

This document is incomplete and last edited as of June 18, 2013

1798 Margaret Mulvey, the wife of Patrick Kilduff and the mother of Patrick Kilduff and Mary Teresa Kilduff, is born at Athleague, County Roscommon, Ireland.

About 1822 John Kilduff, the son of Patrick Kilduff and Margaret Mulvey is born in County Roscommon, Ireland, possibly at Athleague.

About 1826 Mary Teresa Kilduff, the future mother of Katie Banahan Burke and the daughter of Patrick Kilduff and Margaret Mulvey, is born in County Roscommon, Ireland, possibly at Athleague.

1828 Michael Mellynn, the step father of Katie Banahan, is born in Ireland.

1836 April 26 Patrick Burke is born, according to tradition, at “The Lodges”, County Galway, Ireland. Parents are Thomas Burke and Catherine Lally. “The Lodges” seems to be the village of Lodge / The Lodge near Headford, County Galway. (Near Kilkilvery).

There are numerous Burkes buried in the local church cemetery, and according to a local woman spoken with, Lallys still living nearby in 1981.

1846 December 20, Katherine Cecilia Banahan, the daughter of George Banahan and Mary Teresa Kilduff Banahan, is born in County Roscommon, Ireland.

1847 Michael Mellynn immigrates from Ireland to the United States, settling in Boston.

1849 Margaret Agnes Banahan, the daughter of George Banahan and Mary Teresa Kilduff Banahan, is born, possibly at Kiltievan, County Roscommon, Ireland. She may have been the namesake of her grandmother, Margaret Mulvey Kilduff.

1851 Patrick Burke immigrates to America, landing at Marblehead, Massachusetts.

About 1853 or 1854 Katie Banahan and her family immigrate to America from Ireland, settling in the Boston area. Margaret Banahan Brady stated that her family immigrated here when she was four years old.

1857 May 10 Patrick Burke marries Ellen Kineen at Waltham, Massachusetts. They set up housekeeping on School St. in Waltham, MA.

Possibly the late 1850's into the early 1860's Patrick Burke works at several blacksmith shops in addition to his work at the Watertown Arsenal. Patrick works at one point in the wagon shop of his in-laws the Kineens in Newton, MA. Here, the Kineens were making and sending wagons to California in parts. Wheat was packed into the wagon bodies for shipment to the West Coast, as it was scarce at this time in California. Patrick also worked in blacksmith shops in the surrounding communities of Wayland, Weston

and Watertown.

1858 February 13 Son John F. Burke born at Waltham, Massachusetts to Patrick Burke and his wife, Ellen Kineen Burke.

1861 Patrick leaves John and travels overland to California with his wife, who is pregnant. They leave their son John with Ellen's parents while they travel west. They return to Massachusetts in

About 1861-'62, possibly earlier Patrick Burke works for the Army's Watertown Arsenal in Watertown, MA, making wheels for gun carriages for the Union Army. Dad recalled him making "the guns for Fort Sumpter".

1862 June 29 Wife and infant daughter die at Waltham, MA Both are buried at St. Mary's Cemetery in Waltham. The bodies were moved to Calvary Cemetery in Waltham in the 1930's.

Early 1860's, according to his obituary, Bart Burke, the brother of Patrick Burke, had spent time gold prospecting in Australia, then returning to the United States and California about 1862.

1862-'63 Patrick Burke leaves son John with his sister Mary and her husband John Murray to be raised at Waltham, because his mother in law is too old to care for the child. Returns to California.

1863 July Patrick Burke is working at a carriage maker in San Francisco. Plans to travel to mountains to the south, according to a letter to his sister Mary.

1864 Michael Mellynn and Mary T. Kilduff Banahan Mellynn, are living in Boston, where their son Hubert F. Mellynn is born.

1864-65 A Michael Burke, blacksmith and wagon maker, is in business in Virginia City, Nevada, with Phillip Reese, the husband of Patrick's sister Julia Burke Reese. Presumably this is Patrick's brother.

1864 February 16, 1864 Margaret E. Duffey, the first cousin of Katie Banahan, is born to John Duffey (Katie's uncle) and his wife Elizabeth Ward Duffey, in Santa Cruz County, CA. She may have been the namesake of her grandmother, Margaret Mulvey Kilduff.

1865 Tradition says the Katie Banahan and her family arrive in Tuolumne County, California this year. It is believed they settled first in Sawmill Flat, a small settlement between Columbia and Sonora.

1865 March 22 Mary Duffey, the first cousin of Katie Banahan (and possible namesake of Katie and John's mother, Mary Teresa Kilduff Banahan) is born at Santa Cruz County to parents John Duffey and Elizabeth Ward Duffey.

1865 March 25 The infant Mary Duffey dies at Santa Cruz County.

1866 July 10 James Frances Duffey, the first cousin of Katie Banahan, is born to John Duffey (Katie's uncle) and his wife Elizabeth Ward Duffey, in Santa Cruz County, CA.

1867. Patrick Burke is naturalized as US Citizen at Sonora, Tuolumne County, CA according to Hart Ralph Tambs ref.

1869 or 1870 Mary Teresa Duffy, the namesake of her aunt Mary Teresa Kilduff Banahan is born at Santa Cruz. January 19

1869 or 1870 Mary Teresa Duffey, a baby girl, dies during the typhoid and diptheria epidemics that swept Santa Cruz County of that year. December 3.

1869 or 1870 James Frances Duffey, a little boy, dies during the typhoid and dyphtheria epidemics that swept Santa Cruz County in that year. December 14. He would have been Katie Banahan's first cousin.

1870 February 13 Patrick Burke marries Katherine Cecilia [Katie] Banahan at Sonora, Tuolumne County

1870 June 4 The Santa Cruz Sentinel reports the sale of six acres of land in Soquel by Titus Hale to John Duffy for \$400.

1870 July 3 Katie Banahan Burke's aunt, Elizabeth Ward Duffey, dies of pneumonia, probably at Soquel, Santa Cruz County, California.

