

EXCERPT  
Wolfenden Family Genealogy

**WOLFENDEN**



On October 20, 1874 at the Particular Baptist Chapel Victoria St., Monks Coppenhall, in the district of Nantwich, in the County of Chester -- Samuel Taylor and Alice Wolfenden were married as witnessed by his brother James Taylor Jun. and her sister Eliza.<sup>1</sup> Pictured to the left is Alice with her granddaughters -- Alice Oddy, Mabel Oddy, Beatrice Oddy and Elsie Taylor shortly after Elsie's birth in 1907. Edith Warburton in correspondence dated Nov 2000, offers the following ... "Grandma Taylor was a love, small rosy cheeked and white haired, she managed a grocery shop -- one of several that belonged to "Jimmy" Middleton, I believe he was her brother (we know it was brother-in-law)."

| 1874. Marriage solemnized at the Particular Baptist Chapel Victoria Street Monks Coppenhall in the District of Nantwich in the County of Chester |                   |                     |          |            |                     |                                    |                              |                               |
|--|-------------------|---------------------|----------|------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| No.  | When Married.     | Name and Residence. | Age.     | Condition. | Rank or Profession. | Residence at the time of Marriage. | Father's Name and Residence. | Rank or Profession of Father. |
| 194  | 20th October 1874 | Samuel Taylor       | 20 years | Bachelor   | Hatter              | High Street Monks Coppenhall       | James Taylor                 | Hatter                        |
|  |                   | Alice Wolfenden     | 19 years | Spinster   |                     | Hollins Road Hollins Wood          | James Wolfenden              | Hat trimmer                   |

Marrried in the Particular Baptist Chapel according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Particular Baptists by *testificate* by me, *S. A. Guinness, Minister* *J. Peckover, Registrar*

This Marriage was solemnized between us, *Samuel Taylor* in the Presence of us, *James Taylor Jun* *Alice Wolfenden*

Besides Eliza, Alice (herself born 22 August 1854<sup>2</sup>) had at least five other sisters and one brother, all born in Oldham and baptized at Prestwich<sup>3</sup>

- Eliza (born 11 May 1851)
- William (born 24 April 1853, died August 7, 1875)
- Emma (born 15 Dec 1855)
- Louise (born 1 April 1857)
- Mary (born 2 Oct 1858)
- Ann (born 10 May 1860)
- Lucy (born 11 March 1862)

<sup>1</sup>Marriage Certificate -- Particular Baptist Chapel Victoria Street Monks Coppenhall in the District of Nantwich in the County of Chester, 20 October 1874, Samuel Taylor, 20, Bachelor, Hatter, High Street Monks Coppenhall, father = James Taylor, Hatter + Alice Wolfenden, 19, Hollins Rd Hollinswood, father = James Wolfenden, Hat Trimmer -- both parties signed and it was witnessed by James Taylor Jun. And eliza Wolfenden

<sup>2</sup> Birth Certificate -- Oldham Registration District -- 22 August 1854, Alice, girl, James Wolfenden (Hatter) & Sarah Wolfenden formerly Crossley -- reported by Jas Wolfenden, father, Edge Oldham

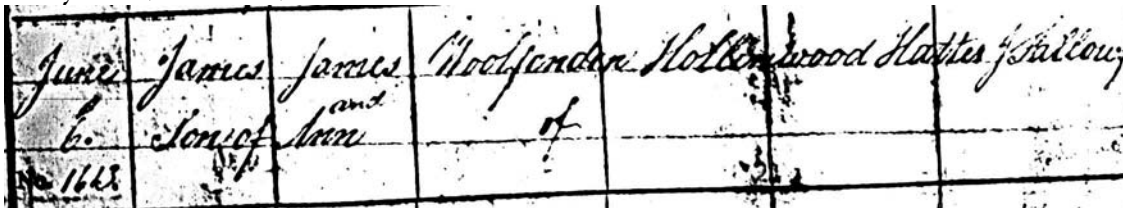
<sup>3</sup>IGI Entries -- patron submitted. A subsequent look (3/2001) at the records for the Parish of Prestwich, Bishops Transcripts (LDS Film #1545724) does not show these entries so they are unverified.

