

3c. Sarah Jane (Kelland) Shafner.



Is this Sarah Jane (Kelland) Shafner?

Sarah Jane was the third daughter of George Kelland Jnr. and Mary Ann (Bull) Kelland and she was born in Lynn MA. in February 1864, probably on the 10th. I do not have a copy of her birth certificate at the present time. On the 1870 Census she is at school and by the 1880 Census she is working in the “Stitching Room”, presumably of a shoe factory.

The first certificate I have for Sarah Jane is her Marriage Certificate, see below :-

**The Commonwealth Of Massachusetts
City Of Lynn
Office Of The City Clerk**

The following is a copy from the Records of Marriages, in said city:

GROOM		BRIDE	
Name	John S. Shafner	Name	Sarah J. Kelland
Surname After Marriage		Surname After Marriage	
Place of Residence	Lynn, MA	Place of Residence	Lynn, MA
Age	20 Years	Age	19 Years
Occupation	Shoemaker	Occupation	Operative
Birthplace	Nova Scotia	Birthplace	Lynn, MA
Father's Name	George Shafner	Father's Name	George Kelland
Mother's Name	Cornelia	Mother's Name	Mary A.
Number of Marriage	First	Number of Marriage	First

Name, residence and official station of Person by whom married: W. Barton, Clergyman, Lynn, MA

Place of Marriage: Lynn, MA

Date of Marriage: December 25, 1882

I, Mary F. Audley, do hereby certify that I hold the office of City Clerk, of the City of Lynn, in the County of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, that the Records of Births, Marriages and Deaths, in said City, are in my custody, and that the above is a true extract from the Records of Marriages in said City, as certified by me.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the said City of Lynn,
Mary F. Audley City Clerk
This 8th day of October, 20 08

NOTE: Revised form of the Commonwealth of Records, December 5, 1885, by the Secretary of the State, and by the Secretary of the State, and by the Secretary of the State.

This Certificate shows that Sarah Jane married on Christmas Day in 1882. Her age is shown as 19 years, but if she was born in February 1864 she is actually only 18 years old. Her husband is shown as John S Shafner, aged 20 years, a shoemaker, born in Nova Scotia. Her husband was actually called John Lithgow Shafner and on the Canadian Census of 1881 for Annapolis, Nova Scotia he is shown as aged 16 years, of German Origin, Church of England Religion and working as a factory hand.

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JOHN LITHGOW SHAFNER [Pedigree](#)
Male

Event(s):
Birth: 17 MAY 1864 ✓
Christening: 30 OCT 1864 All Saints, Granville Twp. Annapolis, Nova Scotia ✓
Death:
Burial:

Parents:
Father: [GEORGE SHAFNER](#) [Family](#)
Mother: [CORNELIA](#) ✓

Assuming John's Date of Birth to be correct on this record, that would mean that he was also only 18 years old when he married. I have done a considerable amount of research into the Shafner family, but don't feel I can include it all at this point at the present time. Should I ever finish my Kelland story I may come back and write about the Shafners. I will just say that there are various spellings of the name, Shafner/Shaffner/Saftner/Schafner. It was an Adam Schafner who came from Palatinate, Lower Rhine Valley, Bayem, Germany with his wife in 1752. Their son Ferdinand Schafner was born on board ship a few days out of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. Sadly, Adam's wife died in childbirth; so after making the long journey she never saw her new homeland and her husband Adam arrived in a strange country with a new born baby and grieving for the wife he had just lost. What hardships awaited him and how did he manage? I will just have to come back and tell the story, sometime!

One further note. John Lithgow's mother was called Cornelia Bogart before she married - I just love the name Cornelia!

Below is a photo of John Lithgow Shafner.