1870, July 11 John [Kilduff] Duffey, the uncle of Katie Banahan Burke, commits suicide apparently in a field, at Soquel, Santa Cruz County, California. According to the Sacramento Daily Union on July 12, 1870, "A man named John Duffy was found in a field near Soquel this afternoon, with his throat cut. It is supposed that he committed suicide during a temporary fit of insanity". Soquel is adjacent to Santa Cruz and Capitola.

1870 July 23 in the Santa Cruz Sentinel: At Santa Cruz. A Coroner's in the case of John Duffy returned a verdict that tht deceased came to his death by poison (strychnine) administered by his own hand, on the 11th of July, 1870. Judge Wellington, acting Coroner, entered the verdict accordingly.

1870 Summer or Fall. Margaret E. "Maggie" Duffy comes to live with Patrick and Katie Banahan in Sonora after the death of her parents and siblings. She is about five years old. She will live in the Burke household at least through 1880, when she is listed as a member of the family on the census of that year.

1871 March

SCHOOL REPORT - Somersville Public School for the month of March, 1871; Roll of Honor: Including two of Katie Burke's half sisters:

Mary MELLYNN

Lizzie MELLYNN

-A.J. HOWE, Principal; Miss Eliza TONKIN, Assistant

1872 March 23 Mary Ellen Burke, the oldest daughter of Patrick and Katie Burke, is born at Sonora. She may have been the namesake of her grandmother, Mary Teresa Kilduff Banahan Mellynn.

1872 Michael and Mary Mellynn and their younger children (the half siblings of Katie and Margaret Banahan) are living at or near the coal mining community of Somersville, in the foothills of Mount Diablo in Contra Costa county, California. Somersville and its sister town of Nortonville, were important local sources of coal during the mid and late nineteenth century. They drew numbers of Welsh miners to work in the mines. Little remains of either town today, except for their cemeteries, which have several graves with inscriptions in Welsh.

1872 Saturday, March 8 at Somersville, Contra Costa County, listed in the the SOMERSVILLE Public School Roll of Honor – Three of Katie Burke's half siblings named Mellynn:

*Grammar Department:

Lizzie MELLYNN

*Primary Department:

Hubert MELLYNN

Teresa MELLYNN

Teacher, Annie E. REESE

1872 May 25 Michael Mellynn, the step father of Katie Banahan Burke and the husband of Mary Teresa Kilduff Banahan Mellynn, registers with the U.S. General Land Office (modern day BLM) two parcels of land in the Mount Diablo range, Contra Costa County, presumably somewhere near the mining towns of Somersville, Nortonville and Antioch. (Coordinates are known).

1873 November 23 Michael Mellynn, the step father of Katie Burke, registers a third parcel of land near Somersville, Nortonville and Antioch. (Coordinates are known).

1875 February 14 Grace M. Burke, the daughter of Patrick and Katie Burke, is born at Sonora.

1876 Michael Mellynn is on a list of voters for the mining areas of Nortonville and Somersville in the Black Diamond District of Mt. Diablo in Contra Costa County.

1877 June 5 George P. Burke, the son of Patrick and Katie Burke, is born at Sonora.

1877 September 4 at Sonora (probably). Margaret Mulvey Kilduff, the grandmother of Katie Banahan Burke and Margaret Banahan Brady, dies at age 79. She is buried in the Burke family plot at Mountain View Cemetery in Sonora, California. Her headstone was erected by Patrick Burke (on the headstone as "P. Burk").

1876-77 John F. Burke, Patrick's oldest son, lives in Virginia City, Nevada, where he works as a miner in the Ophir Mine. Murray Burke said his father knew Bart Burke who was living there at the time (the older Bart).

1879 January 17 Mary Teresa Kilduff Banahan Mellynn dies in Contra Costa County, near Nortonville or Somersville. She is buried as "Mary, Wife of Michael Mellynn" in the Holy Cross Cemetery in nearby Antioch.

1880 June 2 According to the US Census on this day, the Patrick Burke household included the following people: Patrick Burke, Wagon Maker, Katie Burke, Keeping House, Mary, age 8, Grace, age 5, George, age 2, Maggie Duffy, 16, a ward of the Burkes, and Hubert Mellyn, age 17, listed as a brother. It would appear that Hubert moved to the Burkes from the Somersville or Nortonville area sometime after the death of his and Katie's mother Mary Mellynn in January of 1879.

1883 Theresa Burke, the daughter of Patrick Burke and Katie Banahan Burke, was born at Sonora.

1886 Bart Burke, the brother of Patrick Burke, is elected County Commissioner in Storey County, Nevada. The County Seat of Storey County is Virginia City.

1887 January 1 Bartholomew Burke, the namesake of his uncle Bart, Patrick's brother, is born at Sonora.

1887 November 6, Virginia City "ref: Bart Burke Storey County Commissioner."

Date Unknown: Bart Burke the brother of Patrick Burke, was at some point the mayor of Virginia City, Nevada.

1887 November 11 Bart Burke, Pat Burke's brother, is on a committee in Virginia City to create a branch of the Irish National League for Home Rule in Ireland.

1889 July 28. The Daily Alta California lists P. Burke of Sonora at the Brooklyn Hotel (San Francisco?).

1889, August 6. The Daily Alta California lists P. Burke of Sonora as among the visitors

at the Byron Hot Springs : “Arrivals for the week ending August 4, 1990. The number of health and pleasure seekers at this popular resort has steadily increased this summer, owing to the perfect weather, and many cures effected. “

1890 Sacramento. At the 1890 Sacramento Fair, “Mrs. P. Burke of Sonora” won a five dollar award for a “display of hair work”. On the same page, Katie Burke’s half brother, Hubert Mellynn won ten and twelve dollar prizes for two entries, a wagon and a carriage.

1891 September 9, Sonora. Mame Burke sits with other girls and women of the Dardanelles Parlor of the Native Daughters of the Golden West for a group photo somewhere in Sonora—part of the California Admission Day celebration that year.

