

Robert Anderson and Abigail Bagley

by Perry Exley and Clifford Anderson

Baptismes in March 1677.
Reperta, a founde child in the suburbes, baptized the 4th.
Joane, the dauffer of John Couper, weauer & juner, baptized 7th.
Nathanill, the son of Tarlo O Doghartye, the boggside, baptzed 1th.
Roberte, the son of Robert Anderson, taylor, baptized 21.

Robert Anderson Baptism Record (21 March 1677) - St. Columb's Parish Church

Robert Anderson was born in the Derry, Londonderry area in Ulster, Ireland in 1677. Records for Templemore Parish show that Robert, son of Robert Anderson (tailor), was baptized on March 21, 1677 at St Columb's Parish Church in Derry. The identity of Robert's mother or any siblings is unknown. Robert's great grandfather Rowland Anderson had immigrated to the Derry area in Ulster likely from Scotland as part of the plantation.

Robert was the last of our Anderson ancestors born in Templemore Parish in Londonderry County, Ireland.

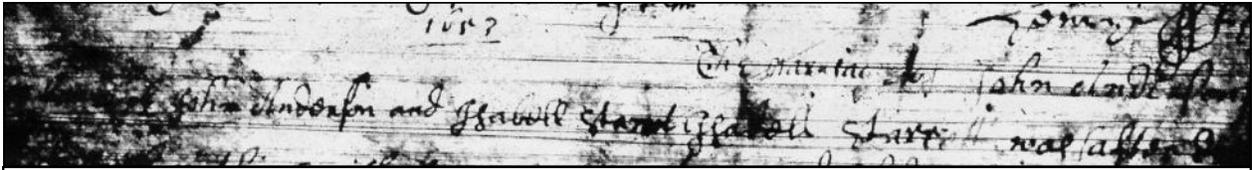
According to the St Columb's Cathedral historian Ian Bartlett, Robert Anderson's father Robert, the son of John Anderson of Creg in Templemore Parish, was born January 26, 1653. Robert's birth is also included in the International Genealogy Index as an extracted record.



St. Columb's Cathedral

St. Columb's Cathedral is the City of Londonderry's oldest building, completed in 1633. It is a landmark located within the walled city of Londonderry. The Cathedral is the mother church of the Church of Ireland in the Diocese of Derry and is the parish church of Templemore.

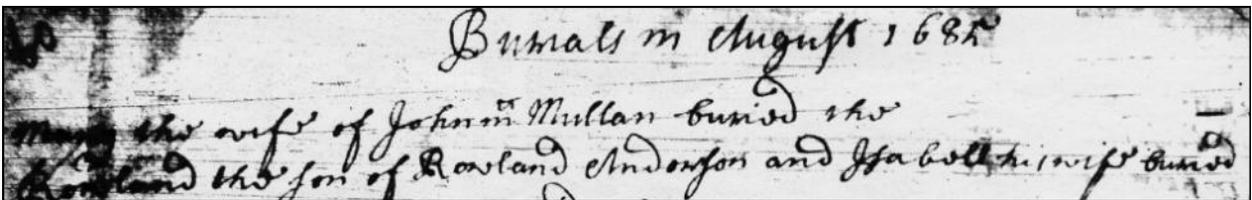
The church is dedicated to Saint Columba, the Irish monk who established a Christian settlement in the area before being exiled from Ireland and introducing Christianity to Scotland and Northern England. It was built of stone from local quarries by skilled stone cutters and masons. St. Columb's was the first cathedral to be built by the Anglican church after the Reformation in the British Isles and the first non-RC cathedral built in Europe.



John Anderson & Isabelle Starrott—Banes of Marriage Record—January 12, 1653

Ian Bartlett indicates that the banes of marriage for John Anderson and Isabelle Starrot were published January 12, 1653. The copy of the original Templemore Parish record located above is not overly legible, but you should be able to make out John Anderson and Isabelle Starrot’s names. You should note the spelling of John’s surname.

