Settlement.	Name of Person.	Trade or Calling.	Age of each Person at the time of Embarkation.										
			Married.		Unmarried.		Boys.		Girls.				
			Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	7	1	Months.	7	1	Months.	
							and under 14 Years.	and under 7 Years.		and under 14 Years.	and under 7 Years.		
"	Thomas Howie	Farm Servant			24								

The Thomas Howie, farm servant, 24, in this document is recorded as an unmarried man. Either it is a different Thomas Howie or (less likely) it is our Thomas Howie who possibly came out to Otago ahead of his wife....

The first newspaper record of a Thomas Howie in Otago is in 1851:
Otago Witness, Issue 3, 8 March 1851, Page 1

LIST of PERSONS qualified to serve as JURORS for the District of Otago for the year 1851 :—	
Howden, David, the Fordbury, Bann.	
Howie, Thomas, Half-way Bush, laborer.	
Hudson, Edward, North-east Valley, carter.	

There is a Thomas Howie listed on the 1853-64 electoral roll for Dunedin:

Howden, Henry Charles	labourer	householder	cherry farm
Howe, James	labourer	do.	Kaiti bush, Moeraki
Howie, Thomas	ploughman	do.	do.
Hughes, John	shepherd	householder and tenant holder	Atterden

This Thomas Howie, Moeraki, ploughman, is very likely to be the father of Martha Douglas Howie.

In February 1854 Thomas Howie's name appears on a list of settlers who made a donation towards the cost of bringing two church ministers out from Scotland.
Thomas donated the considerable sum of 10 shillings.

His name appeared again in the Otago Daily Times in January 1863 on a list of unclaimed letters.

Thomas Howie is recorded again in the Otago Daily Times, 11 August 1865, and again on the 17th August 1865, entered in a ploughing competition which took place in Hampden. Thomas Howie was one of the competing ploughmen and his team was owned by John Young.

In his obituary (Oamaru Mail, 22 January 1879) Thomas was referred to as "an old and respected Hampden settler."

Thomas Howie died as a result of an accident in 1879.

Oamaru Mail, Volume IV, Issue 864, 22 January 1879, Page 2

An accident, by which an old and respected Hampden settler named Thomas Howie met his death, occurred yesterday afternoon at Ngapara. The deceased, in company with a Mr. M'Kay, was proceeding to the Tables, in a dray laden with coal, and when about a mile beyond Ngapara, the horses shied from some unexplained cause. The result was that the dray was upset, and falling on the unfortunate man he was killed instantaneously. Deceased, who had for some time been in the employ of Mr. M'Master, at Maerewhenua, but which he had just quitted, leaves a large grown-up family to mourn his loss. The police were communicated with upon the matter. The body will, we believe, be brought into Oamaru this evening, and an inquest will be held to-morrow.

An inquest was held on 4th January at which the evidence disclosed nothing new, and the jury returned a verdict of accidental death. (See Coroner's report below.) (North Otago Times, 24 January 1879)

A correspondent to the Otago Daily Times expressed his disgust at the way in which the inquest was conducted. (Otago Daily Times, 24 January 1879):

Referring to the unfortunate accident by which a man named Thomas Howie met his death at Ngapara on Tuesday afternoon, by being thrown off a dray loaded with coals, our correspondent, writing yesterday, says:—"There appears to be gross carelessness and utter inconsiderateness on the part of the authorities, as, although the accident happened on Tuesday afternoon, the corpse still lies in the stable of the hotel here. A policeman came from Oamaru yesterday morning at 9.30, who stated the inquest would have to be held at Oamaru. He returned to Oamaru, leaving the body behind, and when the train came again in the evening no message, coffin, or Government officer came to take charge or dispose of the body in any way. More grossly inhuman conduct could not have been shown a dog. Such a case should be made public."

The coroner's report.

COLONY OF
NEW ZEALAND,
TO WIT.

AN INQUISITION indented, taken for our Sovereign Lady the Queen, at the house of *James Campbell*
at *Ngapara in the Provincial District of Otago* in the said Colony, on the *Twenty third* day of *January*
in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight, before *Thomas Huddle Parker*
one of the Coroners of our Sovereign Lady the Queen for the said Colony, on view of the body of *Thomas Howie*
James Campbell, Peter Lamson, William Thornton, Thomas Nimmo, David Henry Leith, Thomas Salvey, Thomas Bartlett, Frederick Palmer, John Anderson, Joseph Cordell and Nicholas Smith
good and lawful men of the neighbourhood, duly chosen, and who being there and then duly sworn and charged to inquire for our Lady the Queen, when, how, and by what means the said *Thomas Howie* came to his death, do upon their oaths say—That *the said Thomas Howie on the Twenty first day of January in the year aforesaid being riding on a certain Dray drawn by three Horses at Ngapara aforesaid it so happened that the said Horses were frightened by some cause not known to the Coroner, and the said Dray was then and there carelessly, accidentally and by misfortune overturned, and the said Thomas Howie being thrown to and against the ground the said Dray, being so overturned as aforesaid, fell upon the said Thomas Howie who did then lie in and upon the body of him the said Thomas Howie such mortal injuries as to cause instant death. And so the Horses aforesaid upon their oath aforesaid do say that the said Thomas Howie in manner and by means aforesaid accidentally, casually and by misfortune came to his death and not otherwise*

Children of Thomas Howie and Martha (nee Sloan)

The above obituary states that Thomas Howie was a Hampden settler and that he left “a large grown up family”.