1891 September 17 to 29th at Sacramento. Patrick Burke and his daughter Mary Ellen Burke enter exhibits in the 1891 California State Fair Agricultural Exposition. Both win awards. “P. Burke of Sonora” wins first place twice for \$10.00, once for a grain wagon entered, and also for a two horse carriage. Mary Ellen wins three dollars for an entry in the art department—a picture frame of burrs.

1892 October 1, Theresa Burke dies at about age 9 at Sonora. Tradition says that she died after kissing a little friend who was sick. She is buried at Mountain Shadows Cemetery in Sonora, probably in the Burke plot.

1892 Dec 11 Virginia City "Elected for ensuing term of Virginia City Firemen Exempt Association, President, Bart Burke.

1893 John Burke—Patrick’s oldest son living in Massachusetts, his wife and daughter Bessie visit Patrick Burke and his family in Sonora.

1895, June 21. The Sonora Union Democrat reported a party held in Sonora for a Mamie Lancaster of Oakdale by young people in Sonora.. Attending were George Burke and Grace Burke.

1895 September 9, Sonora. Mame Burke with other members of the Dardanelles Parlor of the Native Daughters of the Golden West sits for a group photo as part of the Admission Day celebration somewhere in Sonora. One woman is mounted on a horse.

1896 June 15, Virginia City "Bart Burke bound for California leaving Virginia for good. Lived here as long as I have but now don't want to stay any longer and die with it."

1897, April 17, Columbia, California. At the ceremony in Columbia to inaugurate the Columbia Parlor of the Native Daughters of the Golden West (later the Golden Era Parlor), members and officers of the nearby Sonora Dardanelle Parlor of the N.D.G.W. were invited to go to Columbia and demonstrate how the club initiation was supposed to go. Among those who helped were Miss M.E. Burke, who was the organist, according to the April 27, 1972 Union Democrat newspaper.

1897 San Francisco, French Hospital. Grace M. Burke graduates as a nurse from French Hospital this year.

1900 Michael Mellynn, native of Ireland, a widower aged 71, is living with his son Hubert Mellynn in San Francisco.

1901 August 18 The San Francisco Chronicle reported the following story: "Burglar Left When Discovered

"A burglar attempted to enter the residence of Dr. John R. McMurdo at 115 Beulah Street, on last Friday night after the members of the family had retired. The noise that he made while seeking an entrance through a rear window was heard by some persons in the house, and when he saw that he was detected the would-be thief hastened over the back fence and departed".

1901 May 23 Union Square San Francisco. President William McKinley presides over the ground breaking for the Dewey Monument in Union Square, about 50 yards from the offices of Dr. John McMurdo in the Spring Valley Building.

1901 January 7, Mary Ellen Burke married Dr. John Richard McMurdo in San Francisco.

1901 September 6, The San Francisco Call lists the following ad under

Help Wanted-Female

"COOK in private family; references; wages \$25. Apply 115 Beulah st., near Shrader."

1901 November 10 The San Francisco Chronicle reports that Mrs. Burke and Miss Grace

Burke of Sonora, who were here on a visit to Dr. and Mrs. John r. McMurdo, have returned home after a pleasant stay.

1901 November 27, Wednesday. Dr. John McMurdo and Mary Burke McMurdo left San Francisco to spend a week or so in Sonora visiting the Burkes.

1902 Grace McMurdo Porter, the daughter of John R. McMurdo and Mary Ellen Burke McMurdo, is born in San Francisco. She is probably the namesake of her mother's sister, Grace Burke.

1903 May 14 Union Square, San Francisco. President Theodore Roosevelt dedicates the new Dewey Monument in Union Square. The monument is about 50 yards from the Spring Valley Water Works building (now incorporated into the Neiman Marcus Store) on the corner of Union Square, where John McMurdo has his medical offices.

1903 June 7 The San Francisco Call listed "Mrs. J. R. Murdo" as recipient of a grammar school diploma from Tuolumne County this day.

1903, The San Francisco Call of July 12, reported that John P. Burke, his wife and his sister Grace Burke were at the El Carmelo Hotel, Pacific Grove. The notice reported that "the event of last week was a grand concert and ball, participated in by all th guests.

1903 September 11, The San Francisco Call lists an ad:
"WANTED—A cook in family, wages \$30; carfare paid. Apply 115 Beulah street."

1904 May 25, either Oakland or San Francisco, at the Alhambra Theater. Saint Mary's College holds its graduation ceremony. Among the graduates is Bartholomew Banahan Burke, according to the San Francisco Chronicle. Archbishop Montgomery handed out the diplomas. The featured papers that evening were one on "The Yellow Peril" and another "The Martyrs of Ireland".

1905 August 19, the Union Democrat reports "Bart Burke and his college chum, James Gallagher, a student at St. Mary's college who is visiting him, have gone to the mountains for a few days."

1905 December 9, Sonora the Union Democrat reported the submission of a petition to

the town board of trustees on December 5, by wives who lived on Barratta Street in Sonora asking that road work done on the street be finished. The petition said "...that the plowing had left the thoroughfare impassable". The board referred the issue to the street committee for immediate action. Among the signers was Katie Burke.

January 18, 1906 At Pioneer Hall in San Francisco. Dr. John McMurdo joined a group of "representative Irish citizens" at Pioneer Hall to make arrangements for the arrival on February 11 of Irish patriot Dr. Douglas Hyde, who was a proponent of restoring Irish culture, traditions and the Irish language in Ireland, according to the January 19 SF Call.

1906 April 18 In the San Francisco Earthquake, Bart Burke, the son of Patrick Burke writes that his house is wrecked and later burned down, but he manages to save his things. He wrote that he was among the men that pulled San Francisco Fire Chief Sullivan out of the wreckage of his home, but that he died later. A bank clerk, Bart helps load items into the vault to protect them from fire. He also helped to carry the burned and wounded to the operating table, and is pressed into service as a messenger for the Red Cross as a car driver—still a novelty worth noting in his letter to his cousin Bessie in Virginia City on May 5. Bart writes that he was put in charge of the milk supply for the city, dispensing 1500 gallons of milk a day to refugees. After the destruction of his home, he was living with the McMurdo's at this time at 115 Beulah St., adjacent to Golden Gate Park.

