

JOHN [BANFORD] BENFIELD & MARY JOYCE

John [BANFORD] BENFIELD and Mary JOYCE are my maternal 5th Great Grandparents. Their daughters, Mary Ann BENFIELD and Margaret BENFIELD, are my 4th Great Grandmothers.

Mary Ann married Thomas Samuel WHITEHALL & Margaret married George DALTON.

(Yes! two first cousins married!

Mary Ann & Thomas WHITEHALL's son, George WHITEHALL, married Margaret & George DALTON's daughter, Mary Anne DALTON.)

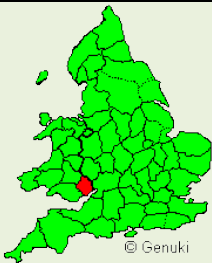


BENFIELD: *English surname, but one of Norman-French origins. It is an Invasion name, being associated with the Conquest of England in 1066. It originates from a Normandy village called Bonneville, literally 'good place' of which there are three, two near the city of Rouen.*

BANFORD: *English locational origin from either of two places thus called - Bamford in Derbyshire and Lancashire. The former, recorded as Banford in The Domesday Book of 1086 and as Bamford in the 1228 Charter of that country, derives its name from the Old English pre 7th Century "beam" meaning a beam, plus ford, a fordhence, "river ford with a beam (or footbridge)". The latter, recorded as Baunford in the 1282 "Fine Court Rolls of Lancashire" and as Bamford in 1322 is named from the same elements.*

JOYCE: *has two possible and distinct origins, although both are French. Firstly it may be a patronymic deriving from the Breton*

personal name "Iodoc", a diminutive of "Juidcaelh", meaning 'lord', and introduced by the Normans into England at the Invasion of 1066. Although the 1086 Domesday Book is silent in regard to the name, both 'Josce' and 'Tocius' are recorded in the 1150 rolls of the city of Lincoln. Secondly the name may be of French locational origins from the village of Josse sur Mer, in Calvados, Normandy.

The surname also became popular in Ireland, where it was first introduced in 1283 by a Welshman, Thomas de Jorse, who married the daughter of O'Brien the Prince of Thomond.

		
<p>Monmouthshire in Wales</p>	<p>County Mayo in Ireland</p>	<p>Map of County Mayo showing Westport</p>

<p>John [BANFORD] BENFIELD</p>	<p>Mary JOYCE</p>
<p>John [BANFORD] BENFIELD was born in 1797 in Monmouthshire, Wales. Born as John BANFORD. John was a soldier in the British Army. John enlisted in the army as John BANFORD, then changed his surname to BENFIELD between 1826 and 1829 in Australia [reason unknown].</p>	<p>Mary JOYCE was born 1798 at Westport, County Mayo, Ireland. [Parish of Aughaval]</p> <p>John BANFORD married Mary JOYCE on the 26th January 1820 at Westport, County Mayo, Ireland.</p> <p>Another soldier from the 39th Regiment who</p>



remained in NSW was Captain Charles Sturt. In 1840 John BENFIELD's widow, Mary, wrote to the Governor pleading for the land grant her husband had been promised before his death. She stated that the papers concerning this grant were in the hands of Captain Sturt. Nothing seems to have come of this appeal. ([transcription](#))

Military Career:

John BANFORD enlisted in the British army on the 22nd May 1815. He was recruited from the Gloucestershire, England area. He joined the Battalion 39th Regiment of Foot at Winchester on 24th May 1815. The battalion moved to Wimbourne, Dorsetshire in the June. John then transferred to 1st Battalion on 13th November 1815 (*source: WO12/5316*) then in France with allied army of occupation. The HQ for 1st Battalion was at Castlebar, Co Mayo, Ireland from December 1818 to June 1820. Detachments of men were stationed at various places. John BANFORD was detached at Westport, Co Mayo. Then back to the Battalion HQ at Richmond Barracks, Dublin, Ireland on the 8th August 1820. Detached to Kimsale, Ireland on 19th June 1821; Castle Island, Ireland from December 1821 to March 1822; Killarney, Ireland in April 1822; Dingle, Ireland in May 1822. He completed 7 years service on 24th May 1822. John went on leave from 25th November to 22nd December 1822 (*Source: WO12/5261*). He rejoined the Battalion at Tralee, Ireland on 3rd October 1823. He was then at Sonagolden, Ireland in November 1823, then Newcastle on 6th September 1824, and rejoined the battalion at Buttervant, County Cork, Ireland on 6th December 1824. Back at Chatham in July 1825 (*source: WO12/5262*).

The 39th Regiment received orders on 10th July 1825 for embarkment via Chatham to NSW colony to perform the duty of guarding the convicts. The companies went out to Australia in 18 detachments. They did not all go at once. The first left on 6th December 1825 and the last not until April 1827. John BANFORD went out with a detachment on 7th April 1826 and arrived in Sydney, NSW colony on 7th Apr 1826 aboard the convict ship "England". On 8th April 1826 an entry in the Surgeons Log notes that they had received onboard a detachment of the 39th Regiment of Foot commanded by George Pitt D'Arcy and consisting of 30 men, 6 women and 7 children. The list of guards includes the name John BANFORD with wife and 1 child. On 14th April the ship proceeded down the Thames to Woolwich where it moored near the hulk 'Justina' to take on board 50 male convicts for transportation. The 'England' sailed on 6th May 1826 under the command of Captain John REAY and arrived in NSW four and a half months later on 18th September.

