

Name	Barney MILLS, 1169	
Birth	8 Jul 1828	Mosa Township?, Middlesex, Ontario, Canada ¹⁷⁵
Death	19 Jul 1905	Marysville, St. Clair, Michigan ^{1128, 1135, p 51, #179; date only, 1139, date only, 1...}
Memo	died intestate	
Burial	21 Jul 1905	Lakeside Cemetery, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan ^{340, p 5}
Probate	19 Jan 1909 ^{1135, p 51} Age: 80	
Residence	Prescott, Ogemaw County, MI ^{1752, 3403, p 9}	
Father	Barnabas MILLS, 776 (1801-1880)	
Mother	Margaret Ann NELSON (1803-1852)	



Individual Notes

- [excerpts] Lumbering reached gigantic proportions back in our early history, when Michigan was known as the lumber capital of the world. Ogemaw County contributed millions of feet of virgin timber during that era, which has acclaimed Michigan a giant in the annals of our history.

In the fall, when the first snow came, the Mills family's horses and oxen were shipped from Stag Island in the St. Clair River to Ogemaw County to work in the lumber camps.

Around 1870 the Mills family owned hundreds of acres of Ogemaw County. They started a lumbering project which was carried for twenty years. After the trees were cut and trimmed into sizable logs, they were skidded into the Rifle River, during the spring freshets, and floated downstream. Upon reaching Lake Huron, they were rafted and pulled by tug boats to the St. Clair River, near Port Huron. Steam boats and tow barges transported them to Cleveland, Ohio, through Lake Erie.³⁴⁰²

- Mills Township, with the Rifle River flowing through its center, is surprisingly free of early lumber settlements. Although lumber camps surely existed along the township's waterways, supply and milling settlements flourished elsewhere.

Richland Township contained the settlements of Hardwood Lake and Mills, and is still the location of the village of Prescott. Mills was a train stop at the western county line. Prescott began as a camp called Camp Six. Its owner, Barney Mills, built a saw mill and shingle mill and owned much of the timber lands in Mills and Richland Townships.^{3403, p 9}

Prescott's first saw mill was built by Barney Mills. He also built a shingle mill in Prescott. In 1889, the McLain brothers owned the mills that Mr. Mills had built.^{3403, p 16}

John Fitzmaurice tells of a Saturday evening he spent in a southern Ogemaw Camp.

January 17th, 1883, I find by reference to my notebook, was an occasion in which I was made partaker in a camp "Saturday night" that I will long remember. It was in B. B.[sic] Mills' Rifle River camp, Mich., which like a singed cat, was much better than it looked. It was built upon the old-fashioned style, with what is known as a "caboose," in place of a stove. The "bunk camp" was cosy, and with but little room, one would imagine, in which to give a variety theatre exhibition. Still, in that same camp was congregated more diversified talent, than I have met at one time before or since in the woods.^{3403, p 31}

- The Mills Transportation Company was formed February 4, 1878, with a capital stock of \$250,000, divided into 10,000 shares of \$25 each. Nelson Mills, of Marysville, held 2,812; Barney Mills, 938; August C. Gray, 1,250; Henry McMorran, Port Huron, 2,500; and Charles Neal, Bay City, 2,500 shares.^{29, p 547}

- **Prominent Port Huron Man Dead.**

Port Huron, Mich., July 19 [1905] - Barnabas Mills, a brother of the late Nelson Mills and a partner of his in many of their business enterprises, died at this home at Marysville this morning, aged 77 years. Mr. Mills took sick while inspecting some of the lumber properties belonging to the estate in northern Michigan, and was brought home last week.¹¹²⁸

- Died intestate.^{1135, p 51, #179}

- Barney Mills died intestate leaving a widow without children by him. The widow has one son and two grandchildren by a former marriage. There are thirteen families of Barney Mills kindred of which the heads of six are still living. Two near Chatham, Ontario, one in Washington state, two in Ogemaw County, Michigan, and one in this village. Of all the other families there is one minor child about sixteen years of age living near Chatham, Ontario.

Barney Mills estate consists practically as follows:

Farm, store, village property and house at Prescott, Ogemaw County, Michigan.

Stock in several corporations.

1/4 interest in this co-partnership.

The inventory of this company will be furnished you as soon as it can be obtained and an appraisal made. But for the purposes of this letter will state that the assets are chiefly as follows:

Real estate in Ogemaw, Montmorency, Sanilac and Saint Clair Counties, and in Cleveland and Toledo, Ohio.

Lumber yard and Planning [sic] Mill at Saint Clair.

Stock of lumber and store at this place.

Stag Island.

Interest in mill and land in West Virginia.

Interest in Electric Railway at Lansing.

