

A Fresh Start

James McConachy Family



Main Street, Charleville.

The story of James McConachy

&

his descendants

'James' father, William McConachy was born in Glasgow, Scotland.

It is highly likely he came from the Kintyre area, near Perth in Scotland which is the ancestral home of the McConachy Clans.

GENERATIONS

Blue – 1st Green – 2nd

Orange – 3rd

Grey – 4th Purple – 5th

Maroon – 6th

Light Green – 7th Light Blue – 8th

Brown – 9th

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b c1819 Stepney, London, England d. 1901 Dunwich North, Stradbroke Island, Queensland

TRIED: The Old Bailey 18th September 1837 for burglarously breaking and entering a dwelling house.

VERDICT: Guilty

SENTENCE: Death

James McConachy was given a conditional pardon and was transported for life to Botany Bay on the 28th March 1838 aboard the *Bengal Merchant* that left Sheerness, England bound for Port Jackson.



The *Bengal Merchant*

(Courtesy of Google Images)

James McConachy – Convict

Born: c.1819 in Stepney, London, England
Died: 16 June 1901 in Dunwich, North Stradbroke Island, Queensland
Buried: Dunwich Cemetery.

At the Eleventh Session of the Old Bailey on the 18 September 1837 before Justice Patterson, James McConachy, William Giles, James Moore and Joseph Andrews, were indicted for burglarously breaking and entering the dwelling-house of Henry Whiffin, at St Paul, Deptford, about the hour of one in the night of the 19th August, with intent to steal, and stealing therein:

- | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|---|--------------------|
| • 2 cruet tops | value 5 shillings | • 1 apron | value 1 shilling |
| • 3 pencil cases | value 10 shillings | • 4 scarfs | value 11 shillings |
| • 1 brooch | value 9 shillings | • 1 cruet frame | value 5 pounds |
| • 2 vinaigrettes | value 14 shillings | • 1 mustard pot | value 5 pounds |
| • 1 snuff box | value 10 shillings | • 1 pair of spectacles | value 5 shillings |
| • 1 ear-ring drop | value 4 pence | • 1 wine strainer | value 1 pound |
| • 1 purse | value 6 pence | • 1 pin cushion | value 6 pence |
| • 2 handkerchiefs | value 2 shillings | • 1 tobacco stopper | value 6 shillings |
| • 13 spoons | value 5 pound | • 1 pair of snuffers | value 5 shillings |
| • 1 thimble | value 6 pence | • 1 pair of scissors | value 1 shilling |
| • 1 coat | value 10 shillings | • 1 knife | value 1 shilling |
| • 1 cloak | value 2 shillings | • 6 sovereigns | value 14 shillings |
| • 2 gowns | value 2 pounds 10 shillings | • and the sum of 1 shilling in copper monies. | |

The goods and money of Frances Puig and that Giles had been before convicted of felony.

Old Bailey Proceedings, 18th September 1837.

Reference Number: t18370918-2238

Mr Prendergast conducted the Prosecution.

FRANCIS PUIG

I live at Deptford, with my son, in the house of Mr Henry Whiffin in the parish of St Paul, Deptford. On Saturday, the 19th of August, the house was all safe when I went to bed, which was in a few minutes of twelve o'clock. The fastenings of the house were secure as usual. They were quite safe. The windows were not fastened, but pushed close down, and the blind was down over it. My servant, my baby, and myself were in the house on this night. I went to bed, and heard a noise, as I fancied, about

two o'clock I burnt a rush-light, but it was gone out by some means, and I was rather surprised at it. I sat up a little time in bed to listen, and after listening sometime, I heard another noise over my head, like the fire-irons falling down. I instantly got out of bed, and gave the alarm. I went down stairs, and into the street, as far as the chapel. I went out at the front of the house. I saw one of the railway policemen. I did not see any person go from the house. As soon as I got hold of the policeman's arm, he supported me, and brought me home. I was confused, and could scarcely see, but when I returned to the house I observed the window which had been down was open, and the two back doors I found open. Those doors have been secure the night before. I discovered that the house had been robbed. I missed some of my own property. My pockets were turned inside out, and empty. They were the pockets which I wore. I missed my purse, with six sovereigns in it, and some silver which I had in my pocket, and everything which had been in it. They had been on a chair the night before, at the foot of my bed, in my own bedroom. I have since seen the purse and some of the property.

M'CONACHY

Q. Which way did the thieves break into the house?

A. I cannot say, but the window was open, and I found the two back doors open. I did not observe that the bolts were broken, nor was the window that I know of.

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