List of the Guard on board the male convict ship 'England' include-

Name: John Banford

Quality: Private

Women: Wife

Children: One

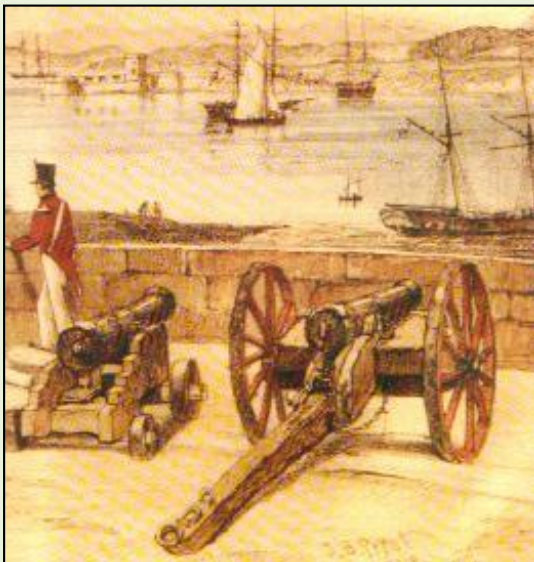
John was a member of the Redcoats. 39th Regiment:

Representation of the 39th's Regiment Uniform

Return To 39th Foot Dorsetshire Regiment.



39th Regiment Colour Sergeant39 Regiment Private



Regiment Number.: 39th

Regiment Name: Dorset shire Arrived in Australia toward the end of 1825. The Regiment saw service in Hobart, Sydney, Western Australia & Bathurst, leaving on July the 5th 1832 for service in India

From: 1827

To: 1832

Facing Colour: Pea Green

Loops: Square Pairs

After arriving in Australia, John was first stationed at Parramatta on 3rd November 1826. He was then posted to Illawarra area in September 1829 where the Regiment supervised the building of roads and a breakwater and the laying out of the town of Wollongong. In May 1830 John was sent to Norfolk Island for a year, while it was under the

command of Morrisset, one of its harshest commandants. On his return to the main land, John remained in Parramatta until his discharge on the 30th June 1832.

Soldiers of the 39th Foot who took their discharge in NSW:

Rank: Pte

Name: Banford, John

Received gratuity or purchased discharge: 12 months gratuity 18.5.0 pounds.

The 39th Regiment was sent to India in 1832, so this is most likely why John BENFIELD was discharged from the British Army.



John BENFIELD died on 2nd March 1839 at Cooks River, Sydney NSW Australia (source: NSW Burial Reg.V18391538 23A)

John was buried on 4th March 1839 at St Peters Cemetery, Sydney NSW Australia
No headstone at St Peters Cemetery. John BENFIELD was the first person to be buried in the graveyard of St Peters at Cooks River.



Mary BENFIELD (nee JOYCE) died on 6th March 1860 at Kingsgrove, Sydney NSW Australia. (source: NSW Death Reg.2565/1860)

Mary was buried on the 8th March 1860 at Mooresfield Cemetery.
Moorefields Methodist Cemetery, Kingsgrove is located behind the church at 96a Moorefields Road, Kingsgrove (public access through Maramba Close). It is believed to be the oldest cemetery in Canterbury City with the first of over 1155

listed burials recorded on 6th January, 1855 for Emma Lees. The burial records cannot be substantiated due to a fire destroying the early records in 1905.



John & Mary BANFORD [BENFIELD] had 5 children:

- **Mary Anne** born about 1823 in Tralee, County Kerry, Ireland. Mary Anne was born with the surname BANFORD. She had come out to Australia with her parents aboard the convict ship "England" as a soldier's daughter in 1826. Mary Anne is my 4th Great Grandmother. Mary Anne married Thomas Samuel WHITEHALL (son of convict parents) on 6th January 1840 at St Lukes Church of England, Liverpool, Sydney NSW Australia. Mary Anne died on 6th April 1855 at Kingsgrove, Sydney NSW Australia and she is buried at Mooresfield Cemetery NSW.
- **Martha** born 1826 at Parramatta, Sydney NSW Australia. Martha was born with the surname BANFORD. She married William HUMPHREY on 8th May 1843 at Church of England Cook's River, Petersham, Sydney NSW Australia. Martha died 30th September 1906 at Hurstville, Sydney NSW Australia.
- **Margaret** born 1829 at Parramatta, Sydney NSW Australia. Margaret was baptised with the surname BENFIELD. Margaret is my 4th Great Grandmother. Margaret married William DALTON on 17 Aug 1846 at St Stephens Church, Newtown, Sydney NSW Australia. She died on 03 Aug 1909 at Marrickville, Sydney NSW Australia. Margaret is buried at Rookwood Cemetery with her husband.
- **Richard Mark** born on 28th December 1832 at Hurstville, Sydney NSW Australia. Baptised with the surname BENFIELD. He married Anne HAYNES on 9th July 1855 at Church of England, Enfield, Sydney NSW Australia. Then lived with Mary Ann NOHREN (nee

ILLINGWORTH) and had more children. Mary Ann was a housekeeper to Anne Haynes & Richard Benfield. Richard died 29th November 1894 at Hurstville, Sydney NSW Australia. He is buried at the Hurstville Church of England Cemetery NSW.

- Catherine born 1837 in Sydney NSW. Baptised with the surname BENFIELD.

Contributors to the information on John BENFIELD & his descendents:

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Pauline Thomson	http://www2.canterbury.nsw.gov.au/history/cemetery/moorefields/welcome.htm	