Name	Barney MILLS, 1169
Individual Notes (Continued)	
Accounts and notes receivable. 1139	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In a separate email I am going to send you a photo of the first store in Prescott, which was built by Barney Mills as a general department store. The two-story brick building was built sometime before 1900 on Sherman Street. Mills closed the store and the building was purchased by the I.O.O.F. and Geneve Rebecca Lodges. The groups held their meetings upstairs and used the first floor for large gatherings, such as banquets, dances, and large community meetings. For quite a number of years (about 15) the first floor was also used by the school where temporary classrooms were established. After 1965, when the I.O.O.F. charter expired and was not renewed, the building was sold to Bed and Bernadine Haskin and used as a recreational facility. Do you have the book called PRESCOTT COMMUNITY IN PIONEER HISTORY by Ervadeen Hosbach?⁶¹¹⁹ Barney Mills was another pioneer lumberman. He owned hundreds of acres of wooded land north of town. After the land was cleared it was sold to men who became farmers. Mills also had one of the first general stores before 1900 in the two-story brick building on Sherman Street, which now houses Bud and Bernadine Haskin's Rec. Hall. 6146, pp. 3 & 4 The town had several mills as well as in the rural area. Barney Mills had a grist mill and Bob Cliff, Sr. had a shingle mill. Both were destroyed by fire. 6146, p 9 Harold Currie lives on the farm of his grandfather, Gilbert Currie, Sr., two miles north of Sage Lake Road. It had been purchased from Barney Mills. 6146, p 28 Yesterday I spent some time at the Oscoda library in the genealogical room. (I love it there!) Anyhow, I found some little things about Barney Mills in the newspapers. I figured this was easier to just type the info out rather than scan the copies, as some are such poor quality. TAWAS HERALD June 5, 1891: Barney Mills long timber camp is in operation at West Tawas, again with Joseph Lalone, the old standby foreman. Part of the old crew is on deck, with Tink at the helm. TAWAS HERALD May 20, 1892: (two entries) Louis Grant, representing E. Morse, the lumber King of the east, of Tonawanda, was in town this week visiting Jos. Lalone, Barney Mills' foreman. Mr. Morse has purchased a quantity of timber from Mr. Mills. Jas. Lalone, foreman for Barney Mills, informs us that he has started rafting at the mouth of Tawas River, and will add another force of men in a few days. Quite a number of the old boys are at their old posts of duty. TAWAS HERALD July 28, 1893: (part of the Prescott social column) A train of Barney Mills long timber goes out every day from Bush Lake to Tawas Bay. J. B. Mills, better known as "Cheap John," handles hardware and everything very extensively. He keeps in stock hardware from a needle to a threshing machine. J. B. is quite a hustler. TAWAS HERALD December 15, 1893: (part of the Prescott social column) The Keystone flouring mill here is now owned by Messrs Barney Mills and C. E. Cannan. The third partner pulling out of the business. TAWAS HERALD March 29, 1895: C. E. Cannon has served his connection with the Keystone Milling Co. Having sold his interests in the firm to Barney Mills. TAWAS HERALD June 27, 1902: (part of the Whittemore social column) Barney Mills visits our village quite often of late. He has a fine span of drivers of which he is justly proud, and then he is found of good company. 6147 Mr. B. Mills Prescott, Mich. Dear Sir:- In reply to yours of the 17th. We are very sorry to say that we are short of cash at present and if we sent you the \$500.00 requested would have to borrow same. We expect to get our money on Steamer Sparta insurance very soon and will then send you the \$500.00. If you must have it sooner kindly let us know and we will loan same. Will make you price on land you mentioned in your letter later. Yours truly, N. & B. MILLS By _____ 7065 	
Census Data	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1842 Census: Mosa Twp., London District, Ontario. 1615 1851 Mosa Twp. Census: "in the states," age 23. 4, p 2, 1647, 2377, p 7 1870 Census: Marysville, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 42, b Canada. Lumberman. 4632 1880 Census: St. Clair, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 51, b Canada [sic], lumberman. Father b New Brunswick [sic]; mother b Ireland. 3474 1894 Michigan Census: St. Clair Township, Michigan. Age 66, b Canada. Lumberman. Father b Canada; mother b Ireland. 5475 1900 Census: Mills Township, Ogemaw, Michigan. Age 71, b Jul 1827, Canada Eng. Farmer. Father b Canada Eng; mother b Ireland. Married 30 years. His wife is absent. 1752 	

