"Aunt Lizzie"

Third Wife of Thomas x Smith

1830-1916

By David R. Barkdull Aug 2019

Elizabeth Fullerton Sweet married Thomas X Smith on 18 July 1884 in the Logan, Utah temple. Thomas was 56 and Elizabeth was 54 years old. Elizabeth was Thomas's third wife as he was previously married to his first two wives, Margaret Gurney (Marriage: 1851-1880) and Annie Howe (1869-1906). However, Margaret had passed away about four years prior to his marriage to Elizabeth so they did know one another. Elizabeth had also been previously married to Thomas Benjamin Smith who had died in 1864 and then to Robert A. Johnson to whom it is not known what happened to him.

Elizabeth Sweet was born on 19 Dec 1830 in St Mary's Parish, Islington Borough, County Middlesex where they lived on Clarence Terrace Lower road on the



north side of greater London, England. Her parents were William and Ann Burn Maddix Sweet. Of particular interest about her mother Ann is the fact that Elizabeth reported in the 1900 and 1910 US Census's that she was born on the Caribbean island of Jamaica. This Caribbean island colony of Great Britain at that time was a major producer and exporter of sugar cane. It is likely Ann's father was either a plantation owner or at least worked in the commercial side of this industry. Elizabeth was christened at the nearby St Mary's church in Islington about nine months later on 7 Sep 1831. Her Christening record states her father was an "Accomplant" which is an archaic English form of the word for accountant.2



St Mary's Parish church, Islington Borough, Middlesex County, England. Where Elizabeth F. Sweet was Christened.

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of Saint Mary Islington in the County of e Middle sea in the Year 18.31							
When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Paren Christian.	ts Name.	- Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.	
7. Born 19@ect. 1830. No. 375.	Slizabeth Fullerton Daughter	William & Ann Burn	Sweet	Clarence Terrace Lower Road	Accomplan	T. M. Fall	

1831: Elizabeth Fullerton Sweet's Baptism Record for Parish of Saint Mary, Islington, County Middlesex, England; born 10 Dec 1830.

¹ Church Family History Center: "Logan 4th Ward, Record of Members, Early to 1899"; Libr #10016; pg 52 ² Baptisms in the Parish of Saint Mary Islington, County of Middlesex Book, pg 47.

It seems Elizabeth spent the first twenty years of her life living in the same area of Middlesex, London she was born because she later married Thomas Benjamin Smith



St Anne's Parish Church, Lime House, Middlesex, England.

also of Middlesex. Their marriage appears to have been a proper and public one as the notices of "Banns" were published. They were married on Jan 2, 1851, in the parish church at St Anne Limehouse, Middlesex. The church record states she was a "spinster" and Benjamin was a "Bachelor" and a "copper smelter" by trade. Both were residents of Limehouse. Also listed were their parent's occupations. Thomas's father was a "Gentleman" and Elizabeth's father was a "Merchant" which was a typical occupation for many living in Middlesex commercial district of north London.

In the 1851 English Census, it tells us that Elizabeth and Thomas had taken in her aunt, Leonora Maddix who was the same age as she, being 20 years old.⁴ It also appears the young family had moved away from Middlesex county and settled in Northfleet, Kent county which was on the eastern side

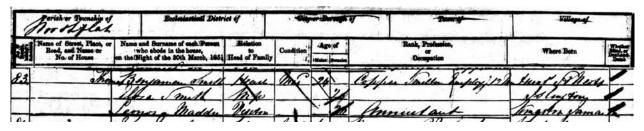
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2 Jan 1851: Thomas Benjamin & Elizabeth Fullerton Sweet Smith, Marriage record in the St Anne Limehouse Parish Church, Middlesex, England.

