BLENNERHASSETT family of Waterford, Ireland and Belfast, Ireland

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Thanks to all who have contributed to these pages - please send additions & corrections to email: bjehan@BlennerhassettFamilyTree.com

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>|>>>> William (not Arthur) Blennerhassett >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>: >|>> Annie Blennerhassett; b.c1846 Co.Waterford; hankerchief folder; unm.
b.c1815 (aged 20 on 1.5.1835); d.bef.1889; | living with her sister Catherine McAllister & Catherine's
C.of I. Protestant; of Co.Kerry (or of Co.Cork ?) | son Arthur McAllister at 65 Tower Street, East Belfast 1911
/ |
Labourer until 1835, |>> Arthur William Blennerhassett >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>: >|>> William Thomas Blennerhassett >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>: >|>>
then police officer & police pensioner; | / | b.3.11.1896 Belfast, Co.Antrim, Northern Ireland; |
His personal R.I.C. record has him "...of Co.Cork", but | b.c1854/6 nr Tralee(?), Co.Kerry; | d.30.6.1954 (or 31.7.1954?) at Durban, Natal, SA |
"Irish Constabulary Index 1816-82" p.B24, ref. 6057/10B, | of Waterford until c1866, his father stationed there; | / |
has him "...of Co.Kerry"; his wife was from Co.Cork | Rumoured to have been disowned by his family for | raised by mother, his aunt Eva "Levie" McShane & his |
/ | having "...married beneath his station in life…" | g.father Thomas McShane at Thomas' painting studio, |
Enlisted in the "County Constabulary" (later to | (unsure if this refers to his 1st or 2nd marriage) | living with them until he left to serve in army in WWI; |
become the R.I.C.) in 1835 as Constable (No.2091); | / | 1911 census describes him as "apprentice to painting" |
Served in Co.Waterford 1835-66, resigned 1866 | a seaman by profession, but he sailed as passenger on | / |
(one year before the R.I.C. was formed in 1867); | SS "Peruvian" ("Allen" & "State" Line), departing | William Thomas Blennerhassett hardly remembered his |
The rank of Constable prior to 1883 was the equivalent | 13.5.1898 from Londonderry, Ireland to Boston, | father, who died while WTB was still a child; |
of Sergeant after 1883; Retired before 1889 | Massachusetts, USA; | following his father's death the Blennerhassett family |
/ | He is said to have "...held a high position in the | sent a family member who was a police officer to fetch |>>
he was recommended for the "County Constabulary" | Freemasons and traveled on Masonic business, | him, to be raised with the Blennerhassett family, but his
by Sir John Godfrey, Bart, (1763-1841), | to China, USA & elsewhere"; | mother Jane would, understandably, not let him go
2nd Baronet of Bushfield, Co.Kerry; | *his son William Thomas Blennerhassett was raised by* | /
and son of Sir William Godfrey, 1st Bart. | *his (WTB's) mother Jane and her sister Eva "Levi"* | WTB joined British Army in 1913 & served during WWI
who m.1761 Agnes Blennerhassett | *McShane at their father's painting studio "...because* | in Mesopotamia and in India; after WWI he joined the
of Elmgrove, Ballyseedy, Co.Kerry (p.B 17) | *his father was always away in China, USA etc…"* | Indian Army
/ | / | /
m. bef.1846 to <???> | at the time of his 2nd marriage 1896 until 1898 (when he | emig. to Durban, Natal, South Africa, c1920/1;
of Co.Cork; d.bef.1896 | died?) he was a publican, licensee of "Cliftonville Bar" | of Rossburgh, Durban; served in Durban Borough Police;
| 72 & 74 Louisa St., Belfast, Northern Ireland | later an advertising executive with the Durban Municipal
| / | Transport Service; visited India, Iran & Russia
| William Day Blennerhassett of New Zealand (p.G 55) | /
| in 1897 resided for a short time at Belfast; | A well known & admired landscape painter, as his
| in his 1934 memorandum of Blennerhassett family history | maternal grandfather Thomas McShane had been,
| WDB describes meeting Arthur William Blennerhassett | working in oil; Painter of landscapes of Natal, the Cape and Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe);
| at his "Cliftonville Bar" in 1897; | President of the Natal Society of Artists 1952-4; Advisor to the Durban Art Gallery;
| WTB told WDB how, as a boy, he had joined the Royal | Exhibited throughout South Africa from 1944; Solo exhibition in Durban c1947;
| Navy at Waterford, Ireland, later deserting at Jamaica, | his work is exhibited at Durban Art Gallery;
| West Indies "...some 30 years ago..." (i.e. c1867); | *See "Dictionary of South African Painters & Sculptors" by G. Ogilvie, 1988; and "Art and Artists of South Africa" 1983*