1906 April 18 In his letter to Bessie Reese, Bart Burke wrote that his sister Grace Burke's home at 1135 Bush St. had been destroyed. Bart wrote that Grace was reported missing for five days, and that his "folks were almost wild" with worry. When Grace was found, she had lost the sight of one eye, which she shortly recovered. He said that his parents had appeared to age ten years with worry over Grace and Mame [Mary McMurdo] and her children.

1906 About April 19-20 Mary Ellen Burke McMurdo goes to live with her parents in Sonora for several weeks after the earthquake and fire in San Francisco on April 18, 1906. Bart Burke wrote in a letter on May 6 to his cousin Bessie Reese in Virginia City that Mary [Mame] and her three children [presumably this would be George, Genevieve, and Snoozie, as dad was not born yet] would be staying in Sonora with the Burkes into July.

1906 April 18 In the earthquake and fire, Patrick Burke's brother Bart and his wife, then living in San Francisco, had their house spared, but the shop of [brother in law?] Pat Reardon had been burned to the ground. It seems from the letter that this may be where Bart Burke was working at the time.

1906 April 28 Sonora, California. The Union Democrat prints a list of people displaced by the Earthquake who have recently arrived in Sonora. On the list are Mamie Burke McMurdo and her children, and Grace Burke (Dant).

1906 April 28 Sonora. The Union Democrat reports that Mrs. Mamie Burke McMurdo with her children and Miss Grace Burke are among the Sonorans who have survived the San Francisco earthquake and were in Sonora. Their brother, Bart Burke was also mentioned. He and his room mate [sic] had survived the earthquake, His roommate, Ed Doyle, "says that they had no difficulty escaping from the building, a frame one, although the furniture was sailing in all directions, but that in the after hours he saw enough awful sights to last anybody but a ghoul for a lifetime. Bart Burke remained in the City and was doing "heroic duty" with the Red Cross Society."

1906 May 22 Richard Burke (R.B) McMurdo is born at the Burke home (most likely) in Sonora. He would to the day he died rue the fact that he was not a native San Franciscan. Always known to his friends and family as Dick, rather than Richard, he may have been the namesake of his great grandfather, Richard Dean, who John McMurdo would seem to have known growing up in Liverpool.

1906 June 10 Patrick Burke's brother Bart , living with his wife in San Francisco, sends a letter to their sister Julia Reese's family in Virginia City telling his experiences in San Francisco since the earthquake and fire in April, and thanking them for the package of items sent by them, especially the whiskey and cigars "...especially as you could not get a taste of liquor here for love or money..."

1908 May 22. Oakland. Bartholomew Burke is listed as one of the judges for the track and field meet at Saint Mary's College in Oakland this day.

1908 May 22 San Francisco. Dick McMurdo is two years old this day.

1908, December 28, in Sonora. Katie Banahan Burke dies, while kneeling in prayer in St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Sonora.

1909 September 25. Sonora. The Union Democrat reports "Bart Burke spent a few days in Sonora this week, leaving Thursday for Sacramento to join the league baseball team in which he plays."

1909 November 15, The San Francisco Call lists the following ad under Lost and Found:

"LOST—On Schrader stl, while going to St. Ignatius church, a lady's gold bar pin, engraved "M.E.B." Return to 115 Beulah st.; reward. "(sic)

1910 San Francisco. In the San Francisco Blue Book for this year, Dr. John R. McMurdo and his wife are listed at the address 115 Beulah Street, phone Park 3262.

1910 December 24, Sonora. The Union Democrat reports "Bart Burke, prominent league baseball player, is up from San Francisco to spend the holidays with his relatives and friends".

1911 April 6 Francis Burke McMurdo is born to Mary Ellen Burke McMurdo and Dr. John McMurdo in San Francisco, CA. He is the last of the ten "San Francisco" children of John McMurdo—the last three with Mary Burke. Six other children of John McMurdo had been born in Liverpool England by his wife Catherine McPhillimore McMurdo. Five of these six children died, as did Catherine.

1911 June 3 Sonora. The Union Democrat reports that "Mrs. Dr. McMurdo and children, accompanied by Miss Grace Burke, returned to San Francisco last Sunday".

1911 November 20, Sonora. Patrick Burke's blacksmith shop, a Chinese laundry, the Wenzel blacksmith shop and an annex of the Victoria hotel are destroyed by a fire of uncertain origin. It was believed at some point the fire began in the laundry. Burke's shop, uninsured, was a complete loss. Reported in the Union Democrat of November 25.

1911 November 24, San Francisco. The San Francisco Call reports that “Jimmie Riordan will likely catch again next Sunday in the Shreve & Co. Vaughan & I Phraser noon game. Captain Bart Burke was called to his Sonora home on business and will not return in time to get into the game. “

1911 November 25, Sonora. The Union Democrat reports a story of a wagon that had been stolen from either the Burke or Wenzel wagon shops in Sonora on Halloween night, and run around Sonora High School. When the Burke and Wenzel shops were destroyed, the wagon was recovered, and either Pat Burke or Mr. Wenzel told the boys that if it hadn't been for taking the wagon, it would have been destroyed, too.

1911 November 25, Sonora. The Union Democrat reports “Miss Grace Burke, who attended Father Guerin during his confinement in the St. Joseph's Home in Stockton has returned to Sonora.”

1911, December 9, Sonora. The Union Democrat reports “Bart Burke, formerly of the baseball game but now clerking in a San Francisco bank, after spending a few weeks here with relatives and friends, has returned to his duties.”

1912 March 16 Sonora, The Union Democrat reports “Miss Grace Burke, the professional nurse, returned to Sonora Wednesday from Soulsbyville, where she was in attendance upon Mrs. Wm Cursow.”

1912 April 27, Mary Quigley, the mother of Elizabeth Quigley McMurdo, dies in San Francisco. She was 74.

1912 June 8, Sonora. The Union Democrat reports Miss Lavinia McMurdo, of San Francisco, will arrive in Sonora Monday to spend a month here with her aunt, Miss Grace Burke.”