³ Parish of St Anne Limehouse, Middlesex, England Record, Pg 2

⁴ 1851 English Census, page 19.

of London along the Thames river. Just over a year after their marriage, Elizabeth gave birth to her first child, Ann Burn Smith. She was born in London, probably Middlesex, on 27 Feb 1852.⁵



1851 Census for Northfleet, Kent, England for "Thomas & Eliza Smith",

Sometime between 1852 and 1854, the young Smith family immigrated to the United States because on 12 Jun 1854, their second child, Thomas Benjamin Smith was born to the family in New Haven, Connecticut.⁶ They then moved to New York City because on 3 April 1856, Susannah Leonora Smith was born.⁷ In 1858, heartbreak struck the family when six year old Ann, their first child died. Three months later, on 31 May 1858,

their fourth child, Alice Smith was born in Newton (in the 1890's renamed "Elmhurst"), a borough of Queens in New York City. However, there is some confusion about Alice's birth location because in the 1900 US Census, she claims to have been born in Maryland.8

On 9 July, 1860, the US Census taker recorded Thomas and Elizabeth residence as Newton, Queens County, NY. Thomas was a "Broker" and his personal estate was valued at \$2,000 which in 2019 is the



Alice Smith

⁵ 1860 Census: Newtown, Queens, New York. Post Office: Astoria. Roll: 653_843, Page:685, Image:349. FHL Film: 803843

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⁷ 1860 Census: Newtown, Queens, New York. Post Office: Astoria. Roll: 653_843, Page: 685, Image: 349. FHL Film: 803843

⁸ 1860 Census: Newtown, Queens, New York. Post Office: Astoria. Roll: 653_843, Page: 685, Image: 349. FHL Film: 803843

equivalent of \$61,721.9 He also owned \$2,000 in real estate. At this time, Thomas and Elizabeth had three living children; Thomas (4), Susan (3), and Allice (2). They must have been doing fairly well as the Census taker also noted they employed a "servant" who was born in Ireland and whose name was Mary Burnes, she was 26 years old. Finally, in Oct 1860, Edward William Smith, their fifth and last child was born on Long Island, Queens, New York. However, he only lived 18 months and died in June 1862.

Sometime between the end of 1860 and the first part of 1864, the family returned to Lancashire County, in northwestern England, which is just north of Liverpool. Tragedy seemed to follow the Smith family wherever they went when about two years later Thomas, died at Great Crosby, in Liverpool on 3 Mar 1864. He was only 37 years old.

His will was "Proved" on 17 June 1864. It

stated,

"The Will of Thomas Benjamin Smith late of South-road Waterloo in the county of Lancaster; merchant; deceased who died on 3 March 1864 at south road aforesaid was proved at Liverpool by oath of Elizabeth Fullerton Smith; of South-road aforesaid Widow the Relict the sole executrix. Effects under 1.000 British Pounds."

Today, 1,000 British pounds is the equivalent of \$800, however in 1864 it would have been the equivalent of about \$13,052.¹¹

County
Great Crosby Lancashire
Liverpool
West Derby

England
County
Middlesex
London
Northfleet
County Kent

⁹ Bureau of Labor Statistics; assuming an average inflation rate of 2.18%. http://www.in2013dollars.com/us/inflation/1860?amount=2000

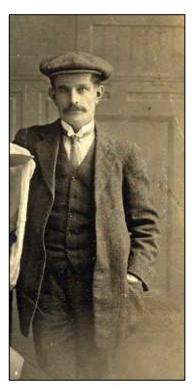
¹⁰ Year: 1860; Census Place: *Newtown, Queens, New York*; Roll: *M653_843*; Page: 685; Family History Library Film: 803843

¹¹ Bureau of Labor Statistics; assuming an average inflation rate of 1.82%. http://www.in2013dollars.com/us/inflation/1864?amount=800

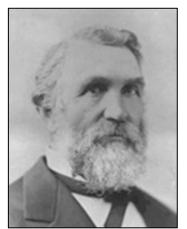
Three and a half years later, Elizabeth's third child, twelve year old daughter Susannah, past away in West Derby ("Darby"), Lancashire, England. Then six years after the passing of her first husband, on December 26, 1870,

Elizabeth married Robert Alexander Johnson in West Derby, which is in eastern Liverpool and Elizabeth seemed to have settled down to her new life in England with her remaining two children Thomas (16) and Alice (12).

