

**Joseph Forrester and Jean Stark**



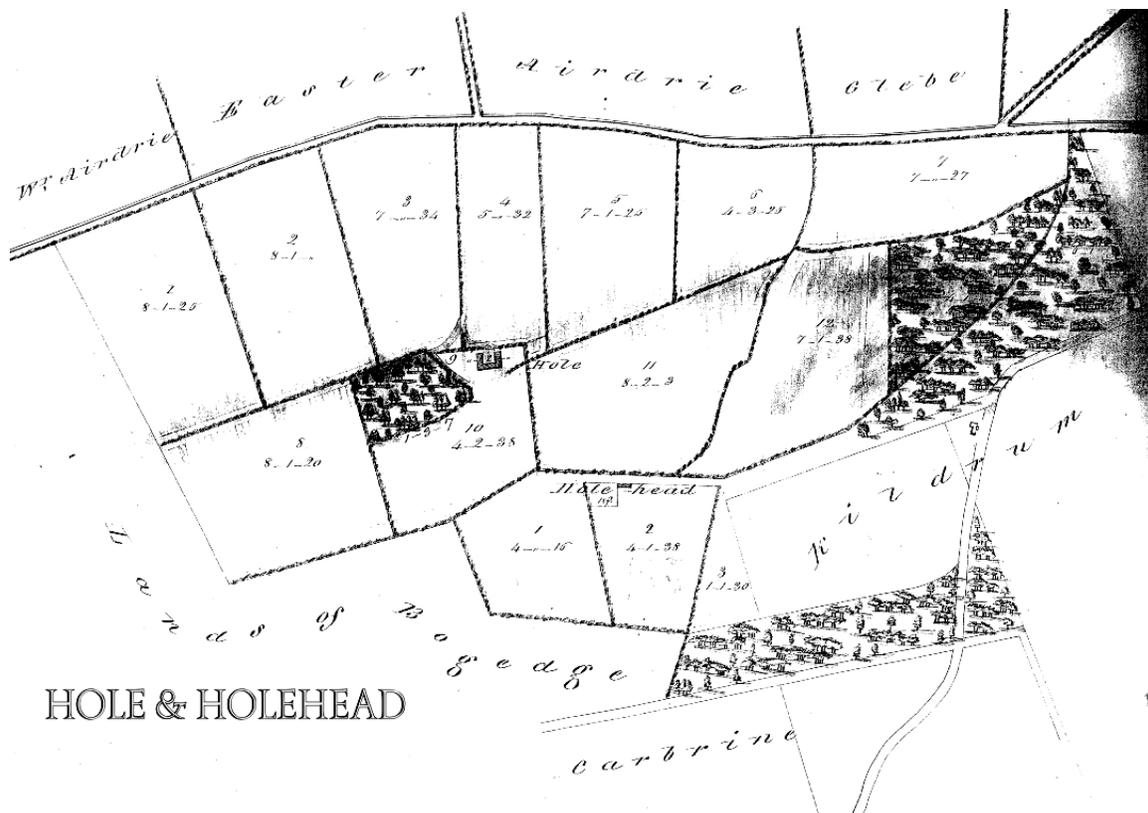
## Joseph Forrester and Jean Stark

Joe and Jean were married on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1848 in Cumbernauld parish. He was aged twenty-seven and she was about the same age or a little older although this cannot be verified as no record of her birth has been found. Their first child was James, born 9<sup>th</sup> October 1849 at Hole farm, Cumbernauld. They remained at this farm for the whole of their working lives.



Cumbernauld area 1895. Hole is south-west of Cumbernauld Village.

1851 Census District 495		book 7 page 9		
Hole farm				
Forrester Joseph	h m	29	farmer (of 62 acres)	DNB, Cumbernauld
Forrester Janet	w m	29	farmers wife	STI, Falkirk
Forrester James	s	1	at home	DNB, Cumbernauld
Gibson John	serv. u	46	farm servant	ABD, Straiton
Grant Agnes	serv. u	17	house servant	LKS, Hamilton
Edwards William	serv. u	17	farm servant	PER, Loch Dowie



Plan of Hole found in Cumbernauld Archives.

In the book where the above plan was found, the page facing each plan gives the area of each field in both Scots measure and Imperial measure. There is a space for the name of each field (blank in every case) and for a record of the crops grown in each field in 1827, 1828 and 1829 (all also blank). This last makes it probable that the plans were produced in 1826-27, quite some time before the first O.S. maps.