Arthur William Blennerhassett - RED HERRINGS: | also how "…he then joined the American Navy and later | *His "Sampson and Delilah" dated 1926 is owned (in 2001) by Craig de Beer of Rand Afrikaans University*
1. In his 1934 memorandum of Blennerhassett family | on drifted into the Mercantile Marine…" following which | *his "Rural Landscape with Figures" 1946, oil on board, was offered for sale on eBay April 2008*
history, William Day Blennerhassett also wrote that: | he obtained "…a position as Customs Officer, which he | /
…the last I heard of Arthur was that he was aboard | gave up in order to travel with his wife for health reasons, | **m. at Durban; Katherine "Kathleen" Donaghy**
an American Cruiser bound for Cuba [or] the | and on her death he returned to Belfast…" | b.21.12.1900 (or b.19.11.1901 ?) Belfast, Ireland; youngest of four sisters;
Philippine Islands during the American-Hispano | (must refer to his 1st wife who d.bef.1896) | of Cowies Hill, Piretown, Cape Province, South Africa;
War 1897…"; here he has been told about William | / | /
Joseph Blennerhassett (b.1881) of San Francisco, | Arthur William Blennerhassett suffered from high blood | "…she was absolutely instrumental to his success as an artist because she handled the business side…"
California, who served in the U.S. Navy during the | pressure; it is said he died soon after returning from his | following the death of her husband people approached her wanting to write his biography, but she refused to grant permission
Spanish-American War of 1898 and was afterwards | travels, having suffered several strokes, while his son | d.?.?.1994 South Africa
a stevidore with a U.S. Steamship Co. (p.U 5); | William Thomas Blennerhassett was still a child | /
not knowing there were other Blennerhassett merchant | *(AWB's death is not recorded at Belfast 1897-1901;* | *NOTE: It has been suggested that Gerald Blennerhassett (alias Blenner-Hassett)*
seaman, he assumed incorrectly this to be Arthur | *a man of his name d.Jan-Mar.1898 at Limerick, when* | *of Durban, South Africa, b.1883 d.1931 (p.LE 3) was responsible for bringing*
William Blennerhassett | *his son WTB would have been aged 1 year, but cannot* | *William Thomas Blennerhassett to South Africa; This is improbable, and no evidence found*
| *confirm this was him…)* |
2. It has been suggested Arthur William Blennerhassett | / | **?**
died at New Orleans, Louisiana, USA after spending | **m.1st <???>** |
two years in hospital there; but in this tale AWB has | *(this marriage was either: 1870 Tralee, Co.Kerry;* |>> It is suggested that William Thomas Blennerhassett
been confused with yet another merchant seaman, | *Apr-Jun.1891 Tralee, Co.Kerry;* | had sisters, but no evidence yet found
John Wilson Blennerhassett of Liverpool (p.LL 3), | *or Apr-Jun.1892 Killarney, Co.Kerry);* |
a British merchant ship captain who died on 22.3.1859 | d.bef.1896 (was their any issue?) |
at Mobile, Alabama, USA "…of inflamed lungs…"; | / |
Mobile is only 130 miles from New Orleans | **m.2nd 18.1.1896** St.Anne's Church, Belfast, NI (C.of I.) |
| Jane McShane |
| b.c1872/3 Co.Antrim; of 27 Peveril Street, Belfast 1896; |
| *probably(?) identical with the Mrs. Blennerhassett who was a confectioner at 118 Donegall Passage, Belfast 1899-1900;* |
| bag maker, of 62 Havana Street, Shankill, North Belfast 1911; |
| d.c1940s "...aged well into her seventies…"; |
 | /

| /
| dau. of Thomas McShane, a Coach Builder
| and also a painter, "...an artist of some note in his day..." who was "...well known in art circles in Dublin...";
| her sister Eva "Levie" McShane (b.c1878 Co.Antrim), lived with Arthur & Jane at 72 Louisa Street 1896,
| she being witness at their marriage & present at the birth of their son;
| Eva was a bagmaker, still living with her sister Jane and her son at the 1911 census (but incorrectly described as Jane's daughter)
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|>> Catherine Blennerhassett >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>: >|>> Arthur McAllister; b.c1892 Belfast
b.c1858 Co.Waterford (C.of.I.) Belfast Corporation lamplighter 1911
of 50 Bank Street, Belfast 1889;
of 65 Tower Street, East Belfast 1911
/
m.22.7.1889 (C.of I.) St.John's (or St.Stephen's ?) Church, Belfast;
Alexander McAllister; b.bef.1868; d.bef.1911; Baker;
of 8 Elizabeth Street (or Elizabeth Terrace ?), Belfast (son of Alexander McAllister, Car Driver);
witnesses to the marriage were: Annie Blennerhassett (her sister) and Thomas McShane (father of her sister-in-law Jane)