1912 November 15 Patrick Quigley the father of Elizabeth Quigley McMurdo, dies in San Francisco. He was 83. It appears that the Quigleys, through their grandmother Kilduff, are related to the Kilduffs of the Banahan side of our family.

1912-1913 Beginning in 1912, St. Ignatius Church on the campus of the University of San Francisco was rebuilt after being destroyed during the 1906 earthquake and fire. Construction went on from 1912 into 1913, with the church being dedicated in 1914. During this time, Mary McMurdo's father, Patrick Burke, moved from his home in Sonora to live with the McMurdo's on Beulah Street. A man nearing eighty, he was apparently fond of walking from Beulah Street across the panhandle of Golden Gate Park over to the construction site of the church, and watching it being built. Dick McMurdo remembered that he at times would get confused as to how to get home, and the Irish cops would help him back to Beulah Street.

1913 Bart Burke the son of Patrick and Katie Burke, is playing as a catcher on the "Fraser Photos", playing for the semipro championship of California. Among the teams they are scheduled to play this week were Petaluma, Santa Cruz, then the champions of San Francisco's Trolley League, and the team from Bodie.

1913 San Francisco County. The county voter rolls for 1913 show John, Mary "Egla", and Lavinia McMurdo of 115 Beulah Street has registered Republicans. John McMurdo Jr (Jack), was a registered Democrat.

1914 February 28. The Sonora Union Democrat reports "Miss Grace Burke who has been in San Francisco for the past month, returned home Thursday.

1914 July 11. The Sonora Union Democrat reports "Miss Grace Burke, a trained nurse from Sonora, is attending Mrs. Leon Hills at the Draper mine."

1914 September 12. The Sonora Union Democrat reports:"...Miss Grace Burke returned to Sonora on Monday after several weeks visit at the Draper mines."

1915 Sonora. The Union Democrat reported the sale of the "Patrick Burke Lot" adjoining the residence of Dr. R.I. Bromley on South Washington Street. "The lot is spacious and ideally located". It was sold to a Mr. Restano.

1915 August 14, Sonora. The Union Democrat reports "Miss Gertrude McMurdo and sister went to their home in San Francisco Monday, after an extended visit with their aunt, Miss Burke."

1916 March 25, Sonora, The Union Democrat reports "Miss L. McMurdo, who has been

a guest of Miss Grace Burke for several weeks, returned to her home in San Francisco early this week.”

1917 January 31, San Francisco, Wednesday, in the early morning. The Oakland Tribune reported this day that Patrick Burke, the father of Mary Ellen McMurdo, “...an aged retired merchant of 115 Beulah Street, while walking in his sleep this morning, plunged down a flight of stairs, incurring injuries which may cause his death. He fractured two ribs, laid open his scalp and suffered a possible fracture of the skull. He was taken to the Park Emergency hospital.”

1917 Friday February 2, San Francisco. The San Francisco Chronicle included the following obituary:

“Patrick Burke Dies At Age of 82 Years

Patrick Burke, aged 82, the father of Bart B., George, John and Miss Grace Burke, and Mrs. J. R. McMurdo, died in this city yesterday. Burke came to California in 1865* and settled in Sonora. He was in the employ of the United States Government as a wheel maker at Fort Sumpter during the Civil War.”

There are a couple of things worth mentioning on this obituary. Patrick Burke came first to California with his wife Ellen Kineen Burke in 1861. She was pregnant with their second child at this time. Upon their return to Massachusetts, she died. Patrick Burke returned to California by the summer of 1863, when he wrote a letter from San Francisco to his sister and brother in law in Massachusetts, arranging for the care of his son, John Burke, who then grew up in Massachusetts with them. In the letter, Patrick Burke made mention of going on from San Francisco to the “mountains south” to look for work, this, presumably, being Tuolumne County, where Sonora is.

A fascinating possibility arises from this obituary, though. That Patrick Burke “made the wheels for the cannons of Fort Sumpter” is not news—Dick McMurdo spoke more than once about this. Murray Burke (John Burke’s son) in letters to me in the 1980s also mentioned that Patrick Burke worked at the Watertown Arsenal in Massachusetts prior to the Civil War as a wheelwright, and Watertown—one of the largest US Army arsenals at that time, did in fact provide some or all of the artillery for Fort Sumpter. What is interesting to consider is that the obituary places Burke AT Fort Sumpter. In the months

leading up to the Confederate attack on the fort in 1860 and '61, it turns out the Watertown arsenal sent several of its men to Fort Sumpter to help with the maintenance of the artillery there. It would be interesting to know if perhaps, Burke was one of these men. I think the workmen from Watertown were evacuated with a few women and children just a few days before the bombardment of the fort started, but I am not clear on this. The timeline fits pretty well. He first arrives in San Francisco seemingly within weeks or months after the fort falls in early April of 1861, and shortly afterwards moves west. Was he trying to steer clear of the war which he had already seen first hand as it began? There is no family tradition of him being there, but the obituary, which presumably the McMurdo's and Burkes would have provided the information for, would have seemed to have known. Who knows? But an interesting possibility. Maybe a question for History Detectives on PBS.

When Patrick Burke died, John McMurdo signed his death certificate.

1917 February 10, Sonora. The Union Democrat of Sonora reported "A large number of friends of the late Patrick Burke attended his funeral last Monday morning, which was held from the family home in Baretta street. The body was taken to St. Patrick's Catholic Church [in Sonora] and a requiem mass celebrated by Father Gilmartin. Burial was in the family plot in Mountain View Cemetery. The bearers of the pall were: J.B. Doyle, E.F. Doyle, Matt Brady, Leo Brady, J.B. Ryan, John Kearney. [The Brady's would have probably been sons of Patrick's wife Katie's sister, Margaret Banahan Brady, presumably the brothers of Hubert Brady].

1917 April 17 Patrick Burke dies in the early morning at the home of his *daughter?* Mary and son in law John McMurdo (112 Beulah St.) after falling over a banister. Dick McMurdo was nearly 11 at the time of his grandfather's death—Burke McMurdo about six. John McMurdo signed his death certificate.

