

**From:** Lauren Carter  
**Sent:** 16 November 2024 18:49  
**To:** [enquiries@historylinks.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@historylinks.org.uk); [historylinkscurator@btconnect.com](mailto:historylinkscurator@btconnect.com)  
**Subject:** ancestor of survivors of The Nancy

Dear Ms. Mahoney,

I came across your name in a newspaper [article](#) about last year's 250th anniversary of the crossing of The Nancy while doing research about the journey for my own genealogy and a memoir that I'm starting to work on.

My 5th-great grandparents Anne/Nancy McKay and David Munro came across on this ship as indentured servants. I've attached a copy of their contract (front and back) for your interest.

They went on to leave the U.S. as Loyalists during the War of Independence and settled in Canada, with my great-great-grandfather eventually becoming the first lighthouse keeper on Manitoulin Island in Ontario.

For the memoir, I'm planning to do an Atlantic crossing in the next couple of years during the rough winter weather to get a bit of a sense of what that might have been like (minus the terribly extreme conditions they went through, of course!) and then making my way to Dornoch.

I've been trying to trace where they might have come from in Scotland before arriving in Ferryland and how their lives would have pushed them to make the decision to leave. Of course I've been reading a lot about the political situation of the time, but I'd ultimately like to attach them to the earth, so to speak, and pin-point as close as possible where they might have lived.

If you have any insights or can direct me to any research sources that would help or if you have information about the ship after its arrival in New York (the article said you'd be doing some research while in New York), I would so appreciate your help.

Thanks very much, and all the best to you!

Lauren Carter

**Lauren Carter**  
Find out about my books: [www.laurencarter.ca](http://www.laurencarter.ca)  
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**"Each of us stands at one unique spot in the universe, at one moment in the expanse of time, holding a blank piece of paper. This is where we begin." ~ Peter Turchi**

Lauren Carter

Hi Lynne,

Thank you for sending this video! I am about to head out to my mom's to watch it with her. She is a Chisholm. David and Ann's daughter Nancy, who was with them on the crossing and was one of the few kids who survived (!), married a John Chisholm and we descend from that line.

I'm grateful for this connection, and look forward to meeting in person one of these days. In the meantime, if you happen to come across any resources that you think might be useful for me in my hunt for Ann and David's story before they sailed, please don't hesitate to send them along!

All the best to you, and happy holidays :)

Lauren

**Lauren Carter**

**Find out about my five books: [www.laurencarter.ca](http://www.laurencarter.ca)**

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# This Indenture, made at Freetown

the fourteenth Day of September - One thousand seven hundred and seventy three Years, between Robert Gray of French on the one Part, and David Munro & Ann McKay his wife in the County of Ross, on the other Part, witnesseth, That the said David Munro & Ann McKay doth hereby bind and put himself an Apprentice and Servant to the said Robert Gray - to serve him, or his Assigns, from the date of these Presents unto his first and next Arrival in the province of New York - and thereafter during and unto the full End and Term of Four Years, from thence next ensuing, fully to be compleated and ended there, in such Service and Employment as the said Robert Gray - or his forefairs, shall employ them in, according to the Laws and Customs of the Country, as a Servant: And doth further declare and covenant, That the said David is of the thirty eight years of age, at the time of subscribing hereof, of the Age of thirty eight years, and no covenanted or contracted Servant, to any other Person or Persons. IN CONSIDERATION WHEREOF the said Master doth hereby covenant and promise to the said Servant, that he, the said Master or Assigns shall, and will, at his own proper Cost and Charges, with what convenient Speed he may; carry and convey, or cause to be carried and conveyed, over unto the said Plantation, the said Servant; and during the said Voyage, and also during the said Term, and to the End thereof, shall, and will, at the like Cost and Charge, provide for and allow the said servant all necessary Meat, Drink, Washting, Lodging, and all other Necessaries, according to the Custom of the said Plantation.

AND both Parties do hereby oblige themselves to the Performance of the foresaid Engagement, under the Penalty of Twenty Pounds Sterling, payable by the Party failing to the Party observing, or willing to observe. In Testimony of which, these Presents, are subscribed by the said Parties, Place, Day, and Year above-written, before these Witnesses, George Smith

Master of the ship Nancy of Sunderland, Leonard Harrison  
Mate, Benjamin Coats Carpenter onboard the said ship, Alexander  
Fisher & William McKay both students in Dornoch

At the special desire of the above named David  
Munro & Ann McKay who cannot write as they  
apert Mc Notaries public & Co. Notary in the  
premises subscribe for them

George Smith witness  
Leonard Harrison witness  
Benjamin Coats witness  
Alex Fisher witness

Robert Gray  
Hugh Ross

THESE are to certify, that the above-named David Munro & Ann McKay came before me John Dunman one of the Bailies of the Town & City of Dornoch in the fourteenth Day of September One thousand seven hundred and seventy-three Years, and declared himself to be of the Age of thirty eight Years, and no covenanted or contracted Servant to any other Person or Persons than the above-named Robert Gray - and that he voluntarily subscribed this Indenture and was in no ways compelled thereto & cannot write John Dunman



if I recall this in the reverse of  
the attached.

Indenture

Between

Reb. Gray

&  
David Munro &

his Wife —

1773

A. years

aged 20

his wife 27

Witnessed

I have in and to the said Reb. Gray & David Munro & his wife  
for the full and complete redemption of the said Reb. Gray & his wife  
from the said Reb. Gray & his wife the sum of £1000

George Smith master  
of the Brig. Henry



Lauren Carter

Hi Lynne,

I found the video very moving and it also filled in some blanks for me. Happy to say, too, that David and I have been emailing.

Yes, please do include it in your archive.

Happy holidays!

Lauren

Lauren Carter

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