There is no Census available from 1880 to 1900, but fortunately the Lynn Directories are now on Ancestry.com, which does mean you can just get a little peek into peoples lives during this period. The Directories just give brief information of the head of a family. Having checked through them all it would appear that after Sarah Jane and John Lithgow married they actually lived with her parents. The Directories for 1882 to 1888 show John L Shafner as a shoemaker living at 465 Western Ave., Lynn, MA. The 1888 Directory states that John Shafner is still a shoe maker but actually shows his home address as 789 Western Ave. By 1890 his home address is given as 6 Allen St., Lynn, which is next door to where Sarah Jane's parents are then living. From 1894 the Directory actually records the Company where the head of the family is working. So, in 1894 John L. is working at T.H.E. Company and continues to work there until 1900. What is fascinating is that this is the same company that John Kelland (George Kelland Jnr.'s brother) worked for from 1890 to 1894 when he came to Lynn from Michigan.

Another interesting entry in the directories for Lynn is in 1897, John Shafner is shown as a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, West Lynn Lodge No. 65.

My next contact with the family is on the 1900 Census when Sarah Jane and her husband are living at 6 Allen St. Lynn, MA., next door to her parents.

10	92	142	Deblois Minnie R ^{pg 2}	Head W	F	Nov	1847	52	S			Canada (Eng)	Massachusetts		
			— Mary E	niece	W	F	May	1863	37	S		Massachusetts	Canada (Eng)		
6	93	143	Shafner John L ^{pg 4}	Head M	W	May	1864	36	M	17		Canada (Eng)	Canada (Eng)		
			— Sarah J	wife	W	F	Feb	1864	36	M	17	3	2	Massachusetts	England
			— Helen E	daughter	W	F	Nov	1886	13	S		Massachusetts	Canada (Eng)		
			— Raymond K	son	W	M	Nov	1895	4	S		Massachusetts	Canada (Eng)		
		144	Tosher T. Arthur ^{pg 2}	head	W	M	Feb	1844	56	M	16			Rhode Island	England
			— Charlotte B	wife	W	F	Jan	1844	56	M	16	7	3	Barbadoes W. I.	England
2	94	145	Kelland George ^{pg 3}	head M	W	Nov	1835	64	M	47				England	England
			— Mary A	wife	W	F	Mar	1836	64	M	47	8	4	England	England
			— Hattie B	daughter	W	F	Sept	1861	38	S				England	England

1900 Census for Lynn, MA.

This record shows that they were both born in 1864 and have been married for 17 years. John L Shafner was born in Canada and came to America in 1880. He is now a Naturalised American and is working as an Electrician. Although Sarah's parents own their own house the Shafners are living in rented accommodation and are actually sharing with another family.

Sarah J. is shown as having had three children, but only two are still living. I have not searched for the birth or death certificates of the child no longer alive in 1900. The other two children are still at home with their parents and they are :-

Helen E Shafner born Nov. 1886, now aged 13 years and still at school.
 I think the E stands for Estella?
 Raymond K Shafner born Nov. 1895, now aged 4 years and still at home.
 The K stands for Kelland.

John Lithgow Shafner does continue to appear in the Lynn Directories during the next 10 years. In 1903 he is shown as then working at G.E. Company. The following year his home address has changed to 6 Spencer St., Lynn. This is the same year that George Kelland Jr., and Mary Ann (Bull) Kelland move to 2 Spencer St., which is next door to number 6. I believe the Kellands bought their house, but John L and Sarah Jane are only renting theirs.

1907 and 1908 entries as well as showing John L Shafner, there is another entry for an Estella Shafner who is shown as a Stenographer, working at 35 Central Square and living at 6 Spencer St. I assume this is their daughter who would be about 21 years old by this time. The other main event at this time is that Sarah Jane's father George Kelland Jr. died 30th January 1906. At least all the family are close together at this sad time.