His death certificate states that he had two daughters and 5 sons living.

Unfortunately we can not name more than two of the children with any certainty, as there are no registered births attributed to anyone called Thomas Howie prior to his death in 1879.

Martha Douglas Howie is most likely one of the children of Thomas Howie.

According to her death certificate she was born around 1859.

The reasoning for assuming she is the daughter of Thomas and Martha is as follows:

In 1872 when Martha Howie was charged with being a vagrant, the Otago Daily Times (6 Nov 1872) article stated that her father was shearing at Palmerston, that she had a sister in town (Dunedin) and that her mother and brothers were living in Hampden.

Martha's death certificate states that she died in Hampden and that her mother's maiden name was Martha Sloane.

(The certificate however records her fathers name not as Thomas Howie, but as Charles Thomas Howie. There being no other record of any Charles Thomas Howie, the conclusion is that the “Charles” may be no more than confusion with the name of her husband, Charles W. D. Ward.)

David Sloan Howie is highly likely to be one of the sons of Thomas Howie and Martha Sloan. He was born around 1861, and married in 1884

1884/1094 Rose May Summerall David Sloan Howie

and the following children were registered:

1885/8565	Howie	William David	Rose May	David Sloan
1887/3766	Howie	Walter John	Rose May	David Sloan
1891/11838	Howie	Lilias Emma	Rose May	David Sloan
1894/11424	Howie	Stanley George	Rose May	David Sloan

He died in 1938 and she in 1936.

1938/21600	Howie	David Sloan	77Y
1936/21035	Howie	Rose May	73Y

There is a record of the four children of David Sloan Howie attending Hampden School: (Waitaki District Archive, North Otago Museum, Oamaru)

ISS Date	Forename	Address	Birth date	Last Day	Destination
5 Oct 1891	David		15 Apr 1885	19 Feb 1900	Rabbiting
9 Oct 1891	David		15 Apr 1885	20 Nov 1900	Apprentice Butcher
8 Feb 1898	Lily	Hampden	14 Aug 1891	13 Feb 1903	Palmerston
17 Jul 1899	Stanley		8 Jul 1894	20 Feb 1903	Palmerston
3 May 1892	Walter	Hampden	1 May 1887	1 May 1887	Left District
15 Feb 1897	Walter	Hampden	1 May 1887	1 May 1887	Palmerston
29 Jun 1903	Walter	Palmerston	1 May 1887	1 May 1887	Home

David Sloan Howie has left an interesting relic – one of New Zealand’s early examples of a “drunk in charge” (D.I.C.)

On 27th January 1891 David Howie was charged with being “Drunk while in charge of a horse”

No. 490.] NEW ZEALAND POLICE FORCE.

Palmerston Station. *Waimān* District.

LIST OF PROPERTY TAKEN FROM THE PRISONER HEREIN NAMED.

Date of Arrest.	Name of Prisoner.	Offence.	When and where committed.	Sentence.	Prisoner's Effects.				Name of Arresting Constable.
					£	s.	d.	Sancties.	
27.1.91 at 8.40 pm	David Howie	Drunk while in charge of a horse	27 th 1.91 at 8.40 pm Toucan Street Palmerston	<i>Since 21 or in Defaulter seven day hard labor in Waimān gaol</i>	1	2	9	watch from toilet	Locke Mullany

Signature of Prisoner: *David Howie* Signature of Arresting Constable: *Locke Mullany* Signature of Watch-house Keeper: *L. Mullany*

REMARKS, giving the names of the Constables who escorted the Prisoner to Gaol or Lock-up, and the Receipts of Gaoler or Lock-up Keeper for Prisoner's Effects.

Received the above property correct
David Howie

Since 21 or in Defaulter seven day hard labor in Waimān gaol

Sentence.

The other children of Thomas and Martha

So far no records have been identified relating to the other daughter (probably older than Martha Douglas Howie) or the other four sons.

The significance of the middle name (Douglas) of Martha Douglas Howie has not been established. Perhaps it was her grandmother’s maiden name?

The name Douglas has been continued for the next four generations in the Ward family.

