

Elizabeth Sucksmith of Roydlands Farm

As already described in

William Hardcastle of Roydlands Farm

Elizabeth Sucksmith was William Hardcastle's niece and housekeeper. She and her family lived at Roydlands Farm on the Shibden Hall estate which was rented from the Lister family.

After William Hardcastle died, on 28th October 1852, Elizabeth continued to live at Roydlands Farm with her sons James and William and her daughter Fanny. Another son John Sucksmith may also have resided there for a time, but he has not been positively identified after the 1851 census.

Her son William Sucksmith married Jane Brooke Q1 1856 in the Bradford district. They had daughters Suzanne Elizabeth and Clara baptised at St. Matthew's, Lightcliffe on 24th March 1857 and 16th October 1859 respectively.

These two Sucksmith households were next door to one another in 1861 .

1861 census

Elizabeth Sucksmith Head 53 Farmer of 7 acres
James Sucksmith Son 36 Farmer's Son
Fanny Sucksmith Dau 17 Farmer's Dau
Joseph Hemingway Boarder 61 Wheelwright
Address Whitehall, Hipperholme with Brighthouse

1861 census

William Sucksmith Head 33 Shoemaker
Jane Sucksmith Wife 33
Susannah Elizabeth Sucksmith Dau 3
Clara Sucksmith Dau 1
Address Whitehall, Hipperholme with Brighthouse

James Sucksmith married Elizabeth Bentley Q4 1861 in the Halifax district. They had a daughter Annie born Q1 1862 and then two sons John and William born Q3 1863 and Q3 1865; all three were baptised much later. Eleven-year-old Ann Sucksmith was baptised at St. John's Church, Halifax with her cousin Edith Bentley on 25th Mary 1873. Brothers John and William Sucksmith were baptised together at St. Matthew's, Lightcliffe on 6th June 1875.

Brother William and his wife Jane had Benjamin Brooke Sucksmith and then Ann Sucksmith baptised at St. Matthew's Lightcliffe on 17th May 1863 and 30th September 1866 respectively. But little Benjamin died on 23rd November 1864 aged 19 months. He was buried with his great great uncle William Hardcastle in plot F*28 on 26th November 1864. The memorial inscription continued like this.



1871 census

Elizabeth Sucksmith Head 62
Farmer of 15 acres employing one man
Fanny Sucksmith Dau 25 Dress Maker
Joseph Hemingway Servant 70 Farm Labourer
Address Whitehall, Hipperholme cum Brighthouse

1871 census

James Sucksmith Head 46 Farmer 100 acres
Elizabeth Sucksmith Wife 40
Anne Sucksmith Dau 9 Scholar
John Sucksmith Son 7
Willie Sucksmith Son 5
Mary Hannah Aked Serv 16 Servant
Address Yew Tree, Hipperholme cum Brighthouse