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Their parents were James Wo(o)lfenden and Sarah Ann Cros(s)ley who were married 24 October 1850 in the Parish of Prestwich.<sup>4</sup> (Since so little has been discovered about Sarah Ann's ancestry, please see Appendix C for what's known.) (NOT INCLUDED)

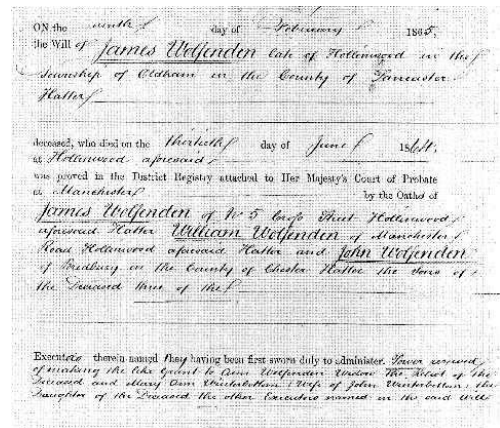
Note the letters in parenthesis in the above paragraph – adding these letters gives you the most popular alternate spellings of these names: Wolfenden or Woolfenden and Crosley or Crossley. Since many individuals could not sign their name, the clerk registering the event relied on “what it sounded like to them” and “how they thought it might be spelled!”

James worked as a Hatter according to the censuses from 1841 to 1881 as well as various birth, marriage and will sources. Interestingly, Alice married into a Hat Manufacturing family. Maybe this was how Alice and Samuel met. And, the 1871 Worrall Directory of Oldham lists Taylor & Wolfenden, Hat Manufacturer, New Road, Failsworth -- is there a connection?



James was the son of a Hat Manufacturer<sup>5</sup>. His parents were James and Ann Wolfenden and he was one of at least five children, all baptized at St. Marys, Oldham.<sup>6</sup>

- William (2 March 1817)
- James (6 June 1819)
- John (17 June 1821)
- Henry (3 July 1825 - 8 Dec 1826<sup>7</sup>)
- Mary Ann (28 Feb 1836)



James Sr. died 30 June 1864 of Natural Decay and Ann died 19 February 1879 of Bronchitis.<sup>8</sup> When James Sr.

<sup>4</sup>Marriage Certificate – Registration District of Heywood in the Parish of Prestwich, 24 October 1850, James Wolfenden, 31, Bachelor, Hatter, Hollinwood, father = James Wolfenden, Hatter + Sarah Ann Crossley, 27, Spinster, Austerlands Oldham, father = William Crossley, Dyer – both parties signed and it was witnessed by Sydney Parkinson and Jeffery Wright. Possibly at Parish Church of Prestwich, St. Marys pictured on Page 5. It's noted that the marriage was performed according to the rites and ceremonies of the Established Church after Banns.

<sup>5</sup>various birth, marriage and census listings

<sup>6</sup>LDS Film #1656162, St. Mary's Oldham, Baptisms, 1813-1838

<sup>7</sup>LDS Film #1655866, St Mary's Monumental Inscriptions, plot #A.82 -- In Memory of, Henry the Son of James and Ann, Wolfenden who died December 8th, 1826 aged 17 months

<sup>8</sup>LDS Film #1655867, St. Margaret's, Hollinwood, Monumental Inscriptions, 1750-1950, plot #151 -- buried with son William and his family AND Death Certificate for James, Oldham Registration Office, (OBT 46.293 – lived at Hollinwood Edge, was 70 years old and was witnessed by James Wolfenden residing at Hollinwood Edge) AND Death Certificate for Ann, Oldham Registration Office, (OBT 90.24 – lived at Hollins Road, was 84 years old and was witnessed by John Wolfenden, son, residing at 2 Gee St. Oldham)

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died, he had a will which was proved 9 February 1865, probate granted to his sons James, William and John. His estate was under 1000 pounds<sup>9</sup>. On the previous page is a portion of the proved will – listing out the sons James (living at 5 Cross St, Hollinwood), William (Manchester Rd, Hollinwood) and John (Bredbury, Cheshire) and below mentioning the widow, Ann, and daughter, Mary Ann Winterbottom. The witnesses to the will were James Mills (Oldham) and Charles Taylor (Hollinwood).

And, when his wife Ann died, there was a Letter of Administration...

“Letter of Administration: Administration of Personal Estate of Ann Wolfenden, late of 375 Hollins Road, Hollinwood near Manchester in the County of Lancaster widow who died 19 February 1879 at 375 Hollins Road was granted at Manchester to James Wolfenden of 375 Hollins Road, hatter the son and one of the next of kin. Personal Estate under 800 pounds. Letter of Administration dated 19 April 1879.”