6	16	20	Johnson Edman	Spouse	M	W	21	27		Swed Swedish	Swed Swedish	Swed Swedish	Swed Swedish	1875
			Shafner John L	Head	M	W	45	27		Engl English	Engl English	Engl English	Engl English	1852
			Sarah J	Wife	F	W	46	27	2	Massachusetts	Eng English	Eng English	Eng English	
			Sadie E	Daughter	F	W	23			Massachusetts	Eng English	Massachusetts		
			Raymond K	Son	M	W	14			Massachusetts	Eng English	Massachusetts		
21			Anderson John	Head	M	W	46	15		Swed Swedish	Swed Swedish	Swed Swedish	Swed Swedish	1870
			Julga	Wife	F	W	44	15	0	Swed Swedish	Swed Swedish	Swed Swedish	Swed Swedish	1838
			Lucas Ruth	Servant	F	W	17	2	1	Massachusetts	Don't know	Don't know		
2	17	22	Kelland Walter H	Son	M	W	10			Massachusetts	Massachusetts	Massachusetts		
2	17	22	Kelland Harry J	Head	F	W	76	7	4	Eng English	Eng English	Eng English	Eng English	1846
			Sattie B	Daughter	F	W	48			Eng English	Eng English	Eng English	Eng English	1864
792	15	25	McAllister Charles	Head	M	W	42	17		Eng English	Eng English	Eng English	Eng English	1872

1910 Census for Spencer Street, Lynn, MA.

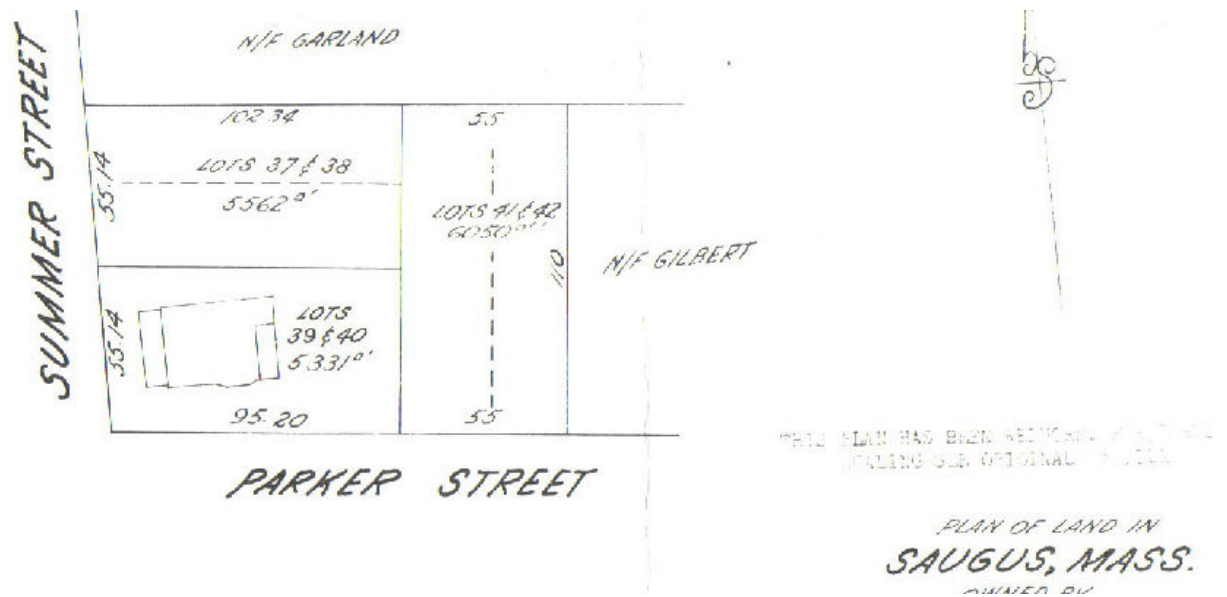
The 1910 Census shows that there are two families living at 6 Spencer St. John L and Sarah J have been married for 27 years, but this census shows Sarah as having had only two children, both of whom are still alive and living with them. John L is shown as an Assembler working at General Electric (G.E. Company). Their daughter is named as Sadie E, aged 23 years and working as a stenographer at an Insurance Company. Their son Raymond K, aged 14 years, but he is not shown as working.