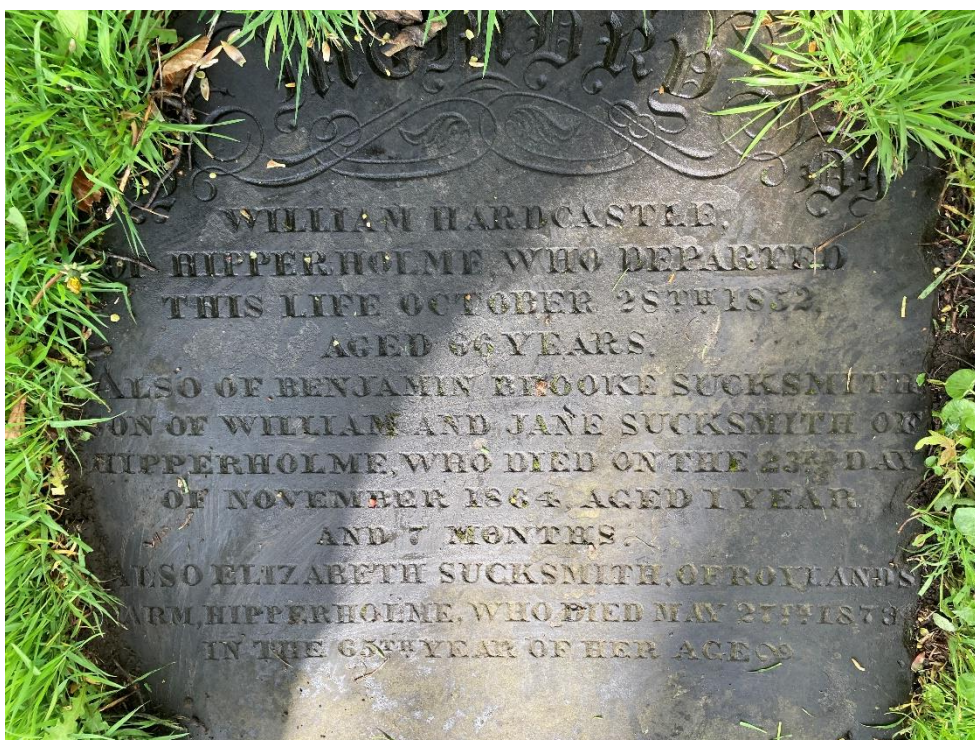
1871 census

William Sucksmith Head 43 Currier
Jane Sucksmith Wife 43
Susannah Sucksmith Dau 13 Pupil Teacher
Clara Sucksmith Dau 11 Scholar
Ann Sucksmith Dau 4
Isaac Dewhurst Boarder 57 Agent
Mary A Dewhurst Boarder 51 Boarder
Address Whitehall, Hipperholme with Brighthouse

Again, William Sucksmith and his family were living next door to his mother and sister in Whitehall.

The *West Yorkshire, Select Land Tax* records for the years ending 1871, 1872 and 1873 are interesting. In 1871 and 1872 an Elizabeth Sucksmith appears to own a cottage in Hipperholme whilst James Shoesmith occupied a cottage and land in Whitehall owned by John Lister. Then in 1873 J. Smallwood occupied a cottage and land at Whitehall owned by John Lister and James Sucksmith owned cottages in Hipperholme. This was the same situation in the years before the next census with the additional information that it was Jonathan Smallwood who was renting Roydlands Farm.

Elizabeth Sucksmith of Roydlands Farm died on 27th May 1873. She was buried with her uncle and grandson in plot F*28 on 29th May 1873.



**IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM HARDCASTLE
OF HIPPERHOLME WHO DEPARTED
THIS LIFE OCTOBER 28TH 1852
AGED 66 YEARS**

**ALSO OF BENJAMIN BROOKE SUCKSMITH
SON OF WILLIAM AND JANE SUCKSMITH HIPPERHOLME
WHO DIED ON THE 23RD DAY OF NOVEMBER 1864
AGED 1 YEAR AND 7 MONTHS**

**ALSO OF ELIZABETH SUCKSMITH
OF ROYDLANDS FARM HIPPERHOLME
WHO DIED MAY 27TH 1873
IN THE 65TH YEAR OF HER AGE**

Less than a year later on 4th February 1874, her only daughter Frances (Fanny) Sucksmith married Jonathan Smallwood. Four children were baptised at St. Matthew's before the next census; namely Elizabeth on 6th June 1875 when her cousins John and William Sucksmith were also baptised, Margaret on 4th June 1876, Annie on 2nd June 1878 and Thomas on 5th June 1881. For each baptism Jonathan Smallwood was a farmer of Whitehall, Hipperholme or Lightcliffe, almost certainly of Roydlands Farm, Whitehall which he was certainly renting from John Lister in 1877.

Fanny's brother William Sucksmith died on 15th February 1876 and was buried in plot C13 in Lightcliffe churchyard on 18th February 1876. His daughter Clara married Ezra Pearson Q3 1876. They lost their one-year-old daughter Agnes Pearson on 14th January 1880. A few months later her uncle James Sucksmith lost his first wife Elizabeth née Bentley on 19th October 1876. She was buried in plot C11 near her brother-in-law on 24th October 1876. James Sucksmith then married Esther Smith Q3 1879. Their sons James born 18th December 1879 and Harry born 6th March 1881 were baptised later, on 10th June 1883 in Barkisland.

1881 census

James Sucksmith Head 55 Farmer
Ellen Sucksmith Wife 38 [should be Esther]
Annie Sucksmith Dau 19
John Sucksmith Son 17 Farm Labourer
Willie Sucksmith Son 15 Blacksmith
James Sucksmith Son 1
Harry Sucksmith Son
Wm. Wainwright Servant 30 Farm Labourer
John Knight Visitor 23 Blacksmith
Address
Yew Tree Farm, Hipperholme cum Brighthouse

1881 census

Jane Sucksmith Head 53 Widow Carpet Setter
Susannah E. Sucksmith Dau 23 ditto
Ann Sucksmith Dau 14 Worsted Spinner
Address
Bramley Lane, Hipperholme with Brighthouse

1881 census

Ezra Pearson Head 27 Carpet Weaver
Clara Pearson Wife 21
Frank Pearson Son 4
Thomas Pearson Son 3mo
Address
5 Common Wood Head, Hipperholme cum
Brighthouse

1881 census

Jonathan Smallwood Head 37
Farmer of 20 acres employing 1 man
Frances Smallwood Wife 37
Elizabeth Smallwood Dau 6
Maggie Smallwood Dau 5
Annie Smallwood Dau 2
Thomas Smallwood Son 1
John Moran Servant 19 Farm Servant
Address Hipperholme with Brighthouse

John Sucksmith the eldest son of James and Elizabeth Sucksmith of Yew Trees Farm emigrated to Canada arriving in Quebec from Liverpool in August 1883. His family's story loops back to Lightcliffe so he will still be followed.