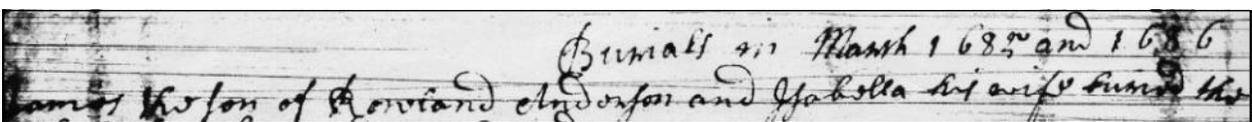
As for John Anderson’s birth, it is believed that he was born about 1627 in Templemore Parish, but since St Columb’s church was not finished until 1633 and parish records only go back to 1642, no records exist. In a document named “A Particular of the Howses and Famylyes in London Derry” dated May 15, 1628, which contains the earliest known list of the house-holders of Londonderry, the name Anderson is not listed. This would suggest that if the Anderson family was in Ireland at that time, they were not in Derry, but more likely in a more rural area of Templemore Parish, possibly Creg where John lived in 1653 when his first son was baptized.



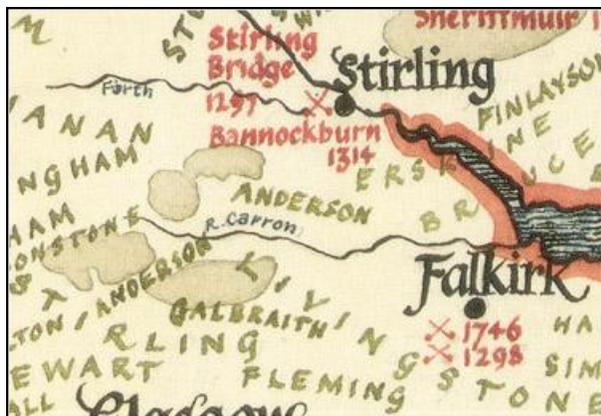
James Anderson son of Rowland Anderson and Isabelle—Burial Record—1685

So why do we think that John’s parents were Rowland and Isabelle Anderson. Since John had three siblings, and records exist for two of them, it is easy to show that Rowland and Isabelle existed and it is not a large jump to conclude that they were also John’s parents. The record above shows the burial in 1685 of James Anderson, son Rowland and Isabelle. Likewise, the record below shows the burial of Rowland Anderson, son of Rowland and Isabelle also in 1685. Both records are from the Templemore Parish records.

It is believed that Rowland Anderson migrated to the Derry area in the early 1600s. But



Rowland Anderson son of Rowland Anderson and Isabelle—Burial Record—1685



**Anderson Clan Map
Part of Clan Map of Scotland**

where did Rowland (and possibly Isabelle) come from and why?

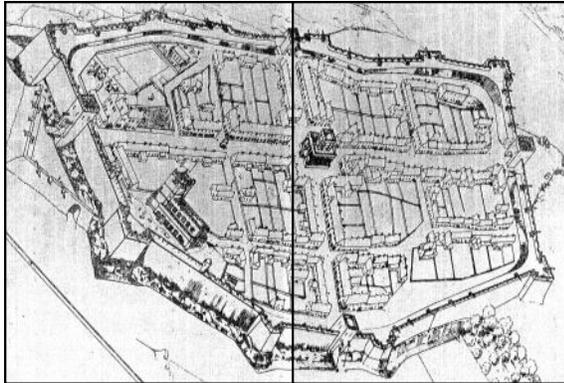
According to Wikipedia, the surname Anderson is patronymic in nature meaning “son of Anders or Andrew”, originating in parallel in Scotland and the Nordic countries. The Anderson Clan originated in the lowlands of Scotland around 1400, but soon migrated to England. Although the Anderson name usually has a different spelling in Nordic countries, it was often rendered as Anderson by immigrants to the English-speaking countries. As Anderson is relatively common name in Scotland, England and Nordic countries, perhaps the prevailing circumstances of the times can narrow down where Rowland Anderson may have come from when he immigrated to Ireland. So what were the circumstances that brought Rowland Anderson to Northern Ireland?

The earliest record that we have for the Andersons in Londonderry is the marriage banes for John and Isabelle in January 1653. So presumably, John’s parents had arrived in Londonderry by then. Since the Templemore Parish records begin in 1642, there would be no record of John or Isabelle’s christening. Likewise, there wouldn't be any record of his siblings christening.

