

Re Susannah Magill (née Byers), Robert and Anne Byers, and Joseph Byers – all of Derrylahan, Crosserlough

The following information, much of it a literal transcription, is from a Magill family website at <http://www3.sympatico.ca/karen.black/magill04.html>.

The 1821 Cavan Census lists a William Magill at House No.5 in Derrylahan, Crosserlough, and it appears that his wife Susanna was a Byers.

William Magill, born c.1773 in Derrylahan, Crosserlough, Co. Cavan, died c.1832. He married **Susannah Byers**, born 5 Jan 1778 in Derrylahan, died c.1871.

William Magill - Age 48 - Farmer [born c.1773; died c.1832]
Susanagh Magill - His Wife - Age 43 - Spinner [born 5 Jan 1778; died c.1871]
John Magill - His Son - Age 18 - Labourer
Robert Magill - His Son - Age 16 - Labourer
Henery Magill - His Son - Age 14 - Labourer
William Magill - His Son - Age 12 - Labourer
James Magill - His Son - Age 10
David Magill - His Son - Age 8
Benjamin Magill - His Son - Age 6
Joseph Magill - His Son - Age 4
Samuel Magill - His Son - Age 2
Jane Magill - His Daughter - Age 22 - Spinner
Bell Magill - His Daughter - Age 20 - Spinner
L.....? Magill - His Daughter - Age is under one year

“Several sources, none of which I have seen, had previously reported that William (sometimes referred to as Henry) Magill and Susannah Byers came from possibly Newry, Co. Down, Ireland about 1832 with their eleven sons and two daughters. The family may have sailed from Newry, though. William is supposed to have died at sea and have been buried in Port Hope, but there is no burial record. His son William's obituary in the *Canadian Post* Dec 24, 1886, indicated that William Sr. had died near Cobourg and that his widow, his ten sons and his daughters came into Manvers, each son taking a farm along the gravel road.”

Susannah was possibly related to the Byers family living at House No.12 (see Page 5 of the 1821 Census PDF) in the same townland.

“She may also be a relation of Joseph Byers, freeholder at Derrylahan in 1825, which was also tenanted by a Joseph Byers. The Magills are not listed as tenants. The landlord was Mr. L. H. Thomas. (Source: *Registry of Freeholds*, for 1825). Many Byers are also buried in an ancient Presbyterian cemetery on Piggery Hill just outside Ballyjamesduff.”

“After immigrating from Co. Cavan, Ireland, about 1832, Susanna and her children probably spent some time in Cavan Twp., but they settled about 1838 in Manvers Twp., around present day Janetville. Susanna is said to have had enough gold to buy farms for each of her ten sons, but in the *1840 Assessment Roll* for Manvers Twp., six of the sons were still living with her and some appear to be sharing acreage, either out of necessity or because they were helping each other clear land.”

“... Susanna and her sons prospered and she lived to be a very old lady. "Susan" Magill is the head of her household during an 1840 Assessment of Manvers Twp., with one daughter over 16, four sons over 16 and two sons under 16 still living at home. James (+3 relatives), David (+1 person), Benjamin and John (+6 relatives) appear to be living in their own households at this time. The *1843 Manvers Twp. Assessment Roll* shows Susan living on Lot 5, Concession 12. "Susanna" is living with Henry & Eliza Magill during the *1851 Manvers Twp. Census*. She is still alive in 1871, living with a second set of grandchildren, her age perhaps over estimated as 95.”

The children of William Magill and Susanna Byers, all born in Derrylahan, were:

Jane married Henry Heaslip.

John, born c.8 May 1804, married Isabella ???

Robert, born c.14 Feb 1804, married Letitia Stafford.

Henry, born c.1807, died after 1821 and before 1825 when the second Henry was born.

Lavinia (Lovey), born 5 Sept 1808, married Hugh Porter.

William married Sarah ???

James, born c.16 Jan 1811, married (1) Catherine Peel, (2) Catherine Hartley.

Isabella, born 16 Feb 1812, married **William Byers**.

David, born c.1 Dec 1813, married (1) Isabella, (2) Mary Corkadell.

Benjamin, born c.6 Jan 1815, married (1) Margaret, (2) **Ann (Annie) Byers**.

Joseph, born c.24 Oct 1816, married Elizabeth (Lizzie) ???

Samuel married **Mary Byers**.

L...?, born c.1821 in Derrylahan.

Thomas, born 1 May 1821, married Mary Beahan.

Henry, born c. 1825, married (1) Elizabeth (Eliza) Johnston, (2) Ellen Henry.