His half-sister Elizabeth was born on 2nd February 1885 and baptised at Lightcliffe on 10th June 1885. But by then she was fatherless. Her father, James Sucksmith of Yew Trees Farm, died on 4th April 1885. He was buried with his first wife Elizabeth in plot C11 on 7th April 1885.

The Will of James Sucksmith late of Yew Tree Farm Lightcliffe in the Township of Hipperholme-cum-Brighouse in the Parish of Halifax in the County of York Farmer who died 4 April 1885 at Yew Tree Farm was proved at Wakefield by Thomas Illingworth of Lightcliffe Stone Merchant and William King of Brighouse in the Parish of Halifax Grocer the Executors. Personal Estate £296

Later that year there were two family weddings. Annie Sucksmith married Donald Walker Q4 1885, and her brother William married Elizabeth Ann Pratt on 15th October 1885. Quarryman William Sucksmith and his wife Elizabeth Ann of Lydgate had four children before the next census; John on 24th November 1886, Janet on 24th March 1888, Aaron on 17th 1889 and Walter on 7th June 1890 although they were all later 'batch' baptised on 16th November 1901 at St. Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe.

Meanwhile Jonathan and Frances Smallwood of Roydlands Farm had more children baptised at St. Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe; Mary born 15th July 1882 on 1st October 1882, James born 25th March 1885 on 10th June 1885, twins Edith and William on 25th July 1888 and John Stanley born 11th July 1890 on 28th September 1890. Little Edith was buried on 25th March 1889 at Lightcliffe aged thirteen months. She was later remembered on her parents' headstone on plot J12 along with one of her brothers.

Little Thomas Pearson who was baptised at Coley on 15th May 1881 died on 7th March 1882. His parents then had daughters Ethel born 21st February 1885 and Edith Annie baptised at Lightcliffe on 7th June 1885 and 21st August 1887.

1891 census

Esther Sucksmith Head 48 Widow Living on own means
James Sucksmith Son 11 Scholar
Harry Sucksmith Son 10 ditto
Elizabeth Sucksmith Dau 6 ditto
Address
Priestley Green, Hipperholme with Brighouse

1891 census

Donald Walker Head 32 Manager of Carpet Mill
Annie Walker Wife 29
Raymond Walker Son 4
Edith Walker Dau 1
Address 2 Grange Terrace, Lightcliffe

1891 Canada census

Sucksmith J Lodger 28 Saw Mill Hand
Address
Kootenay Lower, Yale, British Columbia, Canada

1891 census

William Sucksmith Head 25 Cart Driver
Lizzie Sucksmith Wife 24
John Sucksmith Son 4
Janet Sucksmith Dau 3
Aaron Sucksmith Son 2
Walter Sucksmith Son 10/12
William Pratt Brother-in-law 26 Stone Delver
Maria Pratt Sister-in-law 12 Scholar
Address
Lydget Bridge, Hipperholme with Brighouse

1891 census

Jane Sucksmith Head 63 Widow Living on own means
Susannah E. Sucksmith Dau 33 Carpet Setter
Ann Sucksmith Dau 24 Worsted Carpet Weaver
Address
Bramley Lane, Hipperholme with Brighouse

1891 census

Ezra Pearson Head 36 Carpet Weaver
 Clara Pearson Wife 31
 Frank Pearson Son 14 Grocer's Assistant
 Ethel Pearsom Dau 6
 Edith A Pearson Dau 3
 Address Sun Buildings, Lightcliffe

Frances Smallwood née Sucksmith continued to live at Roydlands Farm, rented by her husband Jonathan Smallwood from Mr John Lister of Shibden Hall.

1891 census

Jonathan Smallwood Head 47
 Farmer & Cab Proprietor
 Frances Smallwood Wife 47
 Elizabeth Smallwood Dau 16
 Maggie Smallwood Dau 15 Dressmaker
 Annie Smallwood Dau 12 Scholar
 Thomas Smallwood Son 10 ditto
 Mary Smallwood Dau 8 ditto
 James Smallwood Son 6 ditto
 William Smallwood Son 3
 John Stanley Smallwood Son 9/12
 Frederick Mc Turton Servant 32
 Address Roydlands Farm, Hipperholme

Then over in Canada, on 15th August 1891 John Sucksmith of England married Sarah Ellen Nettleton of England in the Donald District of British Columbia. Sarah Ellen Nettleton was the eldest daughter of the late William Nettleton, a grocer, and his widow, his second wife, Martha née Wood. Sarah Ellen did have an older half-sister Elizabeth Ann Nettleton whose story is told in the article.

Private G. Percy S. Brown updated

On 5th April 1891, census night, Sarah Ellen Nettleton was a 27-year-old dressmaker living with her widowed mother, a grocer, and sisters at 1 & 2 Park View, Lightcliffe. Not long after the census was taken, she must have made the journey to Canada, but no ship's passenger record nor immigration record has been found for her.