The originals are coloured nicely – someone obviously spent a lot of time on them. No scale is given but the road running along the top seems very similar to the O.S. maps of the late nineteenth century so appears to be accurate.

Three other children were born after the 1851 census: Jean, on October 30<sup>th</sup> 1852 in Holebrae, Cumbernauld, Ebenezer Stark, on July 15<sup>th</sup> 1855 in Hole farm, Cumbernauld and Joseph on 18 Jan 1858 Cumbernauld. The family was now complete and the 1861 census read:

1861 Census District 495		book 3 page 4		
Hole farm				
Forrester Joseph	h m	39	Farmer 64 acres	DNB, Cumbernauld
Forrester Janet	w u	40	do. wife	STI, Falkirk
Forrester James	s u	11	scholar	DNB, Cumbernauld
Forrester Jean	d u	8	scholar	DNB, Cumbernauld
Forrester Ebenezer	s u	6	scholar	DNB, Cumbernauld
Forrester Joseph	s u	3		DNB, Cumbernauld
Scott Christina	serv u	19	farm serv domestic	STI, Denny
Turner Robert	serv u	18	ploughman	STI, Falkirk

1871 Census District 495 book 3 page 2

Hole farm

Forrester Joseph	h m	49	Farmer 81 acres arable	DNB, Cumbernauld
Forrester Janet	w u	50	do. wife	STI, Falkirk
Forrester James	s u	21	ploughman	DNB, Cumbernauld
Forrester Jane	d u	17	employed at home on farm	DNB, Cumbernauld
Forrester Ebenezer	s u	15	employed at home on farm	DNB, Cumbernauld
Forrester Joseph	s u	13	employed at home on farm	DNB, Cumbernauld
Love Elizabeth	serv u	13	general servant	STI, Slamannan

5 rooms with windows

James married Janet Hamilton at Rashbush farm, Falkirk on 6 June 1876.

Jean married John Allan on 13 November 1877 at Holebrae farm, Cumbernauld. Jean & John emigrated to New Zealand and a copy of a letter written by Jean to her brother, Joe in Warwick, England, is appended below.

1881 Census Cumbernauld, Dumbarton 495 Book 3 page 2

Hole farm

Forrester Joseph	h m	59	farmer of 85 acres emp 3 men 2 women 1 girl	DNB, Cumbernauld
Forrester Janet	w m	60	farmers wife	STI, Falkirk
Forrester Ebenezer	s u	25	farmers son	DNB, Cumbernauld
Forrester Joseph	s u	23	farmers son	DNB, Cumbernauld
Fulton Susan	serv. U	19	dairymaid	STI, Slamannan
Bryson Mary	serv. U	14	general servant	DNB, Kirkintilloch

Joseph married Janet Wotherspoon 25 July 1884 at Blairlinn Farm in the Landwards area of New Monklands.

Eben married Jeannie Watt on 5 August 1884 in Stewarton, Ayr

*Park View  
May 8<sup>th</sup> 1901*

*Dear Brother,*

*Having got your address from one of your neices, I thought I should like to write you a long letter.*

*Well to begin with I have got another of my girls married (the 30<sup>th</sup> of last month) which just leaves me with one now & when she goes we will have to retire then as I could not do with servants now & the work would be too much for me now. We have got all our grain thrashed & sold got a fairly good price for it. The wheat we sold at 3/11 per Bushel & the oats at 2/- we have not sold many of our oats, only a few hundred bushel that were shipped to Auckland.*

*We have got away all our fat sheep prices are not so good this year last year we got 17/6 for lambs this year 14/6 to 16/6 and the last two trucks that we sent to the market did not realise as much as John expected we are doing very well and should not grumble We have had a splendid year take it all round of course we don't do much with cows just keep them for our own use when we have more butter than we can use we put in boxes and send it to the freezing works & gets it out when needed & a bit scarce & it is just as good as fresh churned butter of course it is hard and firm.*

*How are you getting on in England I expect you like it much better than Scotland a much better climate something like New Zealand this is a splendid climate cannot beat it.*