It was on 13th March 1912 that Sarah Jane's mother, Mary Ann (Bull) Kelland passed away. Although she apparently did not leave a will, Sarah's father did, I have traced his will but have not yet seen it! I feel sure there was a reasonable amount of money left to Sarah Jane and her sibling as on 1st July 1912 Sarah Jane Shafner purchases four adjacent lots of land (37-40) bounded by Summer Street and Parker Street, in Saugus, MA. See document below, again kindly obtained for me by Ann Garland in March 2009. Her brother George H. Kelland bought the adjoining four lots on the same date.

G. Niven,
Admr.
to
S. J. Schafner
(w. of G. S.)

Know all men by these presents, that
whereas I, George Niven of Saugus in the County of Essex
as administrator of the estate of Walter Scott late of
Saugus by virtue of a license granted to me on the
first day of July 1912 by the Probate Court for the
County of Essex have sold the real estate of the said
deceased hereinafter described at private sale, to Sarah
J. Schafner of Lynn in said County wife of John L. Schafner
for the sum of eleven hundred forty four and 30/100 (\$1144.30)
dollars. Now therefore, in consideration of the said sum
of eleven hundred and forty four and 30/100 (\$1144.30)
dollars to me paid by the said Sarah J. Schafner the
receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, I do as adminis-
trator as aforesaid, and by virtue of the aforesaid license,
hereby grant, bargain, sell, and convey unto the said
Sarah J. Schafner her heirs and assigns, a certain parcel
of land situate on Summer and Parker Streets in said
Saugus bounded and described as follows, viz: Beginning
at the point of intersection of Summer and Parker Streets
thence running northerly by said Summer Street one
hundred ten and 28/100 (110.28) feet to lot 36 on plan
of land in Saugus Mass. belonging to estate of A. A.
Scott. Oct 1910. To E. H. Hawkes Surveyor recorded with
Essex So. Dist Deeds, thence turning and running
easterly by said lot 36 on said plan one hundred
and eight and 10/100 (108.10) feet to lot 41 on said
plan; thence turning and running southerly by said
lot 41 one hundred and ten (110) feet to said Parker





The picture above is of the house that Sarah Jane (Kelland) Shafner had built on the land that she purchased in Saugus, MA. It is taken from Google Maps. I am sure it must have been a very exciting time for them, planning and building, or having built, such a prestigious house.

I have no record of just when the Shafners moved to Saugus but there is a note in the Lynn Directory for 1913 that Harriet B Kelland moved to Saugus. I have a very strong feeling that once Sarah Jane and Harriet's parents had died then Harriet went to live with her sister. So, this would indicate that Sarah Jane went to live in Saugus at

about the same time. It is also somewhere about this date that both of Sarah Jane and John Lithgow Shafner's two children Helen Estella and Raymond Kelland Shafner both get married. So, perhaps from expecting the four members of their family, plus Harriet to move to Saugus it is actually only the three older members who actually move there to live. Sarah Jane and John L would be aged 49 years while Harriet would have been 52 years of age.

Below is a photograph of members of the Shafner and Kelland families, again supplied by Ann Garland (2009). I should imagine that it was taken about 1912 or 1913. Sarah Jane's parents are not on the photo, but I believe their two children are but not with any partners. The identification of the people in the picture has been done by myself purely from my knowledge of the people who are members of the family. I may have got it wrong, but I have no other way to identify them.



From left to right.

Mabel L (Caldwell) Kelland (wife of George H Kelland), John Lithgow Shafner, Roberta Belle Kelland (daughter of George H Kelland and Mabel), Sarah Jane (Kelland) Shafner, Raymond Kelland Shafner (son of John L Shafner and Sarah J), Harriet B Kelland (seated), Eliza (Kelland) Lewis, Helen Estella Shafner (daughter of John L Shafner and Sarah J).

My next piece of information about the Shafner family is from the Saugus Directory for 1918-1919 which show:-

John L Shafner died November 15th 1917. It also shows Sarah J Shafner widow John L living at house 58 Summer Street, Saugus, MA. John L would have been 53 years old when he died. I do not have a copy of his death certificate, so do not know the cause of death.