Florence and Edward Leslie Sucksmith were born in British Columbia on 17th December 1892 and 2nd August 1894. But daughter Eleanor was born on 22nd December 1895 in Lightcliffe. The family must have returned to England, although again no passenger records have been found. There is a 1896 Lightcliffe Mixed Infants school record for 3-year-old Florence, daughter of John Sucksmith of Park View. Another daughter Norah Sucksmith was born on 22nd November 1898 in the USA. Five-year-old son Edward Leslie Sucksmith died in the Grand Forks District of British Columbia on 15th May 1900. Another son named Edward, was born there on 8th April 1901 although he was recorded as William in 1901.

Meanwhile their cousins, more children of their uncle William Sucksmith and his wife Elizabeth Ann née Pratt, were born back in Lightcliffe; namely Hannah in Q4 1892, Jim in Q4 1894, Alice Q4 1896 but she died Q4 1896, Leonard Q2 1898 and then another Alice Q4 1899. Leonard and Alice were baptised on 6th October 1901 at St. Matthew's Church. No baptism record has been found for Hannah or Jim and there probably was not time to baptise the first Alice.

Ida Marion Walker was born on 12th November 1892. Her six-year-old brother Raymond Walker died on 6th May 1893. He was the first occupant of plot J11 when he was buried there three days later. Twins Roland and Arthur Walker were born on 8th June 1894. Ida Pearson was born Q3 1899 and baptised at Cleckheaton on 19th October 1899.

Her grandmother, William Sucksmith's widow Jane née Brooke died on 22nd November 1895 aged 68 years. She was buried with her husband in plot C13 on 25th November 1895. On 26th February 1896 they were joined by their eldest daughter Susannah Elizabeth who died on 23rd February 1896 aged 38 years. Daughter Ann Sucksmith married Fred Henry Weatherhead on 2nd June 1900 in Cleckheaton.

Esther Sucksmith née Smith the second wife of James Sucksmith of Yew Trees was buried with him and his first wife, Elizabeth, on 11th Jun 1898 in plot C11. Unlike his brother's nearby plot, C11 does have this headstone



**IN AFFECTIONATE REMEMBRANCE OF ELIZABETH
THE WIFE OF JAMES SUCKSMITH OF YEW TREES LIGHTCLIFFE
WHO DIED OCTOBER 19TH 1876 AGED 46 YEARS**

**ALSO OF THE ABOVE NAMED JAMES SUCKSMITH
WHO DIED APRIL 4TH 1883 AGED 60 YEARS**

**ALSO OF ESTHER WIDOW OF THE ABOVE
WHO DIED JUNE 8TH 1898 AGED 53 YEARS**

**ALSO OF HANNAH THE DAUGHTER OF WILLIAM AND ELIZABETH SUCKSMITH
WHO DIED MARCH 14TH 1912 AGED 19 YEARS**

Hannah was the daughter William and Elizabeth née Pratt and so the granddaughter of James and Elizabeth Sucksmith,

There is an almost identical headstone next to it on plot C12 where other members of Elizabeth's Bentley family were buried. Read

The Bentley family of Northowram

1901 census

Donald Walker Head 42 Manager
Tapestry Carpet Factory

Annie Walker Wife 38
Edith Walker Dau 11
Ida M. Walker Dau 8
Arthur Walker Son 6
Roland Walker Son 6

Address 2 Grange Terrace, Lightcliffe

1901 Canada census

John Sucksmith Head 37 Saw mill man
Sarah E. Sucksmith Wife 38
Florence Sucksmith Dau 8
Eleanor Sucksmith Dau 5
Norah Sucksmith Dau 2
William Sucksmith Son 0

Address Kootenay (West/Ouest), (Rossland
Riding/Division Rossland)

1901 census

William Sucksmith Head 36
Engine Driver Quarry Worker
Elizabeth Sucksmith Wife 36
John Sucksmith Son 14
Oiler Machinery Worsted Mill
Janet Sucksmith Dau 13 Spinner Worsted Mill
Aaron Sucksmith Son 12
Walter Sucksmith Son 10
Hannah Sucksmith Dau 8
Jim Sucksmith Son 6
Leonard Sucksmith Son 3

Alice Sucksmith Dau 1
Address Hill Top, Lightcliffe

Sixteen-year-old Elizabeth Sucksmith the daughter of James and Esther was living with a widow in Primrose St., Halifax in 1901. Her brothers James and Harry Sucksmith have not been found on this census.