*I don't know if ever we will get the chance to visit the old country again of course it won't be for a year or two yet till once we retire from hard work which I think that will be in about 4 or 5 year & if we all have our health then that will be our chance for a trip then I should very much like to see you all again. I will send you a photo of Jessie & her husband when I get them How is Mrs. Joe & all the family I had a letter from Eben. telling me one of your boys what a great ploughman he is he must be another like his uncle John you mind how he used to go mad over the matches never was right if he did not get first he did not like to get beaten.*

*I still have got his medals & his other trophies I like to see young people with a bit of go in them write soon & let me know how you are all getting on and how all the children are & how many of them you have got, with me not having your address I could not write now since I have got it I will see & drop you a line now and then & you do likewise. I have a letter from Eben now & that gives me some of the news.*

*This leaves us all well again there were some of them had the Quinzy but they are all right again.*

*Hope this finds you all well at present as this leaves us all here in goods health again.*

*With kind regards and love to all*

*From your affect Sister*

*J F Allan*

*P.S. it must have been a great grief to Eben. the loss of his wife poor thing & to say that it was that horrible disease cancer.*



Joe and Jean Tollpark Farm, Cumbernauld

About 1885, Joe and Jean retired to the village of Cumbernauld where they purchased property. This property was in Main Street and included the former United Presbyterian Church manse, which became their home.

1891 495 book 8 page 27

Main Street Cumbernauld

Forrester Joseph

h m 69

retired farmer

DNB, Cumbernauld

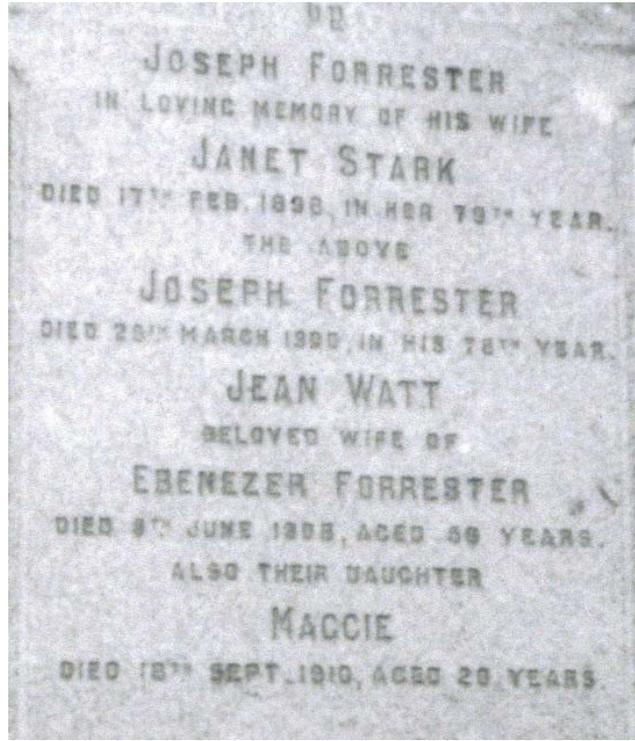
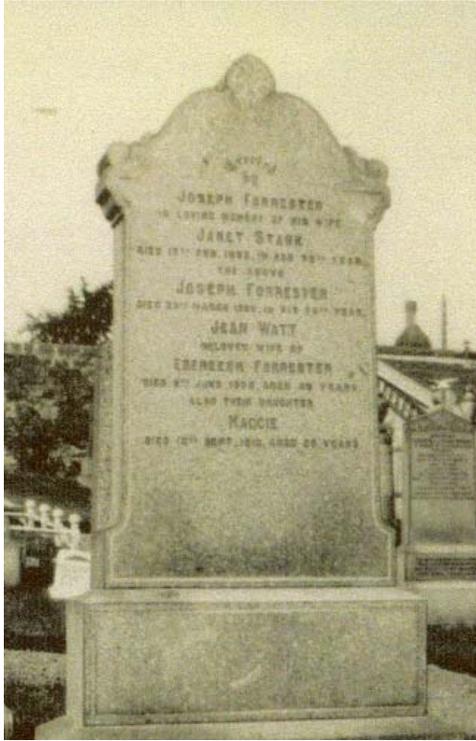
Forrester Jannet

