

## The Dean Family

There is only one tombstone in the Old Berlin Cemetery that bears the name Dean, although at least 4 individuals from the Dean family are known to be buried there.

William Edward Dean (b. 1833) and his wife Mary Watts (also b. 1833) started their family in Buckeystown, MD, where William had grown up. They were married in 1852, and by 1860, they had 4 children. They were living still in Buckeystown, and he was working as a laborer

By 1870, they had moved to Brownsville, MD. He was now “foreman of repairs on the railroad.” 16-year old son John W. was a laborer on the railroad, and 13-year old James E was a farm laborer. The list of children did not include a daughter who would have been 12 years old – possibly she died? – but there was now an additional one-year old daughter in the family, Mary M. Dean.

In the 1880 census, the family was living in Berlin. Oldest son John, now 26 years old, was married and no longer living at home. However, James, 24, was still at home and working on the railroad. A 7<sup>th</sup> child, Henry West Dean, 5 years old, was now a part of the family.

The year 1892 was showing promises of prosperity in Brunswick with the expansion of the railroad. But it was a tragic year for the Dean family. On March 4, 1892, the **infant son** of John and Harriet Dean, their 7<sup>th</sup> child, passed away. On November 25, James and Elizabeth’s oldest son **Charles E. Dean**, age 6, died. And 9 days later, on December 4, their daughter **Clara Dean** died. This left them with no children, although they later had 4 more children. While mention of these deaths was made in the *Brunswick Herald*, details regarding the cause of death were not given. All three of these grandchildren of William and Mary Dean were buried in the Old Berlin Cemetery that year.

The 4<sup>th</sup> member of the Dean family buried in the Old Berlin Cemetery is one-year old **Hazel Katherine Dean**, who died of pneumonia in 1906. She was the only child of Malcolm (son of John) and Maude Dean, and a great-granddaughter of William and Mary Dean. Malcolm and Maude did go on to have two other children.



Here is a summary of what became of the children of William and Mary Dean and their families.

- The oldest son John W. Dean (1854-1921) married Harriett House, daughter of Civil War veteran Lawson House in 1875. They had 10 children. He initially found employment as a worker on the railroad, but subsequently became a lather and was probably involved in the construction of many of Brunswick's new homes.
- James Edward Dean (1856-1952) married Elizabeth Shipley in 1886, and they had 7 or 8 children. He was a carpenter by trade, and moved to Baltimore to pursue that vocation. From the census records, it appears that he and Elizabeth separated sometime between 1900 and 1910, and he spent his last years living with his brother Henry, and later with his widowed daughter Alice.
- Anna E. Dean (1858-1920's) married William H. Rudy in 1881. William was one of three lock tenders in Berlin at the time, and later worked as a laborer. They had 5 children, only one of whom (William) survived to adulthood. William died in the 1910's, and Annie died in the 1920's.
- Elizabeth Dean (abt. 1858 - ?). Apparently died as a young child.
- Sarah C. "Kate" Dean (1865-1932) married Edward J. Triplett in 1888. (The 1910 census record indicates that this was Sarah's second marriage, with no children from the first marriage.) They had 12 children, 3 of whom died young. They lived in Baltimore, where Edward worked as a street paver (1900), "cementer of sidewalks" (1910), and a stonemason (1920).
- Mary M. "Mollie" Dean (b. 1870-1902) married Charles L. **Hissey**. They had 4 children. She died at age 32 of typhoid fever and was buried in the Old Berlin Cemetery. Charles remarried and had at least 2 more children by that marriage.
- Henry West Dean (1875-1943) married Maude McMahan in 1894. He was an employee of the Western Union and B&O telegraph company at the time. They moved to Baltimore around 1900, and there he found work first as a well digger (1900 census), and then as a carpenter (1910 and subsequent censuses). Maude died in 1910, leaving him with 6 children to raise. Sometime during the next 10 years, he married Lillian M. King. She died in 1948, 5 years before his death.

In the 1900 census, Mary Dean reported that she was the mother of 9 children, 6 of whom were living, so the above list does not include 2 other children who died at a young age.

And what became of William Edward and Mary A. Dean, the original Deans in Brunswick? Mary died of a stroke in 1909. She was buried in Knoxville. After her death, William went to live with his daughter Annie Rudy and her family, who lived on Petersville Road, and stayed with them until he died in the 1920's.