In the 1851 census, James Sr. lists a birthplace of Rochdale. Unfortunately, many James Wolfenden's were born and/or married in Rochdale during this period. For more information on James Jr.'s siblings, see Appendix A. (NOT INCLUDED)

Tracking the family through the census we find:

1841 Census: Blue Bell Fold, Oldham<sup>11</sup>

|                    |    |        |                |
|--------------------|----|--------|----------------|
| Jas Wolfenden      | 45 | Hatter | Born in County |
| Ann Wolfenden      | 40 |        | Born in County |
| Wm Wolfenden       | 20 | Hatter | Born in County |
| James Wolfenden    | 20 | Hatter | Born in County |
| John Wolfenden     | 15 | Hatter | Born in County |
| Mary Ann Wolfenden | 5  |        | Born in County |

|   |
|---|
| James Woolfenden, 17, 2/1/1862  |
| James Woolfenden, 71, 30/6/1864   |
| William Woolfenden, 50, 31/8/1866                                       |
| Ann Woolfenden, 85, 19/7/1879   |
| Hannah Woolfenden, 77, 3/12/1899<br>(Hollinwood Cemetary) <sup>10</sup> |

1851 Census: Edge, Oldham Below Town<sup>12</sup>

|                  |             |       |    |                       |                      |
|------------------|-------------|-------|----|-----------------------|----------------------|
| James Wolfenden  | Head        | Marr. | 58 | Hatter (retired)      | Lancashire, Rochdale |
| Ann Wolfenden    | Wife        | Marr. | 56 | Hatter (retired) wife | Lancashire, Oldham   |
| Jas. Wolfenden   | Son         | Marr. | 31 | Hatter                | Lancashire, Oldham   |
| Sarah Wolfenden  | Daur in Law | Marr  | 28 | Hatter Wife           | Yorkshire, Todmorden |
| Martha Wolfenden | granddaur   | U     | 15 | Hatter ???            | Lancashire, Oldham   |

<sup>9</sup>Office Copy of the Last Will and Testament of James Wolfenden, Hatter of Hollinwood

<sup>10</sup>LDS Film #1655867, Item 5, St. Margaret's, Hollinwood, Monumental Inscriptions, 1750-1950. Appears to be James Sr., wife Ann, son William, his wife Hannah and their son James. Suspect there is a transcription error and that Ann's death date should read 19/2/1879 not 19/7/1879.

<sup>11</sup> LDS Film #306931, 1841 Census, Oldham (see Appendix)

<sup>12</sup> LDS Film #087255 – 1851 Census, England, Oldham Below Town, Village of Hollinwood, Ecclesiastical District of St. Margaret. Though there is a Martha Wolfenden, 15, listed as a granddaur, the author suspects that this is Mary Ann Wolfenden, 15, the daughter

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Jas Wolfenden                      Grand son                      U                      6                      Scholar                      Lancashire, Oldham

1861 Census: Hollinwood Edge, Oldham<sup>13</sup>

|                     |      |     |        |                                    |                      |
|---------------------|------|-----|--------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| James Wolfenden     | Head | Mar | 41     | Hat Manufacturer (6 men and 1 app) | Lancashire, Oldham   |
| Sarah A Wolfenden   | Wife | Mar | 38     |                                    | Yorkshire, Todmorden |
| Elizabeth Wolfenden | Daur |     | 9      | Scholar                            | Lancashire, Oldham   |
| William Wolfenden   | Son  |     | 7      | Scholar                            | Lancashire, Oldham   |
| Alice Wolfenden     | Daur |     | 6      | Scholar                            | Lancashire, Oldham   |
| Emma Wolfenden      | Daur |     | 5      | Scholar                            | Lancashire, Oldham   |
| Louisa Wolfenden    | Daur |     | 4      | Scholar                            | Lancashire, Oldham   |
| Mary Wolfenden      | Daur |     | 2      |                                    | Lancashire, Oldham   |
| Amie Wolfenden      | Daur |     | 10 mos |                                    | Lancashire, Oldham   |

1871 Census: 375 Hollin Road, Oldham<sup>14</sup>

|                   |      |      |    |                       |                     |
|-------------------|------|------|----|-----------------------|---------------------|
| James Wolfenden   | Head | Mar  | 51 | Hat Manufacturer      | Oldham Lancashire   |
| Sarah A Wolfenden | Wife | Marr | 48 | Hat Manufacturer Wife | Todmorden Yorkshire |
| Eliza Wolfenden   | Daur | Unm  | 19 | Trimmer               | Oldham Lancashire   |
| William Wolfenden | Son  | Unm  | 17 | Finisher              | Oldham Lancashire   |
| Alice Wolfenden   | Daur | Unm  | 16 | Trimmer               | Oldham Lancashire   |
| Emma Wolfenden    | Daur | Unm  | 15 | Trimmer               | Oldham Lancashire   |
| Louisa Wolfenden  | Daur | Unm  | 14 | Weaver                | Oldham Lancashire   |
| Mary Wolfenden    | Daur | Unm  | 12 | Scholar               | Oldham Lancashire   |
| Amie Wolfenden    | Daur | Unm  | 10 | Scholar               | Oldham Lancashire   |
| Lucy Wolfenden    | Daur | Unm  | 9  | Scholar               | Oldham Lancashire   |