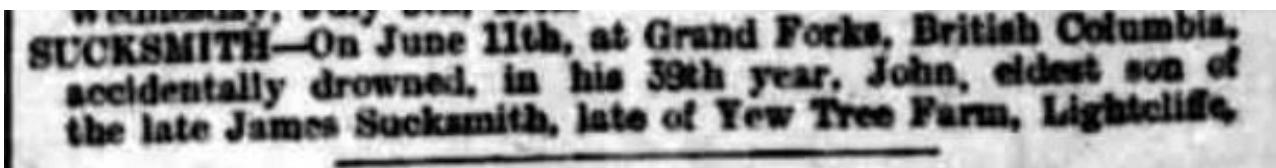
1901 census

Ezra Pearson Head 48 Carpet Weaver
Clara Pearson Wife 41
Ethel Pearson Dau 16 Spinner Piecer Woollen
Edith A Pearson Dau 13
Ida Pearson Dau 1
Address Hartshead Moor, Clifton

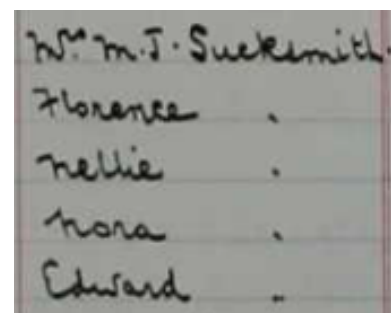
1901 census

Jonathan Smallwood Head 57
Farmer & Cab Proprietor
Frances Smallwood Wife 57
Margaret Smallwood Dau 25 Dressmaker
Annie Smallwood Dau 22 ditto
Thomas Smallwood Son 20
Driver (Groom)
Mary Smallwood Dau 18
James Smallwood Son 16
Stable Boy (Groom)
William Smallwood Son 13 Butcher's Boy
John S Smallwood Son 10
Address Roydlands Farm, Hipperholme

Just over a year later there was this death announcement in the *Halifax Guardian* for 12th July 1902. Presumably John Sucksmith was buried in Canada.



The day after this notice appeared Sarah Ellen Sucksmith gave birth to another son John Howard Sucksmith on 13th July 1902 in Canada. Then it looks as if Sarah Ellen and her children sailed on the *SS Lake Champlain* from Montreal to Liverpool arriving on 26th November 1902. The initials for Sarah Ellen are wrong and baby John Howard Sucksmith is not listed - perhaps he was too young – but the four older children are listed correctly in age order albeit with the William on the 1901 census form thereafter known as Edward.



1905. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish								
of Halifax				in the County of York				
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
98	28 th October 1905	James Sucksmith	25	Bachelor	Medanic	Broad Oak Hipperholme	James Sucksmith (deceased)	Farmer
		Susannah Midgley	24	Spinster		Bacconfield Terrace Hipperholme	John Midgley (deceased)	Carter
Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church by _____ or after Banns by me This Marriage was solemnized between us, <u>James Sucksmith</u> in the Presence of us, <u>Susannah Midgley</u> <u>Leavis Midgley</u> <u>Elizabeth Sucksmith</u> <u>R. B. Bealingham</u>								

The Halifax marriage record above is for James Sucksmith, son of James Sucksmith and his second wife Esther née Smith, who married Susannah Midgley on 28th October 1905. They had a daughter on 10th August 1906. She was named Esther presumably after her paternal grandmother.

1911 census

Donald Walker Head 52 Mill Manager
 Annie Walker Wife 49
 Edith Walker Dau 21 Domestic at Home
 Ida Marion Walker Dau 18 Typist
 Arthur Walker Son 16 Student (School)
 Roland Walker Son 16 Warehouseman
 Address Lightcliffe, Halifax

1911 census

Sarah Ellen Sucksmith Head 48 Widow
 Eleanor Sucksmith Dau 15 Florist's Assistant
 Mary Bertha Nettleton Sister 42
 Fancy Draper Dealer
 Address 19 Jessamine Terrace, Halifax

1911 census

James Sucksmith Head 31 Iron Turner
 Susannah Sucksmith Wife 29
 Elizabeth Sucksmith Sister 26 Machinist
 Esther Sucksmith Dau 4
 Address
 15 Undercliffe Place, Norcliffe Lane, Southowram

1911 census

Ezra Pearson Head 57 Carpet Weaver
 Clara Pearson Wife 51
 Edith Annie Pearson Dau 23 Filler
 Ida Pearson Dau 11 School
 Address 9 Carlton Place, Brighouse

1911 census

Jonathan Smallwood Head 67
 Farmer & Cab Proprietor
 Fanny Smallwood Wife 67
 Thomas Smallwood Son 30 Currier
 James Smallwood Son 26
 At home Farming & driving
 John Smallwood Son 20
 At home Farming & driving
 Maggie Smallwood Dau 35 At home
 Address Roydlands Farm, Hipperholme

Notice that Elizabeth Sucksmith, who witnessed her brother's marriage, was living with him. Their other brother Harry was a 30-year-old mechanic boarding at Crossland Hills, Huddersfield.

