



R82

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada

Department of History
Maritime History Group

Telex: 016-4101
Tel. (709) 737-8428

March 23, 1983

Mrs. Lillian Schneider,
20 Mayfield Ave #25,
Waterloo, Ontario,
N2J 4M5

Dear Mrs. Schneider,

Thank you for your letter of 7th March 1983 including your enclosed cheque.

We appreciate your concern to establish concrete geneo-logical links. While our records contain much in this category of information they quite naturally do not include all such information on all Newfoundlanders living in that period. There is no simple way for us to deal with this. In each case the records must be searched in order to establish particular and general information.

Sometimes the continued use of certain christian names (ex. Richard) gives us a clue to possible early family links. Yet the only mention of a Richard Rose in all of our Rose files is that of a gentleman of Teignmouth, Devon, engaged in the Newfoundland trade, who married Mary Hubbard of Teignmouth in 1791.

Noah and Samuel Snow are listed in a 1871 business directory as living in Clarkes Beach. Both are listed as fishermen at that time. We have no further information on them. There is no Rowe or Stevens listed as living there.

Clarkes Beach was in the Port-de-Grave-Bareneed Methodist circuit. In the 1850's one-half of its population of nearly 300 were Anglicans with Roman Catholics and Methodists making up the remainder. In the 1880's and 1890's, however, a shift toward Methodism brought the community by 1900 (now 600 pp.) to nearly 80% Methodist. I mention this in case you ever get an opportunity to investigate early church records here. The Snows might well have been Anglicans in the early period and Methodists at a later date.

I spoke with Mrs. Margaret Chang, archivist at the Provincial Archives, Colonial Bldg., St. John's. She supplied me with the following information regarding births and marriage records for Clarkes Beach. While marriages were performed at Clarkes Beach, the records were historically preserved in the communities mentioned:

Page 2....

March 23, 1983

Church of England (C. of E.) Brigus, both births and marriages are available for the years, 1860-91.

Methodist. Brigus, birth records for 1856-91. Marriages for 1813 and for 1837-92.

Methodist. Clarkes Beach marriage records for 1837-90.

North River. Reformed Episcopal. Marriages and births for 1884-91 (this would not apply to your family)

C. of Eng. Port de Grave. Births and marriages, 1860-91 are available.

Methodist. Port de Grace. Births and marriages, 1834-91 are available.

C. of Eng. Salmon Cove, Births and marriages 1860-91 (probably would not apply in your case.

There are Clarkes Beach marriage and birth records in all of the above. If you write the Provincial Archives (address above), care of Mr. Don Morris, and limit your enquiry to a specific question, such as, 'When was Noah Snow of Clarkes Beach born and what was his mother's surname?', you stand a good chance of having your enquiry answered as a public service. If you have success in this, you might write them again asking another specific question. You might well work on the Snow family first. They seem to be the 'constant' in Clarkes Beach. I have a feeling you might have more difficulty tracing out the Stevens-Rose connection (with the Snows) since it appears they did not originally reside in Clarkes Beach. Don't let this deter you, however. The more information you gather on the Snows, the more probability it will shed some light on the other families.

Please do not hesitate to contact us again in the future if you feel we can be of assistance to you in your research.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Matthews,
Chairman,
MARITIME HISTORY

KK/vk