1917 September 1. The Sonora Union Democrat reports "Bart Burke, prominent member of the Olympic Club of San Francisco and former Sonora boy, passed through Sonora Sunday on a return trip from the hills where they have been guests of Leo Rosasco during part of a two week's vacation spent in that territory."

1917 December 11 The sports page of the San Francisco Chronicle publishes part of a

letter sent by Bart Burke informing that he expected to be sent to France soon. At the time of the letter, December 5, he was stationed at the American University in Washington, D.C.. The article said that Burke was a member of company F of the 20th Engineering Battalion at this time.

1918 January 19, Sonora. The Union Democrat reports that “Bart Burke, former Sonora boy, and prominent member of the San Francisco Olympic Club in on his way “Over There”, according to word recently received from him by his sister, Miss Grace Burke of this city.”

1918 January 19 San Francisco. On this day John and Mary McMurdo received a letter from Mary’s brother, Bart Burke, serving in the American Expeditionary Force in France, saying that he was safe and had been promoted from private to sergeant. His only complaint was that he “had not read a newspaper in a year”. He was the captain of the F company, 4th Battalion, 20th Engineer corps ball team, and had played several games with the English soldiers.

1918 February 2. The Union Democrat reports the arrival in France with engineering regiments several men, including Bart Burke.

1918 February 5 The North Atlantic. The troop transport “Tuscania”, carrying companies D, E and F of the 20th Engineers is reported sunk by a German U-boat. About 230 US soldiers and crewmen died in this sinking. Bart Burke, the brother of Mary Ellen McMurdo, is serving with Company F, and is believed to be on the ship.

1918 February 7 San Francisco, The San Francisco Chronicle carries the story of the sinking of the Cunard liner Tuscania, carrying American troops to England.

February 8, 1918 San Francisco. The San Francisco Chronicle breaks the front page story that five San Francisco men are believed to have been aboard troop ship Tuscania when it was torpedoed by a German u-boat and sunk off Ireland. A large photo on the top of page 1 of the Chronicle of the five men is published. Among the five is a photo of Bart Burke in the baseball uniform of the Olympic Club.

One can only imagine the fear of the Burkes and McMurdos in California as they realized that his name was not on the first list of survivors.

1918, February 16, San Francisco. The San Francisco Chronicle reported that Bart Burke, the brother in law of John R. McMurdo, was safe “somewhere in France” after being feared a victim of the sinking of the troop transport “Tuscania” on February 5 in the Atlantic by a German U-boat. His part of Company F of the 20th Engineers had apparently moved several days before the rest of his company, which had been aboard the ship.

1918 March 9. The San Francisco Chronicle reported that George Fraser, owner of the San Francisco Baseball Team Fraser Fotos, had “just received a letter from Bart Burke, Olympic Club baseballer, who is “over there”. Bart writes that the weather has been fine, just like San Francisco, and that he envied the Olympians their plunge on New Year’s Day [the traditional jump in the Pacific at Ocean Beach]...”

1918, June 1, Sonora. The Union Democrat reports “Bart Burke, a Sonora boy and well-known in San Francisco athletic circles, writes a friend in that city from France, saying: “Tough luck. I have applied for a transfer to the front line and have been turned down”. Burke says the Liberty boys are the finest soldiers in the world.”

1918 June 29, Sonora. The Union Democrat newspaper in Sonora reports “Miss Lavinia McMurdo and her two brothers, Dick and Burke, of San Francisco, are in Sonora, guests of their aunt, Miss Grace Burke”.

1919 February 19, Wednesday. The 20th Engineer Battalion of San Francisco, recently returned from France, is greeted upon their arrival in San Francisco with a parade and reception.

1919 April 23 Tuesday. San Francisco. The 347th Field Artillery, known as “San Francisco’s Own” and 363rd Infantry, return from France. A parade to City Hall is planned. According to the San Francisco Municipal Record for that year, “...The first part [of the parade] was orderly and according to program, but when the boys struck the pavement on Market street the program was cast aside and the parade became a spontaneous reception. It was just one big family reunion and the kinfolks of the soldiers mixed so that marching was out of the question. And it was better so.” Bart Burke was listed as a member of this unit. Dick McMurdo remembered and spoke of this day. He was nearly 13 years old, and said he witnessed it from a perch somewhere high on City

Hall.

1919 May 7, San Francisco. The San Francisco Chronicle provided the following:
“Bart Burke Ill at Letterman

Bart Burke, former captain and manager of the Olympic Club baseball team and well known in local sporting circles, is seriously ill at the Letterman General Hospital. Burke returned with the 447th and has been in the hospital ever since. For a time he was at St. Mary’s where a consultation was held. The physicians agreed that Burke is the victim of some germ that entered his system in France”.

1919 June 14 Sonora. The Union Democrat reports that “Miss Grace Burke of San Francisco is attending to business matters in Sonora. Friends are pleased to learn that her brother Bart, though still in the hospital, is gradually recovering from a severe illness.”

1919 July (or perhaps July of 1920) San Francisco, according to spoken tradition of Dick McMurdo, he was introduced to Irish patriot Eamon de Valera during Valera’s visit to San Francisco. Valera seems to have made two visits to San Francisco in this time, one to unveil a statue of Irish patriot Robert Emmet in front of the Academy of Sciences Building in Golden Gate Park.

1919 Wednesday, September 10. John McMurdo dies suddenly, according to the San Francisco Chronicle of Saturday, September 13.

1919 September 11 The San Francisco Chronicle reported the death of John McMurdo, making note of his over thirty years in medical practice in San Francisco, his being the Senior Surgeon and a member of the Board of Directors at Saint Mary’s Hospital.

1919 Thursday and Friday, September 11 and 12 (about). The body of Dr. John McMurdo is laid out in the parlor of his home at 115 Beulah Street, according to the memory of his son, Richard B. McMurdo.

1919 September 12 at 8:30 am. The funeral gathering for John McMurdo begins at his house at 115 Beulah Street, from there travelling to St. Agnes Church for the funeral

mass. The distance between these two places is a little more than half a mile.