The widow Sarah Ellen Sucksmith, having returned home with her children from Canada, was living with one daughter and a sister in Jessamine Terrace, Halifax. But where were the other Sucksmith children?

Eldest daughter Florence Sucksmith aged 18 was a 'General Servant' to a family living in Greetland. Her three youngest siblings were boarding in Halifax schools. Twelve-year-old Norah and 9-year-old Edward were at the Blue Coat School, Harrison Road, Halifax. Nine-year-old Edward was at the Crossley and Porter Orphan Home and School, Savile Park, Halifax.

And then the Great War started. At least five related young men all descendants of Elizabeth Sucksmith of Roydlands Farm lost their lives as a result of the conflict. Thankfully some others survived. Their family stories have already been told in

Private Roland Walker

Privates Aaron, Walter and Leonard Sucksmith

Private James Smallwood updated

These articles record what happened to some other members of these soldiers' families. Inevitably there will be some overlap of information but not everything will be repeated.

As the 1921 census is now available, some of these families and their Lightcliffe connections will be picked up again. This census gave information as to an individual's occupation and who their employer was as well as an individual's place of birth.

The story of Sarah Ellen Sucksmith née Nettleton and the Browns will be continued in

Three Nettleton sisters

1921 census

Annie Walker	Head	59	Home Duties	-
Edith Walker	Dau	30	Home Duties	-
Ida Marian Walker	Dau	28	Cashier	Smith Wood Co Ltd, Col Coke, Lime merchant
Arthur Walker	Son	27	Clerk	T F Firth Town Ltd, Carpet Manufacturers

Address 2, Grange Terrace, Lightcliffe, Hipperholme, Yorkshire (West Riding), England

1921 census

Ezra Pearson	Head	68	Carpet Weaver	T F Firths Carpet Mills
Clara Pearson	Wife	61	House Hold Duties	-
Ida Pearson	Dau	21	Silk Doubler	Chatham Silk Spinners
Edith Annie Rushworth	Dau	34	House Hold Duties	-
Irvine Rushworth	Son-in-law	30	Newsagent	Own Account
Ronald Rushworth	Grandson	1		

Address 237, Bradford Road, Brighouse, Yorkshire (West Riding), England

1921 census

Maggie Green	Sister	45	House Keeping	-
John Stanley Smallwood	Head	31	Farmer & Carting Agent-	
Thomas Smallwood	Brother	40	Dyers Labourer	British ????? Co Bailiff Bridge Out Of Work

Address Roydlands Farm, Wakefield Road, Lightcliffe, Hipperholme, Yorkshire (West Riding), England

Siblings James, Harry and Elizabeth Sucksmith have not been found on the 1921 census. Harry may well have remained in Huddersfield where he married Sarah Elizabeth Heywood on 16th April 1927. He died in Huddersfield on 2nd August 1950. His brother James died long before then in Q1 1932 just before his daughter Esther married Jack Broadbent Q3 1932.

Clara Pearson née Sucksmith also died in 1932 on 27th November. She was buried in Lightcliffe plot C14 next to her parents William and Jane Sucksmith née Brooke on 30th November 1932. Neither plot has a headstone as the family plots C11 and C12 do.

1939 register

Irvine Rushworth	27 Feb 1891	Newsagent	Married
Edith A Rushworth	28 Apr 1887	Unpaid Domestic Duties	Married
Ronald Rushworth	15 Aug 1919	Display & Photographic Packer	Single
Dorothy Padgett	26 Jul 1925	Seeking Work, Not Previously Employed	Single

One closed record

Ezra Pearson	25 May 1852	Male Retired Carpet Winder	Widowed
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Address 268 Wakefield Road, Brighouse, Brighouse M.B., Yorkshire (West Riding), England