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During the first half of the seventeenth century, the plantation of Ulster involved the colonizing of the area by loyal English and Scottish migrants who were protestant in religion. The

<p>Plantation of Ulster</p> <p>The Plantation of Ulster was the organized colonization of Ulster, a province of Ireland, by people from mostly Scotland and England between 1609 and 1690 beginning during the reign of King James I of England. Colonizing of Ulster with Protestant settlers was seen as a way to prevent rebellion and anglicise the Irish.</p>	<p>Plantation of Six Ulster Counties by James I (in Red)</p>
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An impression of Londonderry at the time of the Siege of 1689

Siege of Derry

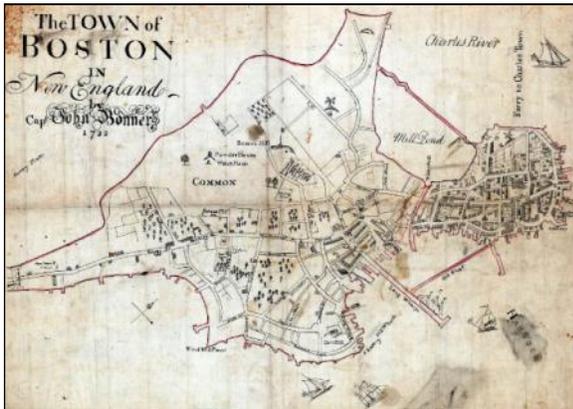
The Siege of Derry involved a pre-emptive lockdown of the city gates in December 1688 and a violent defensive action lasting from April 18 to July 28 1689 during the Williamite War of Ireland. The city was a Williamite stronghold besieged by a Jacobite army until it was relieved by the Royal Navy ships.

The Williamite War of Ireland was a conflict between Jacobites (supporters of Catholic King James II) and Williamites (supporters of Protestant Prince William of Orange) over who would be King of England, Scotland and Ireland.

Robert Anderson was twelve years of age at the time of the Siege of Derry in 1689. He likely was living in the area and likely experienced the Siege of Derry.

Anderson Clan was located in the lowlands of Scotland. The majority of the migrants to the Londonderry area were from western Scotland. Although we may never know for sure, it would be reasonable to conclude that Rowland Anderson and family came to the Londonderry area as part of the plantation from the lowlands of Scotland. See 1600s map of Scotland on page 7.

By the early 1700s, many of the Scots-Irish descendents began to immigrate to the New World in America for religious freedom and economic reasons. In 1717, a small ship arrived in



Sketch of the Town of Boston - 1722

Scots-Irish Migration to Boston

Scots-Irish are American descendents of Presbyterian and other Protestant dissenters from the province of Ulster who migrated to North America during the 18th and 19th centuries. Most of the Scot-Irish were descended from Scottish and Northern England families who colonized Ireland during the Plantation of Ulster in the 17th century.

Between 1714 and 1720, fifty-four vessels brought Scots-Irish to Boston, Massachusetts. In August

1718, five small ships bearing 120 Scots-Irish families arrived in Boston Massachusetts. The Scots-Irish migrants who left Ulster in 1718 hailed from two particular districts in County Londonderry, namely the Bann Valley and the Foyle Valley. When the settlers disembarked in Boston, the Bann group headed for the frontiers of Maine and New Hampshire and the Foyle group made for Massachusetts.

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<i>The Names of the Persons Married - by whom married - the Day month the Year the Place when</i>
<i>Robert Anderson & Abigail Bagley M^r. Peter Thacher M^r. 24 May 1722 Milton</i>
Robert Anderson—Abigail Bagley Marriage Record Source: Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988

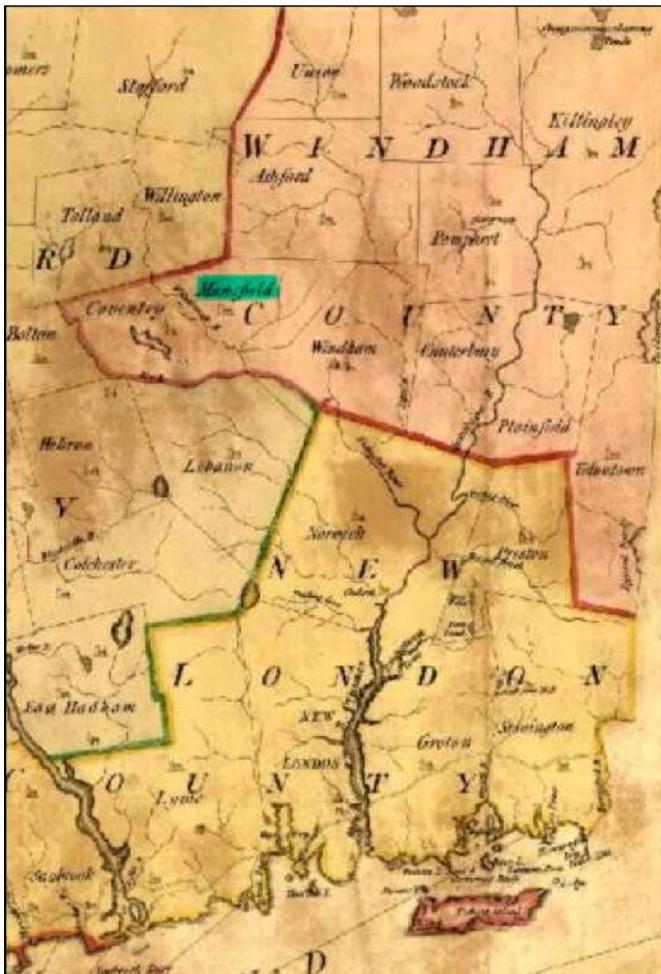
Boston harbor with 135 passengers from Ulster. During the summer of 1718, five ships arrived in Boston with about 700 passengers, some from Londonderry, and the others from Coleraine. During the next two years, about 2600 additional Scots-Irish arrived in Boston from Ulster.