w m 72

STI Kilsyth

6 rooms with windows

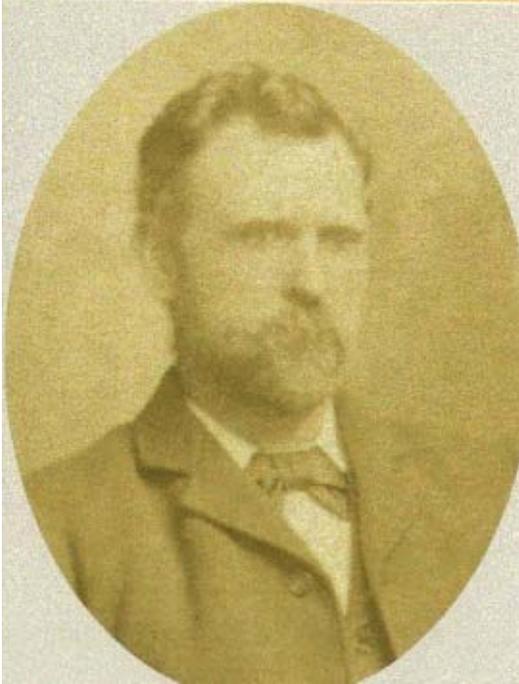
Jane died in 1898 at the age of seventy-eight, the cause of death being given as senile decay. A stone was erected in Cumbernauld graveyard:



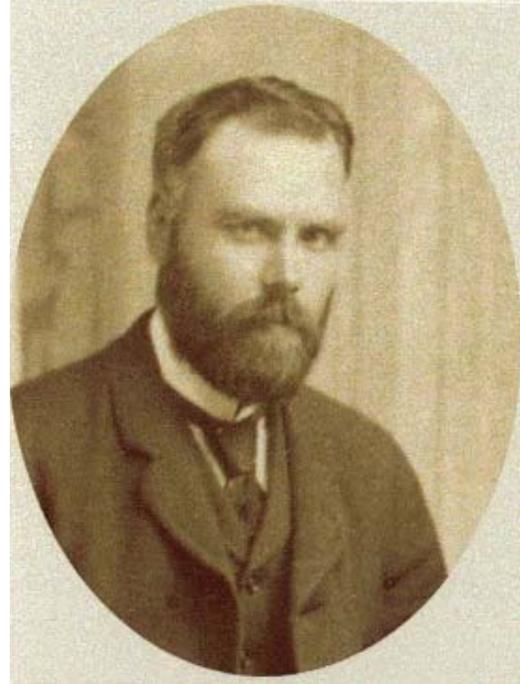
James Forrester of Hole Farm, Cumbernauld



Jean Allan MS Forrester, New Zealand



Joseph Forester of Manor Farm, Warwickshire



Ebenezer Forrester of Dyke Farm, Slamannan

Joseph survived until 1900. He left a will, from which abstracts are given below:

Sc. 65/34/47 Forrester, Joseph, sometime farmer, thereafter residing at Old U.P.Manse Cumbernauld, died 29 March 1900 at Cumbernauld, testate. Confirmation granted to Ebenezer Forrester, Farmer, Dyke near Slamannan, and Joseph Forrester, Farmer, Tichbrook, Leamington, England, his sons and John Longwill, Banker, Cumbernauld, Executors nominated in Will or Deed, dated 21 August 1899, and recorded in Court Books of Commissariat of Dumbarton, 10 May 1900.

Inventory:

Cash	£10-00-00.
Household furniture	£42-12-00
Amount contained in partial assignation by trustees Of the late John Whyte, banker, Cumbernauld in favour Of the deceased..... etc. etc.	£404-18-03
Reg. Of sasines May 1885. Assignation by Mrs Jane Cairns or Kay, widow. Sasine over tenement of Houses at Cumbernauld Station	£809-16-07
Clyde Navigation Trust Bond	£202-05-04
Promissory note by Mrs Janet Hamilton or Forrester dairy keeper, Kilsyth dated 31 Dec 1888	£253-15-07
Royal Bank	<u>£20-04-08</u>
Total	<u>£1746-12-07</u>
Debts and expenses	<u>£23-12-07</u>

Note: The estate would be valued around £105,000 in 2000.



The source of the following has been forgotten:  
 Forrester. At Manse Cottage, Cumbernauld, on 16th inst.  
 Janet Stark wife of Joseph Forrester in her 79th year.