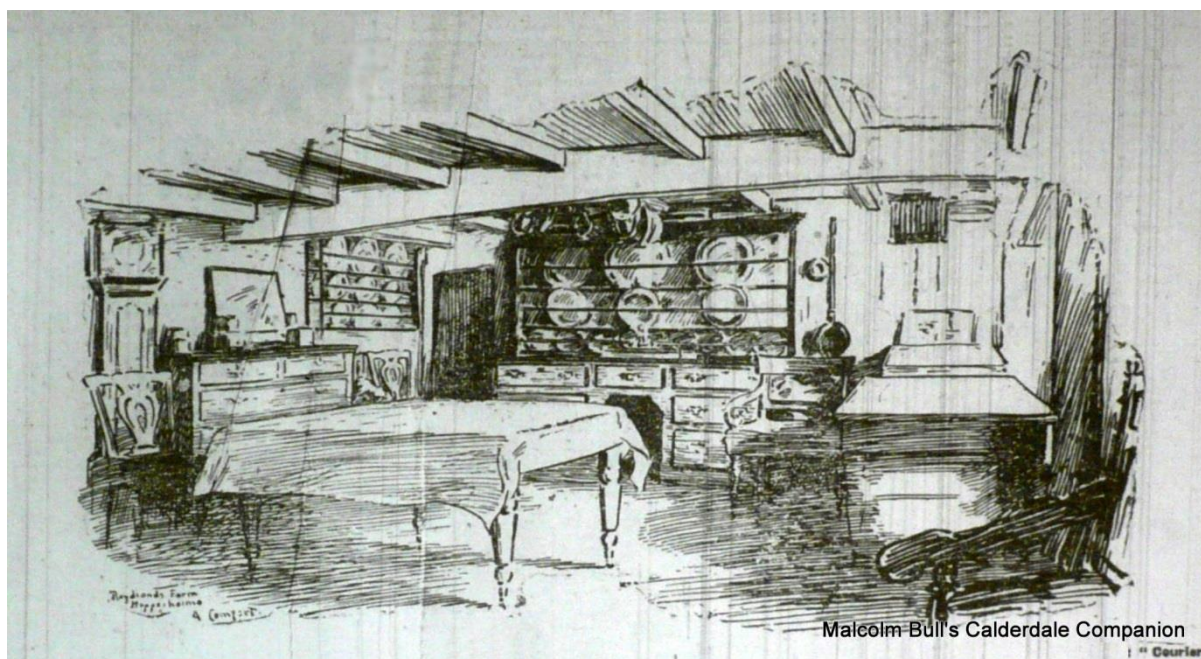
1939 register

Maggie Green	19 Mar 1876	Unpaid Domestic Duties	Widowed
Thomas Smallwood	30 Jul 1880	Dairy Farm Labourer	Single
John S Smallwood	11 Jul 1890	Dairy Farm Labourer	Single
Margaret S Spence	26 Jun 1903	Unpaid Domestic Duties	Married
Mary Spence (Lester)	09 Jun 1933	At School	Single
Kathleen Spence (Povey)	07 Jul 1936	Under School Age	Single

Address Roydlands Farm, Brighouse, Brighouse M.B., Yorkshire (West Riding), England

Margaret S(mallwood) Spence née Wright was the Smallwoods' niece, the daughter of their older sister Elizabeth Smallwood who married Thomas Wright. It is interesting that she and her daughters were at her mother's former home, Roydlands Farm on 29th September 1939.

Roydlands Farm had featured in a 1920 booklet *In & About our Old Homes* compiled by Arthur Comfort, an artist and wood engraver who taught art at Heath Grammar School. The sketch below – from Malcolm Bull's *Calderdale Companion* – is of the kitchen at Roydlands Farm.



The *Halifax Weekly Courier* which published Arthur Comfort's sketches added the following information about the old farm which had been in the Hardcastle then Sucksmith and finally Smallwood family for years.

ROYDLANDS FARM, Hipperholme, of which an interesting kitchen-interior is here shown, originally formed part of the Shibden Hall Estate, and was sold to the late Mr. Jonathan Smallwood about 30 years ago. The Smallwood family have occupied the house from generation to generation for nearly 200 years, and the present owners and occupiers are Mr. J. S. Smallwood and his sister, Mrs. Green. The antique oak furnishings, in excellent preservation, have been handed down the generations, and certain articles have occasionally been lent out for exhibition. A few years ago, a corner cupboard was sold to the Crossley family for 80 guineas and has since

changed hands at a much higher figure. Two hundred years ago, the kitchen doubtless presented an aspect similar to that shown in Mr. Comfort's sketch today. Everything appears in harmony with the age of the building and with the old-time rafters of the low ceiling. The plate racks contain many fine examples of old ware, but of varying ages. On the right of the large dresser, an old warming pan is shown, another hangs on the left, but is not visible in the sketch. The grandfather's clock, in remarkable condition, has a beautiful face, and is inscribed with the name "Thomas Lister, Luddenden".

Eighty-nine-year-old Ezra Pearson died on 20th April 1942. The former carpet weaver was buried with his wife Clara née Sucksmith in Lightcliffe plot C14 on 23rd April 1942.

Margaret Green née Smallwood died aged eighty on 17th August 1956 and was buried alongside her long-deceased husband, Henry Green, on 20th August 1956 in plot K12 of St Matthew's Churchyard.



**IN LOVING MEMORY OF MY DEAR HUSBAND HENRY GREEN
WHO DIED AT ROYDLANDS FARM HIPPERHOLME
ON AUG 3RD 1916 IN HIS 38TH YEAR**

"AT REST"

**ALSO OF MARGARET (MAGGIE) WIFE OF THE ABOVE
DIED AUG. 17TH 1956, AGED 80 YEARS**

Widow Maggie had continued to live at Roydlands Farm from where her brothers sent this acknowledgement.