It is likely that Robert Anderson was amongst the Scots-Irish who arrived in Boston between 1717 and 1720. He soon moved down to Milton, which was about ten miles south of Boston. Soon after arriving in Milton, Robert Anderson, who was in his 40s, met Abigail Bag-

ley, who was in her early 20s. Robert Anderson and Abigail Bagley were married by Reverend Peter Thacher on May 24, 1722 at Milton, Norfolk County, Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Abigail Bagley was born at Braintree, which is about six miles southeast of Milton, in 1699. Her parents Samuel and Mary (Thayer) Bagley baptized her on July 2, 1699 at Braintree. Both of Abigail's grandfathers were born in England, and had immigrated to the New World as young men. Both of Abigail's grandmothers were born in the New World.

Shortly after their marriage, Robert and Abigail decided to travel away from the Boston area into Indian Territory in order to find a good farming area. After several weeks of traveling west they were captured by Indians. Robert was taken to the north



**Eastern Connecticut showing
Mansfield Township
Colony of Connecticut - 1766**

and Abigail, who was pregnant, was taken south.

After several months Robert was able to escape his group of Indians. He traveled south and was able to find his wife and their small daughter, Abigail. They then traveled south again until they came to the small European settlement of Mansfield in Connecticut Colony on December 29, 1722, where they settled. Robert and Abigail's descendents would continue to live in the area for well over a century.

ANDERSON.

I. ROBERT ANDERSON, in one instance written Andrews, appears in Mansfield about 1722. The name of his wife was Abigail, who d. Sept. 15, 1743. Chil.: *Abigail*, b. Dec. 29, 1722; *Mary*, b. March 25, 1725; (2) *George*, b. Feb. 23, 1726--7; *Perez*, b. Aug. 5, 1731, m. Ruth Wood, dau. of Thomas, July 14, 1756, and had John, b. July 22, 1758; *Mary*, b. Jan. 22, 1735.

Robert and Abigail Anderson had five children as follows:

1. Abigail was born in December 29, 1722 and baptised August 25, 1725 at Mansfield;
2. Mary Anderson born on January 31, 1725 and baptised March 25, 1725 at Mansfield. She died very young on October 17, 1726 also at Mansfield;
3. George Anderson born on February 23, 1726 and baptised March 5, 1727 at Mansfield;
4. Perez Anderson born on August 5, 1731 and baptised August 8, 1731 at Mansfield;
5. Mary Anderson born on January 25, 1735 and baptized on June 20, 1735 at Mansfield.

Robert's wife Abigail died on September 15, 1743 at age 44 at Mansfield. As well, Robert and Abigail's daughter Abigail died on the same day at age 20.

Robert Anderson sold land located in Mansfield to his son George on February 9, 1749. Robert then purchased land in Mansfield from his son George on February 20, 1749. Robert sold his land located in the southwest part of Mansfield to his son George on January 3, 1750.

Robert Anderson's son George married Abigail Brown on March 23, 1749 at Mansfield. Robert's grandson Thomas was born April 26, 1750 and died October 26, 1754 at Mansfield. Robert's grand-children Rubee and Stephen were born February 18, 1752 and May 5, 1754 at Mansfield.

Robert Anderson died on December 7, 1754 at age 77 at Mansfield, Windham County.