However, the ebb and flow of life continued for the Elizabeth and her family and six years later, in 1876, her twenty-two year old son, Thomas Benjamin Smith Jr, the oldest of her two surviving children married Susan Smith. Then sometime after March of that year they immigrated to Wellington New Zealand. Additionally, her former husband's parents and her son's paternal grandparents, along with their children all moved to Melbourne, Australia. Elizabeth, however, and her second husband Robert, and her remaining daughter Alice remained behind in Lancashire.



Thomas B. Smith



Alexander F. MacDonald; Scottish Mormon convert and missionary to Scotland; 1877-1879.

Meanwhile events were occurring back in the United States that would forever change Elizabeth's life. In April 1877, fiftyone year old Alexander F. MacDonald left with his two sons Alec and Aaron, Scottish converts to the Mormon faith who had immigrated to Utah a number of years earlier and eventually settled in the Mexican colonies were preparing to return and serve missions in their native Scotland. They traveled back east across the American Great Plains by train, an improvement over the ox-drawn wagons Alexander had

¹² https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/L8RY-9MJ

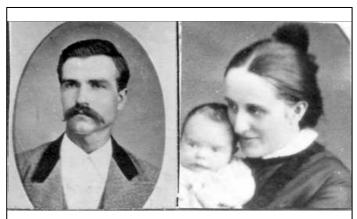
¹³ https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/L8RY-S5G

driven in 1854. So after arriving in Scotland, he was made president of the Glasgow Conference and he vigorously went about his proselyting work. In later years, Andrew Duthie, a Scottish convert of that era who had settled with the MacDonalds in Mexico,

observed when Alexander and his two stalwart sons arrived in their native land, the Scottish saints were somewhat awestruck by the towering threesome. "They looked like the gods!" he told Colonia Juarez resident W. Ernest Young." While Glasgow is 225 miles north of Liverpool, during his mission Elder MacDonald came in contact with Elizabeth and on 19 December 1878, he baptized her into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and the following day confirmed her a member.



By 1880, Elizabeth's remaining daughter, twenty-two year old Alice Smith probably had



Anders Gustaf & Alice Smith Lundberg.

joined the Mormon church and had immigrated to Utah because she married Anders Gustaf Lundberg in Salt Lake city in October of that year. Perhaps her daughter's new faith had encouraged Elizabeth to listen to Elder McDonald's gospel message and inspired her to also embrace this new religion and

¹⁴ "Aexander Findlay Macdonald - Man of Three Nations" by Taylor Macdonald Contact Taylor Macdonald by e-mail: taylormacdonald2002@yahoo.com
Early Mormon Missionaries:

https://history.churchofjesuschrist.org/missionary/individual/alex-f-mcdonald-1825?lang=eng

¹⁵ Church Family History Center: "Logan 4th Ward, Record of Members, Early to 1899"; Libr #10016; pg 52 & record 543.

immigrate as well. In the 1900 Logan, Utah Census Elizabeth reported she had immigrated to Utah in 1879, a year after joining the church in 1878. However, in the 1910 Census she said she had departed three years later in 1882. Regardless, by the end of 1882 Elizabeth was now living in Logan.

In 1884, Elizabeth lived on the corner of 5th and Franklin St in Logan. On 25 Jun 1884, a devout church member, she went to the Logan Temple and took out her own Endowments. Then about three weeks later on 18 July, she and Thomas X Smith were married in the Logan Temple. Of particular interest, seven months later, in 1885, she had her three dead children, Edward, Ann, and Susannah sealed to her and Thomas X Smith in the Logan Temple.