Halifax Evening Courier 21 August 1956

Acknowledgments

GREEN,-- The brothers of the late Mrs. M.Green wish to tender sincere thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for the kind expressions of sympathy, letters of condolence and the many beautiful flowers received during their recent bereavement: also to the staff of Halifax General Hospital, and the doctor for kind attention – Roydlands Farm, Hipperholme.

GREEN Maggie of Roydlands Hipperholme near Halifax widow died 17 August 1956 at The General Hospital Halifax Probate Wakefield November [1957] to John Eastwood solicitor, Effects £1225 8s

John Eastwood was a nephew, the son of sister Annie Smallwood who had married James Eastwood on 11th September 1906.

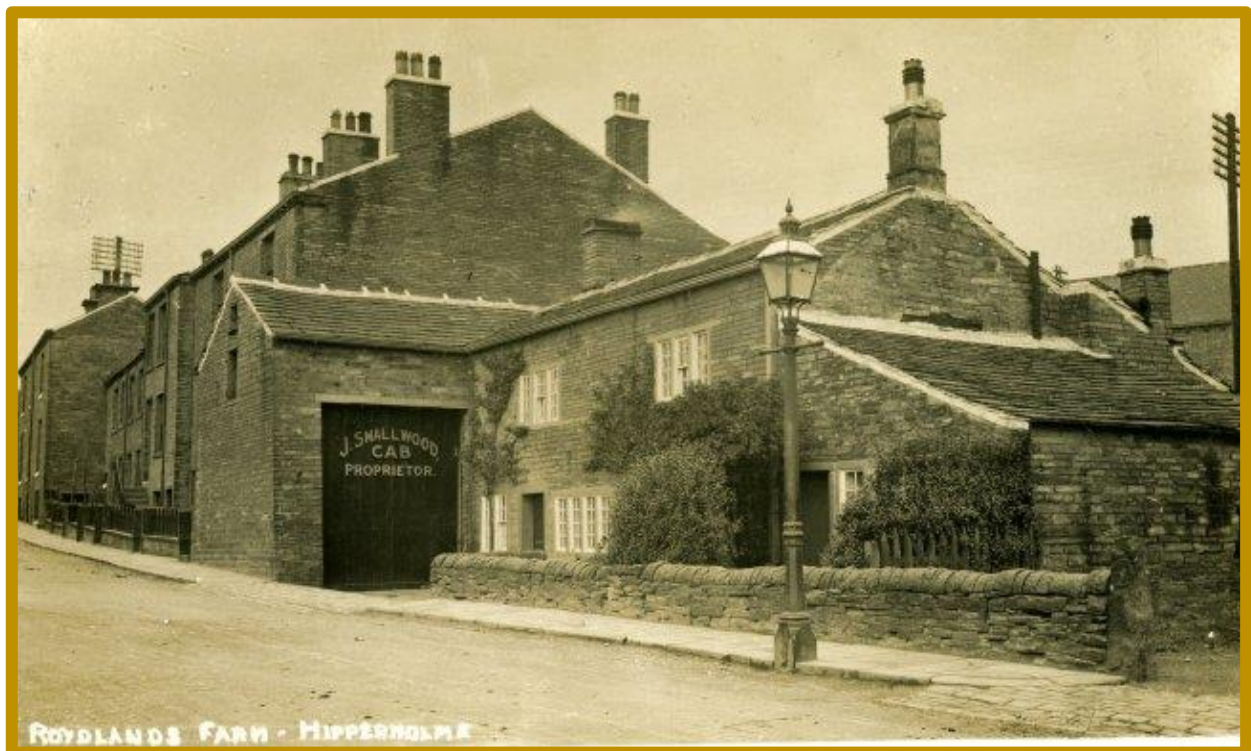
Seventy-year-old John Stanley Smallwood passed away on 27th December 1960 and was buried in the Lightcliffe cemetery in the Smallwood family plot, J12, on 30th December 1960. The plot has this headstone but there was no room to add John Stanley Smallwood's name.



His brother Thomas Smallwood died eight years later but no burial nor cremation record has been found. The family's Lightcliffe plot was clearly full. There is a probate record.

SMALLWOOD Thomas of Roydlands Farm Wakefield Rd Hipperholme Halifax died 13 March 1968 Administration Wakefield 5 March. £713

Thomas was the last of Elizabeth Sucksmith's grandchildren to occupy Roydlands Farm. His death brought to an end the long line of Hardcastles and then Sucksmiths and finally Smallwoods who had rented the farm from the Listers of Shibden Hall. Eventually Elizabeth Sucksmith's son-in-law, Jonathan Smallwood, the farmer and cab proprietor, seems to have bought the farm as the sitting tenant. Sometime after the death of his son, Thomas Smallwood, the farmhouse must have been demolished.



Above is an image of the farmhouse taken from the [Gallery \(lightcliffehistory.org.uk\)](https://lightcliffehistory.org.uk) section of the Lightcliffe and District Local History Society website.

D.M.Barker

June 2023