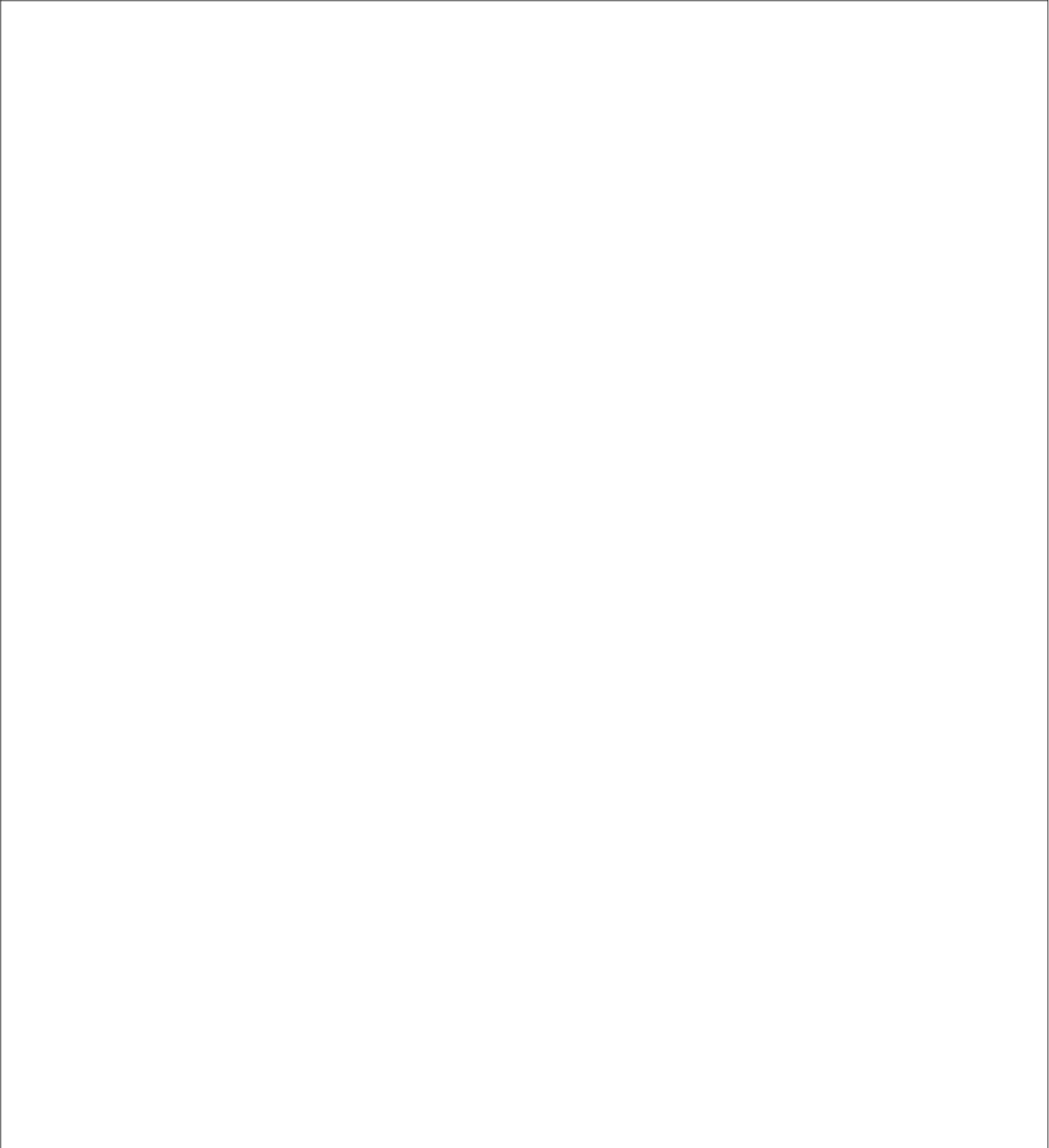
Name	Barney MILLS, 1169	
General Notes		
• 1903 Plat map of Richland Township, Ogemaw County, Michigan. ⁶¹²⁰		
Spouses		
1	Mary Melissa WILLIAMS	
Birth	1 Jun 1830	Deerfield, Portage, Ohio ^{11, p 2, 179, date only, 1440}
Death	1 Jun 1913	Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan ^{179, 1153, p 1; date only Age: 83}
Burial		Lakeside Cemetery, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan ^{340, p 1}
Father	Sanford WILLIAMS (1783-1856)	
Mother	Elizabeth HUDSON (1801-1890)	
Individual Notes		
• Marriage to Barney Mills witnessed by John Hudson & Ruth Hudson, his wife. John is the uncle of Mary Melissa. ^{1143, p 3}		
Census Data		
• 1830 Census: Deerfield, Portage, Ohio. 0000001/10001. ¹⁵⁹⁶		
• 1840 Census: Deerfield, Portage, Ohio. Age 10-15. 00000001/111001 ¹⁶¹²		
• 1850 Census: Deerfield, Portage, Ohio. Age 20, b OH. Married to Almon Wright. Living adjacent to father, Sanford Williams. ¹⁶¹⁷		
• 1860 Census: Kenockee, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 28, b OH. ¹⁶⁵¹		
• 1870 Census: Marysville, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 40, b OH. ⁴⁶³²		
• 1880 Census: St. Clair, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 50, b OH. Father b VT; mother b PA. ³⁴⁷⁴		
• 1894 Michigan Census: St. Clair Township, Michigan. Age 64, b OH. Father b VT; mother b PA. ⁵⁴⁷⁵		
• 1900 Census: St. Clair Township, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 69, b Jun 1830, OH. Head. Father b ME; mother b PA. Living alone, but near Reuben Mills family. ⁴⁶³⁰		
• 1910 Census: St. Clair, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 79, b OH. Widow. Father b VT; mother b PA. Mother of 2 children, 1 living. Living in household of son, Warren Wright. ⁵⁴⁸²		
Marriage	8 Nov 1866	Marysville, St. Clair, Michigan ^{1133, p 6; marriage only, 1143, p 14, 7608, p 2; date only}
No Children		
Sources		
4. Barnabas Mills of Nova Scotia and Mosa Township, Ontario , Author: by Robert A. Jones of Kingston, Ontario, Date: October 1988, Other surname(s): Simpson; Nelson; Daniels; Mills; Innis; Merrifield; Edwards.		
• One of the best pieces of genealogical research, both for content and form; completely unsolicited.		
Files (8): 4.Cover.jpg, 4.1.jpg, 4.2.jpg, 4.3.jpg, 4.4.jpg, 4.5.jpg, 4.6.jpg, 4.7.jpg		