Elizabeth's only living relation, besides her son Thomas Benjamin who had immigrated to New Zealand in 1876, was her daughter Alice Lundberg who was now living in Logan by at least 1882 and gave birth to her first child, Gustave Gordon Lundberg. In 1887, Alice delivered her final daughter, Ella Elizabeth Lundberg in Logan as well and then two years later, she gave birth to her final child, Harvey. Her family was apparently living in Lehi, Utah where he was born. This, however, left Elizabeth alone in Logan for

Elizabeth was a regular attendee of the Logan 4th Ward Relief Society meetings. At these meetings the sisters would typically sing a church hymn, have an opening prayer, and then sing another song. Roll was called and minutes from the previous meeting was read. Often a member of the presidency would make some comments and then member testimonies were heard. There was a sizeable group of German sisters who spoke little to no

at least a while.



Ella Elizabeth Lundberg

¹⁶ Year: 1910; Census Place: Logan Ward 4, Cache, Utah; Roll: T624_1602; Page: 3B; Enumeration District: 0020; FHL microfilm: 1375615.

¹⁷ Year: 1900; Census Place: Logan, Cache, Utah; Page: 6; Enumeration District: 0080; FHL microfilm: 1241682.

English, but they would frequently bare their testimonies in German. Sometimes they would provide a special song from the hymnal in their native tongue as well.

On 5 May 1898, at one of these Relief Society meetings, Elizabeth Smith spoke up and her words were recorded in the following meeting minutes,

"Sister Elizabeth Smith was pleased to be here. Said we each have all the trails we can bear, hoped we could comfort each other here today that is what we come here for. Said a lady who had died, had the privilege of returning to this earth for a short time and she said that if we knew the beauty on the other side we would not want to stay here. Knew that the Lord heard and answered prayers. We can always go to Him for aid." 18

On 6 Jan 1899, the Logan 4th Ward Relief Society meeting minutes recorded Elizabeth's personal thoughts and hopes:

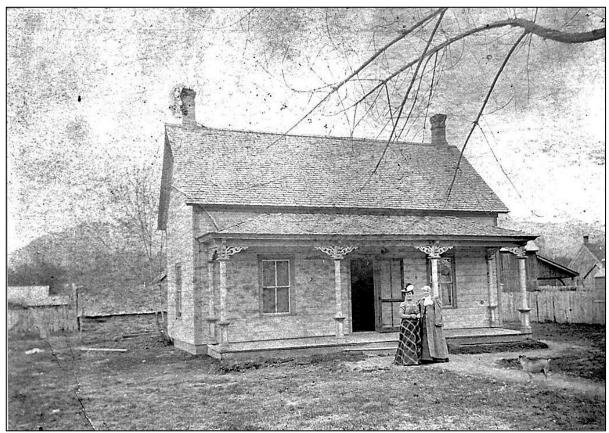
"Sister Eliz Smith was glad to be here. Hoped to be able to bear her trails and be patient and have strength to endure to the end." 19

Sometime between 1900 and 1910 a photo was taken of Elizabeth and her daughter Alice standing together outside a home. Based on the fact that Elizabeth is wearing a "Duster Coat", I believe she was visiting her daughter Alice at her home in Logan. Alice and her mother apparently lived fairly close together because the 1900 US Census states they both lived within the "4th Ward" area. The 1900 census also tells us that Elizabeth rented a home in the "Logan city ward 4. Additionally, she had had some level of formal education earlier in life because she could "read and write".²⁰

¹⁹ Church Archives Building: "Logan 4th Ward Relief Society Minutes and Records." Microfilm, Call #LR 4966 14 (100000812847),Film Reel 1, pg 81.

¹⁸ Church Archives Building: "Logan 4th Ward Relief Society Minutes and Records." Microfilm, Call #LR 4966 14 (100000812847),Film Reel 1, pg 73.