1919 September 12 at 9am. The funeral of John McMurdo was held at St. Agnes Catholic Church in San Francisco. He was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery in Colma, California.

Around 1919. Dick McMurdo, then about thirteen, has his thumb crushed when the door of a Ford Model T is slammed shut on it. For the rest of his life, his thumb was disfigured.

1920 February 6, San Francisco. The San Francisco Chronicle reported on a man injured by a jitney. "G.H. McMurdo, 1310 Tenth Avenue [Dad's brother George McMurdo] was knocked down by a jitney at Third and Market streets last night. McMurdo was taken to the Park Emergency Hospital, where he was treated for an injured ankle and knee.

1920 October 9, at Berkeley, Dick McMurdo is a spectator as the University of California "Wonder Team" defeats St. Mary's College of Oakland, 127-0. In the end, according to Dad, when the ball was snapped, the St. Mary's players would just fall down and let Cal run over them.

1920 Grace Burke marries David M. Keith.

1920 April 25 The San Francisco Chronicle reported : "Miss Gertrude McMurdo, the beautiful daughter of Mrs. Mary E. McMurdo, became the bride of Augustine J. Costello at St. Anne's Church Wednesday morning at nine o'clock. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Genevieve McMurdo. On account of the recent death of Dr. McMurdo, the wedding, which was planned to have been a brilliant one, was very simple, only relatives of both families participating in the wedding breakfast at the McMurdo home and witnessing the ceremony at the church. Mrs. Costello is a graduate of the Dominican Convent."

1921 November 8 The San Francisco Municipal Record reported the appointment of Mrs. M. E. McMurdo to teach at Washington Irving School in San Francisco.

1922 April 3 San Francisco. The San Francisco Chronicle reports "a tea in honor of Mlle. Caro Roma was given yesterday by Mrs. John McMurdo and Mrs. A. A. D'Ancona at the

home of Mrs. McMurdo, 115 Beulah Street. A number of musical selections were given by those present. “Caro Roma was a then well-known tin pan alley singer, who had performed in France, Boston and with the San Francisco Opera.

1923 June 30, The Union Democrat reports that “Bart Burke, an old Sonora boy hit home for a brief spell this week and left for some of the more isolated sections of the Sierras. He is accompanied by Major Davis of the Marines.”

1923 The 1923 San Francisco City Directory lists Mary McMurdo as the widow of John McMurdo, living at 115 Beulah Street. She was working as a school teacher.

1923 November 4 The San Francisco Chronicle reports that Miss Grace McMurdo was one of twenty one “misses” invited as guests to a “handsome tea” given as a prenuptial event at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco.

1924 The San Francisco City Directory lists Mary McMurdo as “widow of John”, living at 746 12th Avenue, and working as a school teacher.

1924 June 23 Crissy Field, San Francisco. Richard Burke McMurdo is one of a crowd of about 50,000 people who witness the conclusion of the first dawn to dusk airmail flight from Mitchell Field in Long Island, New York to Crissy Field at San Francisco. The plane landed at 9:46 pm, one minute before dusk. It was said that that plane used the revolving light on Alcatraz as a navigational beacon. Being present at this event according to RB McMurdo.

1924 November 18 Memorial Stadium, Berkeley. Richard Burke McMurdo watches California and Stanford play to a 20-20 tie in the Big Game from Tightwad Hill. The game is filmed by silent movie star Harold Lloyd, and the halftime portion of the game is used in Lloyd’s classic silent film, “The Freshman”, which was released in 1925.

1925 The San Francisco Directory lists Mary E. McMurdo, her son Richard and daughter Grace McMurdo as living at 746 12th Avenue, about ten houses from the Fulton Avenue side of Golden Gate Park, directly north of the De Young Museum.

1925 June 6, Sonora. The Union Democrat reported that “Dr. and Mrs. Geo. T. Brady with Geo. Brady Jr. were week-end visitors with friends and relatives here. Mrs. Mame

Burke McMurdo was also a recent visitor.”

1926 March 17, a Wednesday “elaborate and artistic luncheon” held by her friends for Grace McMurdo, as her wedding was announced to be married to James Westcott Porter at the Women’s Athletic Club in San Francisco. Their wedding date was for April 14, according to the Berkeley Gazette.

1926 April 14 at Mission Dolores. Grace M. McMurdo and James Westcott Porter are married. Dick McMurdo gives the bride away.

1928 February 25, Sonora, California. The Sonora Union Democrat newspaper reports: “...Mrs. Grace Keith, formerly Miss Grace Burke of this city, accompanied by her niece, Mrs. Grace Porter, spent a few days this week in Sonora, visiting relatives and friends. They returned to their home in Burlingame Thursday.”

1929, February 18, in Oakland. Richard Burke McMurdo, with three friends were involved in a fatal car crash at the intersection of Seminary Avenue and Foothill Boulevard in Oakland, as they left a dance at nearby Mills College for women. According to the Berkeley Gazette, Dick McMurdo’s best friend, Harry Fawke, was driving at a high rate of speed and disregarded a stop sign at the intersection, and flipped the car while trying to make a turn, crashing into another vehicle. The car ejected the three passengers, while Fawke, a 22 year old student at Cal was killed. The other three sustained no, or minor injuries. According to my memory, Dick McMurdo said he was thrown through the (presumably) cloth roof of the vehicle, and came up running. He had a small cut, as I remember, on his hand. Dick McMurdo was living at 746 Twelfth Avenue in San Francisco, and was 23. The other two students were also students at Cal, all three were fraternity club members.

1930 San Francisco County. On the voter lists for San Francisco County for this year, Mary E. McMurdo was listed as a Republican. Her son Dick, a Democrat. Mary’s parents were listed as having been born in “the Irish Free State”.

1930 April 11, San Francisco. According to the US Census in San Francisco, collected on this day, Mary McMurdo, her daughter Grace M. Porter and her two sons, Richard and Francis, were living at 746 12th Avenue in San Francisco. Mary was a school teacher, Dick a clerk in stocks and bonds, and Burke (FB), not working (presumably a student).