Two stories which have been passed down:

Joe was a man who would always take the easy option and didn't believe in too much hard work. There was no running water at Hole Farm when they were there. As the farmhouse was set into the hillside, he tapped into a spring above the house, ran a pipe into the wall of the house, fixed a tap on it and was one of the first houses in Cumbernauld to have running water!

Jean was quite a stern lady - you can tell that from the picture! Whilst she was laid up in bed with flu one time, she told her husband he would have to do the weekly washing. Not keen on this idea, he rigged up 4 horses, put all the washing into the mill ring in the yard and let the horses do the washing - unfortunately, he forgot to take the paddles out of the middle and ripped the washing to shreds! He was not popular.

On one occasion Jean, having had enough of a lazy maid, told her to pack her bags. She did so and on returning back downstairs said "you will miss me" to which she retorted "only for you backchat!"

When their grandson was a young lad at Hole Farm he was intrigued by some gun cartridges and so decided to throw one into the range to see what happened! There was an enormous bang and the whole fire ended up in the middle of the kitchen.

O.P.R. Cumbernauld (495) **Birth** FR 593. 1 Apr. 1821 Forrester James & Ann Scott Tollpark had a child born & baptized after named Joseph.

**Marriage Cumbernauld 495/3.** Joseph Forrester & Janet Stark 2 Jun 1848.  
 Joseph Forrester and Janet Stark were proclaimed and married.

Death 1898 495 no. 10

Janet Forrester	16 Feb 1898	F 78	Ebenezer Stark farmer	senile decay	Joseph Forrester husband
married to	Cumbernauld		deceased		
Joseph Forrester. Portioner	W---ourd Cottage		Jean Stark M.S. Hill		
			deceased		

Death 1900 495 no. 32

Joseph Forrester (widower of Janet Stark)	1900 March 29 <sup>th</sup> 4h 30m a.m. at Manse Cottage Cumbernauld	M 77yr	James Forrester farmer (deceased)	senile degeneration pernicious anaemia	Ebenezer Forrester son
			Ann Forrester M.S. Scott (deceased)	cert by Durward Love MBCM Cumbernauld.	

Cumbernauld 495/3

FR 591 9 Oct 1849

Forrester, Joseph & Janet Stark, Hole, Cumbernauld had a child born and baptized named James.

FR 591 30 Oct 1852

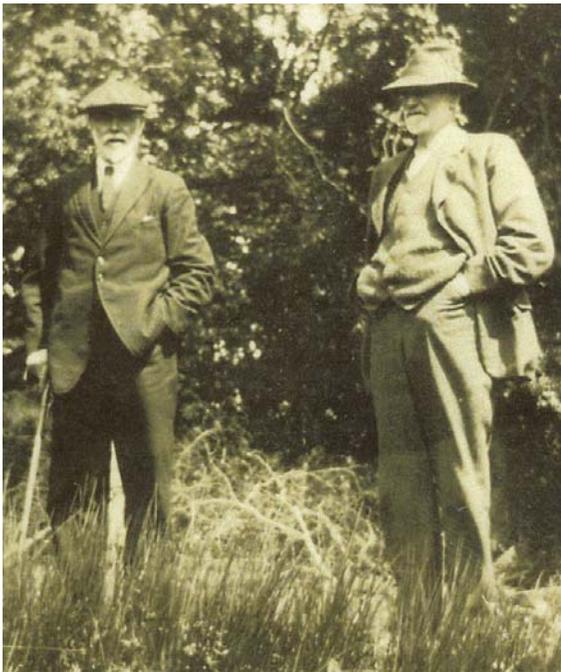
Forrester, Joseph & Janet Stark, Hole, Cumbernauld had a child born and baptized named Jean.

1858 495 No. 9

Joseph Forrester	1858 January 18 <sup>th</sup> Hole Farm Cumbernauld.	M	Joseph Forester farmer Janet Forrester M.S. Stark	Joseph Forrester father present
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1855 495 No. 78

Forrester Ebenezer Stark Not present	1855 July 15 <sup>th</sup> 2h 0m p.m Hole Cumbernauld	M	Joseph Forrester farmer 33 Toll Park Cumbernauld 1848 Bandomnie Falkirk 1 boy 1 girl living Janet Forrester M.S. Stark 33 yrs. Her third child. Bandomnie Farm, Falkirk.	Joseph Forrester father
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Ebenezer and Joseph Forrester