Surprisingly, when the 1920 Census is taken, Sarah Jane has left her lovely house in Saugus and is living back in Lynn. As can be seen by the Census record below she is now living at 123 Allen Ave., Lynn, together with her sister Harriet and two other families! She is shown as renting her accommodation. Neither she nor her sister have any employment. I wonder why they returned? How soon after John L's death they left? Was it for financial reasons or was so that she could be nearer her children? I am sure we will never know for certain, we can just surmise.

0			George D	Son		M	W	21	S			Yes	Yes	Yes	Massachusetts
1			Arthur F	Son		M	W	14	S			Yes	Yes	Yes	Massachusetts
2	121		Robert, Everett A	Head	R	M	W	33	M			Yes	Yes	Yes	Massachusetts
3			A. Louise	Wife		F	W	35	M			Yes	Yes	Yes	Massachusetts
4			Margaret	Daughter		F	W	1/2	S						Massachusetts
5	123		Strout, Allen F	Head	D	M	W	61	M			Yes	Yes	Yes	Maine
6			Eugie M	Wife		F	W	60	M			Yes	Yes	Yes	Massachusetts
7			Shafner, Sarah J	Head	R	F	W	56	W			Yes	Yes	Yes	Massachusetts
8			Kelland, Harriet	Sister		F	W	58	S	1712/No/1750		Yes	Yes	Yes	England, Engl
9			Elf, Carl	Head	R	M	W	28	M	1709/No/1715		Yes	Yes	Yes	Sweden, Swed
0	127		Bertha J.	Wife		F	W	22	M			Yes	Yes	Yes	Maine
1			Velma M	Daughter		F	W	1/2	S						Maine

1920 Census for Lynn, MA. taken on the 25 February 1920, for 123 Allen Ave.

The 1921 Saugus Directory shows Sarah J Shafner, widow of John L, removed to Lynn. The Directories are often showing the information gathered in the previous year, so it is not unreasonable to assume Sarah J. returned to Lynn late in 1919 or early 1920.

The Lynn Directories continue to show Sarah Jane at 123 Allen Ave. until 1928, even though she died in 1924! Does this mean it was registered in her name? Strangely in 1928 and until 1932 her name appears against 44 Estes St., Lynn, which is the address at which her sister Harriet died in December 1929. I can't quite understand why this is shown in the Directories. Another interesting point is that Sarah's son Raymond K Shafner is shown as living at 12 Estes St., from 1928 until 1932!

My last and final record of Sarah Jane (Kelland) Shafner is her death certificate showing she died October 14th 1924 of Nephriticuremia Apoplectic Shock. (Some form of kidney failure). She was 60 years of age (although the death cert. shows 70 years which is a mistake). Her death certificate states that she was residing at 78 Lewis St., Lynn, when she died! I wonder why that address? There is always just another little problem to solve! She was not particularly old when she died, but if she had been suffering with kidney problems for some time, this could well be her reason for returning to Lynn. It seems quite sad to me that she appears to have had very little time to enjoy her inheritance. Within four years of building her "dream" home, her husband died. Within two years after his death she had left her "dream" home and within another four years she has sadly passed away.

The Commonwealth Of Massachusetts
City Of Lynn
Office Of The City Clerk

The following is a copy from the Records of Deaths, in said city:

Name SARAH JANE SHAFNER Date of Death OCTOBER 14, 1924

Age 70 Years 8 Months 4 Days Sex FEMALE Color WHITE Condition WIDOW

Name of Spouse JOHN L. SHAFNER Maiden Name KELLAND
If married, divorced or widowed

Disease or cause of Death NEPHRITICUREMIA APOPLECTIC SHOCK

Residence 78 LEWIS ST. LYNN, MA Occupation ----

Place of Death LYNN, MA Place of Birth LYNN, MA

Name of Father GEORGE KELLAND Place of Birth ENGLAND

Name of Mother MARY E. BULL Place of Birth ENGLAND
Maiden Name

Type and Place of Disposition PINE GROVE CEM.

Date of Record -----

By whom Registered JOSEPH W. ATTWILL City Clerk