Snooze (Grace), was working as a bank clerk.

1932, August 12, San Francisco. The Berkeley Daily Gazette reported this day that at the wedding of Bernice Owens and Daniel Cullen, Jr., in San Francisco, the previous Wednesday, Dick McMurdo and his friend Whitey Hibbard, were ushers for the ceremony.

1936 November 16. Sonora, a Wednesday. The Union Democrat of November 18 reported "George Burke, Native Sonoran, Dies Here Wednesday. George Burke, 61, native of Sonora, and former wagon-maker and wheelwright, died in Sonora Wednesday after a brief illness. Burke was a son of Patty Burke, widely known pioneer wagon-maker of Sonora". A rosary had been said at the funeral parlor at 8 in the evening Thursday. A requiem mass was celebrated at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Sonora at 10 am, by Father James Gilmartin [who had also performed the funeral of Patrick Burke]. Surviving were two sisters; Mrs. Grace Keith of Burlingame, Mrs. Marie (sic) McMurdo of San Francisco and a brother, Bart Burke of San Francisco.

1939 September 15 George Patrick Burke dies in Sonora, California.

1939-40. Burke, Snooze and Mame McMurdo and a young woman friend of Burke McMurdo visit the Panama Pacific Exposition (San Francisco World's Fair) on Treasure Island. Burke McMurdo films the adventure.

1942 September 19, Oakland, California. Dick McMurdo is an usher at the wedding of his friend Jack Mulvaney's sister Marian at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church. Also ushering is his friend Wes Heidt.

1943 February 3 Mary Ellen Burke McMurdo dies in San Francisco, California.

1943 March 6. Richard Burke McMurdo and Agnes Wilder Hinkle are married at Star of the Sea Catholic Church in San Francisco. They move to Colusa Avenue in Berkeley.

1944 February 13, Berkeley, California. Richard Burke McMurdo Jr. is born at Alta Bates Hospital in Berkeley.

1944 July 17, Colusa Avenue, Berkeley, California, about 10:18. Dick and Toni

McMurdo hear a massive series of explosions and see the northeast sky illuminated. East Bay residents fear that an air raid is in progress. The explosion is actually from Port Chicago munitions loading facility on Suisun Bay. The explosion of ammunition sank two cargo ships, created a fireball over three miles wide, and threw explosives and debris as high as 12,000 feet into the air. 320 sailors and civilians were killed, and nearly 400 wounded.

1945 August 14, at Berkeley. Hearing the news that the Japanese had surrendered, Agnes (Toni) McMurdo and Janet McMurdo, joining thousands of other Bay Area residents, head to church to pray their thanks. Toni McMurdo remembered that she could hear church bells ringing everywhere.

1945 October 5 Grace Burke Keith dies at Burlingame, California. She is buried in Sonora.

1945 October 9, Buckner Bay, Okinawa. The minesweeper YMS 90, under the command of FB McMurdo, is beached during Typhoon Louise when it slammed into Okinawa, seven weeks after the end of World War II.

1946, February 28, Sonora. The Union Democrat reports “Mrs. Grace Porter of San Francisco spent the weekend here with Mr. and Mrs. Warren Fahey”.

1947 September 26 at Alta Bates Hospital, Berkeley California, Tim McMurdo is born to Agnes and Richard McMurdo.

1955 May 19 at District Hospital, Tulare, California, Brian McMurdo is born to Agnes and Richard McMurdo.

1966 November 12, at Memorial Stadium, Berkeley. Tom Hinkle, Tim and Brian McMurdo watch the California Golden Bears lose to Army 6-3. The game was photographed by Ansel Adams as part of the book “Fiat Lux”, which was published by the University of California to commemorate the centennial of its founding, just over a year later in 1968. One of the photos shows the north end zone after the game, with the crowd and presumably the three brothers, milling in the late afternoon light of a rainy afternoon. The link:

<http://www.google.com/imgres?q=ansel+adams+%2B+memorial+stadium+%2B+fiat+lux&num=10&hl=en&safe=off&tbo=d&biw=1198&bih=569&tbm=isch&tbnid=S9N8VbUWJ46kHM:&imgrefurl=http://www.bearinsider.com/forums/showthread.php%3Ft%3D59618&docid=aXg67vlokFw7oM&imgurl=http://i48.tinypic.com/33vg21x.jpg&w=743&h=927&ei=Ma-hUJnpKILi2QXvioHgAQ&zoom=1&iact=hc&vpx=769&vpy=207&dur=2472&hovh=251&hovw=201&tx=97&ty=162&sig=110527006229460098898&page=1&tbnh=138&tbnw=111&start=0&ndsp=21&ved=1t:429,r:12,s:0,i:110>

<http://www.bearinsider.com/forums/showthread.php?t=59618>

1967 August 22. Dick and Toni McMurdo move from Tulare, California to 1127 Walnut Street, Berkeley.

1973 April 3 Walnut Creek, California. Burke (F.B.) McMurdo dies at his home in the evening. He is 61. A rosary and funeral mass are held for him at St. Mary's Church in Walnut Creek. He is buried at Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

May 8, 1980, at Berkeley, California. Richard Burke McMurdo dies at Alta Bates Hospital. He is buried with his parents, sister Grace and niece Joan at Holy Cross Cemetery, Colma, California.

2006 April 18 On the centennial anniversary of the earthquake in 2006, Mayor Gavin Newsome issued a proclamation giving honorary native San Franciscan status to any child who had been born outside of the city limits because their parents had been refugeed by the earthquake and fire. Richard Burke McMurdo was finally a Native San Franciscan.

2013 The Spring, Elk, Mendocino County, California. Brett Burke McMurdo and Melissa Bohl travel to Elk to spend the weekend. They visit the Cuffey's Cove Cemetery and find the graves of Bart Burke and Mary Cooney Burke. They leave a baseball on Bart's grave. Inscribed on the baseball is

“For Uncle Bart, Play Ball! The McMurdo's “

This document is incomplete as of June 18, 2013.