²⁰ "U.S. Census, 1900," database with images, *FamilySearch* (Cache > ED 80 Logan city Ward 4-5 > image 9 of 34; citing NARA microfilm publication T623 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.).



Probably taken between 1900-1910: Alice and her mother Elizabeth F. Sweet Smith Johnson Smith. Photo probably at Alice's home since Elizabeth is in her auto traveling clothes. This is the only known photo of Elizabeth.

The 23 May 1902 the 4th Ward Relief Society meeting was a special Relief Society commemoration gathering and the following was noted,

"Met together in the 4th Ward Assembly Hall for the purpose of commemorating the organization of this Relief Society. President Laura Mickleson spoke about . . . 'It is 34 years ago today since the R. S. was organized in this ward.' She said how the R. S. had advanced since that time. Spoke of the faithfulness of the sisters. They always tried to do their duty and be faithful as long as she was able. Spoke of the RS in the early days. Bore faithful testimony of the gospel also spoke of her early experiences in the church.

Sis Elizabeth Smith was very pleased to be with us. Felt the Spirit of God here.
Said we should do our duty and be blessed. We should appreciate the blessings we enjoy and be faithful through the trials we may have to pass through for it is

through trials we are blessed. Gave some very good instruction. Asked God to bless us all." 21

On 7 May 1903 they met again and Elizabeth's words were recorded:

"Sister Eliz Smith was pleased to be here. Bore her testimony. Said she always depends on the Lord for her health and His Spirit that is with her to comfort her. What more can we want than the Lord to help us in our trails. Asked God to help us all to endure to the end." 22

On 6 Oct 1904:

"Sister Elizabeth Smith was very pleased to meet with us. Knew all that had been said was true. Spoke of her early experiences in the R.S. work. How she enjoyed it. Spoke of unselfishness. Said we should do unto others as we would be done by. Felt to love all. Said we should have charity for all. Let us not condemn anyone. The Lord is the only one to judge. Let us pray for one another and visit those who are cast down and comfort them. Asked the Lord to bless us." 23

Katherine Walker, grand-daughter of Marie Smith Kimball who was the daughter of Thomas and Annie shared this story concerning "Aunt Lizzie Sweet":

"Father never did live with Aunt Sweet. I asked him one day why it was that he got up very early each day and walked several blocks to her home and back. He told me that he was getting a fire started in her stove and in her fire place to keep Aunt Sweet warm. Grandma Kimball said this women was a widow and was a lone. Father was taking care of her as she no longer had children or family there in Logan. Marie said that she walked in her father's footsteps in the winter when the snow was on the ground to go to work at the telephone company. She

²² Church Archives Building: "Logan 4th Ward Relief Society Minutes and Records." Microfilm, Call #LR

²¹ Church Archives Building: "Logan 4th Ward Relief Society Minutes and Records." Microfilm, Call #LR 4966 14 (100000812847),Film Reel 1, pg 120.

^{4966 14 (100000812847),}Film Reel 1, pg 143.

23 Church Archives Building: "Logan 4th Ward Relief Society Minutes and Records." Microfilm, Call #LR 4966 14 (100000812847), Film Reel 1, pg 167.

thought it was kind of her father to make tracks for her in the snow so that she could go to work during the winter and not be late." ²⁴

On 31 Dec 1906, Thomas X Smith passed away. Following Thomas's death, Elizabeth seems to have moved fairly frequently and boarded in other people's homes. She probably was on a very limited and fixed income so rented a bedroom that included her meals and had access to the common areas of the home she was living in. The Logan 4th ward clerk's record indicated that on January 1, 1907; Elizabeth's membership record was "removed" to the Logan 1st Ward.²⁵ In 1909, she lived in a residential home on 60 East 200 North in Logan which today is the new Logan City Fire Station.²⁶ The 1910 Federal Census reports that she lived on "North 100 East Street", again in another rental situation and in "Logan Ward 4."²⁷