1871 Census: 3 Gee St., Oldham

|                    |      |         |   |    |           |                   |
|--------------------|------|---------|---|----|-----------|-------------------|
| Ann Wolfenden      | Head | Widow   |   | 76 | Annuitant | Oldham Lancashire |
| Clara Winterbottom |      | G. Daur | 7 |    | Scholar   | Oldham Lancashire |

1881 Census: 915 Hollins Rd, Oldham<sup>15</sup>

|                 |      |     |    |                      |                       |
|-----------------|------|-----|----|----------------------|-----------------------|
| James Wolfenden | Head | Mar | 61 | Retired Hat Manufr   | Hollinwood Lancashire |
| Sarah Wolfenden | Wife | mar | 58 |                      | Todmorden Yorkshire   |
| Emma Wolfenden  | Daur | Unm | 25 | Hat Trimmer          | Hollinwood Lancashire |
| Mary Wolfenden  | Daur | Unm | 22 | Reeler w Cotton Mill | Hollinwood Lancashire |

<sup>13</sup> LDS Film #543064 - 1861 Census, England, Oldham, Municipal Ward of Werneth, Ecclesiastical District of St. Margaret

<sup>14</sup> LDS Film #0846704 -- 1871 Census, England, Oldham, Municipal Ward of Werneth, Village of Hollinwood

<sup>15</sup> LDS Film #1341975 - 1881 Census, England, Oldham, Municipal Ward of Werneth, Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Margaret

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|             |                  |             |            |           |                    |                              |
|-------------|------------------|-------------|------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Ann</i>  | <i>Wolfenden</i> | <i>Daur</i> | <i>Unm</i> | <i>20</i> | <i>Hat Trimmer</i> | <i>Hollinwood Lancashire</i> |
| <i>Lucy</i> | <i>Wolfenden</i> | <i>Daur</i> | <i>Unm</i> | <i>19</i> | <i>Dress Maker</i> | <i>Hollinwood Lancashire</i> |

1891 Census: 915 Hollins Rd, Hollinwood, Oldham<sup>16</sup>

|                  |                  |                      |              |           |                                     |                               |
|------------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Joseph</i>    | <i>Birch</i>     | <i>Head</i>          | <i>M</i>     | <i>30</i> | <i>Warehouseman at Hatters Mill</i> | <i>Lancashire, Manchester</i> |
| <i>Annie</i>     | <i>Birch</i>     | <i>Wife</i>          | <i>M</i>     | <i>30</i> |                                     | <i>Lancashire, Oldham</i>     |
| <i>Lucy</i>      | <i>Birch</i>     |                      | <i>Daur</i>  | <i>6</i>  | <i>Scholar</i>                      | <i>Lancashire, Oldham</i>     |
| <i>Sarah</i>     | <i>Birch</i>     |                      | <i>Daur</i>  | <i>4</i>  |                                     | <i>Lancashire, Oldham</i>     |
| <i>Sarah Ann</i> | <i>Wolfenden</i> | <i>Mother in Law</i> | <i>Widow</i> | <i>68</i> | <i>Living on her own means</i>      | <i>Yorkshire, Todmorden</i>   |

This last entry is interesting as it shows Sarah Ann living with her daughter and son-in-law. This matches other information found that indicated that the Voters' Lists for Hollins Road, Hollinwood showed James Wolfenden listed until 1890, Joseph Birch (husband of James' daughter Annie) was listed as a Co-Tenant with Sarah Anne Wolfenden until 1894 and subsequently Joseph Birch was listed as sole tenant.

Further avenues of inquiry –

- 1861 Census (James Sr. and Ann).
- 1890-1894 -- Still searching for the death of James (Jr.) and Sarah Ann.
- Verify Prestwich Baptismal entries (Parish Church of Prestwich was St. Mary's church and is depicted to right)<sup>17</sup>
- Find burial locale for James Wolfenden



<sup>16</sup> Copy of appropriate Census entry provided by Oldham Local Studies Library

<sup>17</sup> Manchester Online Web Site ... 1998 Photo of St. Mary's Church (Prestwich Parish Church) by Aidan O'Rourke