In 1911 she lived at 129 East and 300 North where she again "rented a room." This home was located just north of the Logan 4th ward church chapel.²⁸ In 1913, she lived at 165 North 100 East where she rented a room.²⁹

Then in July 1916 Elizabeth's health began to fail. In a letter on the 16th of that month from Anne Howe Smith to her son Eugene who was on a mission, she reported;

"Aunt Lizzie isn't a bit well she had a stroke and is sure a lot of bother for our girls. Will be a good thing if she could try to rest." 30

²⁵ Church Family History Center: "Logan 4th Ward, Record of Members, Early to 1899"; Libr #10016; record 543.

²⁴ Story related by Marie Smith Kimball, daughter of Thomas X & Annie Howe Smith to her grand-daughter, Katherine Walker.

²⁶ Ancestry.com. Logan City Directory **1909**; *U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.

Year: 1910; Census Place: Logan Ward 4, Cache, Utah; Roll: T624_1602; Page: 3B; Enumeration District: 0020; FHL microfilm: 1375615.

²⁸ Ancestry.com. Logan City Directory **1911**; *U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.

²⁹ Ancestry.com. Logan City Directory **1913**, *U.S. City Directories*, *1822-1995* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.

³⁰ Letter from Anne Howe Smith (Thomas X Smith second wife) to son Eugene Smith (Serving LDS Western States Mission); Letter in possession of David Barkdull, dated 16 July 1916.

Two months later, Anne wrote to her son again and informed him,

"My Dear Son, I was sure glad to get your dear letter but I have been so busy. I have sat up with Aunt Lizzie [she was living with her] just lately for seven nights and I go to the temple too now. She is still alive but she gets weaker every day."

Finally, in another letter dated 21 Sep 1916, from Mabel Smith to her brother Eugene, she reported that Aunt Lizzie wasn't doing well,

"I had a letter from mother she says Aunt Lizzie is very sick. Sure would be a good thing if she could die." 32

Elizabeth finally died on 30 Sep 1916, at 7am in the morning. Her last residence was 172 East 200 South where she was a member of the Logan 6th Ward. Her doctor



'unknown but natural' with 'old age/senility as a contributing factor'. In other words, she probably died in her sleep of old age, again reasonable given that she was almost 86." Orson Smith, Thomas X Smith's oldest son informed

attended her from 10 to 29 September. Her Death Certificate stated she died of "unknown but natural causes, and contributor senility". My younger brother, who is a doctor, opined the following: "The doctor wrote that Elizabeth Foulton died of



³¹ Letter from Anne Howe Smith (Thomas X Smith second wife) to son Eugene Smith (Serving LDS Western States Mission); Letter in possession of David Barkdull, dated 18 Sep 1916.

Letter from Mabel Smith Bradford to her brother Eugene Smith (Serving LDS Western States Mission); Letter in possession of David Barkdull, dated 21 Sep 1916.

the authorities of "Aunt Lizzie's" passing. ³³ She was buried in the Logan city cemetery next to Thomas and Margaret.

For a time, Elizabeth F. Smith's family line seemed destined for termination as three of her five children died young. Nothing is known about what happened to Elizabeth's son, Thomas B. Smith and his family who went to New Zealand. Only Alice's transplanted Utah family line seems to have survived and flourished out her in the west. In the past year as I have researched and prepared this report, I have discovered and reached out to several of Elizabeth's great great grandchildren through her daughter Alice Lundberg's line. A Charles Lundberg and his sister, Ann Lundberg Kronmiller, both of whom I have either spoken with or emailed with extensively in the recent past months. They have all expressed great interest in their ancestries but seem to know very little about Elizabeth and her family. At least some if not many of Elizabeth's descendants today are practicing members of the Mormon faith and some live here in Utah.

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³³ State of Utah Death Certificate, #60044, file #204; City Logan, County Cache, Utah.