11. Jerralds Family Bible , Date: printed Edinburgh, 1734, Submitter: received from M. John Fox of Meadville, PA, Date: 12 Jul 1991, Other surname(s): Williams; Roundy; Townsend; Hale.		
Files (5): 11.Title.jpg, 11.1.jpg, 11.2.jpg, 11.3.jpg, 11.4.jpg		
29. History of St. Clair County, Michigan , Publisher: A. T. Andreas & Co., Chicago, Date: 1883, Document Location: St. Clair County Library, Port Huron, MI, Date: 8 Jun 1989, Other surname(s): Gallagher; Williams; Mills; McMorran; Kimball; Ward; Geel; Harsen; Coddington.		
Files (22): 29.Title.jpg, 29.253.jpg, 29.255.jpg, 29.317.jpg, 29.372.jpg, 29.425.jpeg, 29.463.jpeg, 29.487.jpeg, 29.546.jpeg, 29.547.jpeg, 29.572.jpeg, 29.581.jpeg, 29.586.jpg, 29.604.jpg, 29.637.jpeg, 29.638.jpeg, 29.685.jpg, 29.687.jpg, 29.688.jpg, 29.689.jpg, 29.886.jpg, 29.887.jpg		
175. FGR of Barnabas Mills & Margaret Ann Nelson , Submitter: unknown compiler, Date: Sep 1987, Document Location: photocopy received from Helen Whiting, Marysville, MI, Other surname(s): Nelson.		
• Gives Barnabas's parents as Daniel Mills and wife		
File: 175.jpg		
179. FGR of Barnabas Mills & Margaret Ann Nelson , Author: compiled by M. John Fox, Meadville, PA, Date: received 12 Jul 1991, Other surname(s): Williams.		
File: 179.jpg		
340. Lakeside Cemetery Records , Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan, Submitter: Cemetery computer browse by name of buried, Date: June 1989, URL: https://porthuron.org/government/departments/city_clerk/cemetery/index.php , Other surname(s): Cameron; Griffith; Mann; Mills; Williams; Wright.		
Files (6): 340.1.jpg, 340.2.jpg, 340.3.jpg, 340.4.jpg, 340.5.jpg, 340.6.png		
1128. Mills' Estate; Will of Nelson Mills Was Filed Today , Publisher: <i>unknown newspaper</i> , Date: June 1989.		
File: 1128.jpg		
1133. Abstracts of Land Records and Estates, 1812-1909 , St. Clair County, Michigan, Document Location: Marysville Historical Museum, 5 Jun 1989, Other surname(s): Williams.		
Files (7): 1133.1.jpg, 1133.2.jpg, 1133.3.jpg, 1133.4.jpg, 1133.5.jpg, 1133.6.jpg, 1133.7.jpg		
1135. Legal Abstracts , St. Clair County, Michigan, Document Location: Marysville Historical Museum, 5 Jun 1989, Other surname(s): Williams; Mills.		
Files (2): 1135.50.jpg, 1135.51.jpg		
1139. Letter from Myron Williams Mills to Detroit law firm , Subject: <i>re: organizing a corporation to continue the business of N. & B. Mills</i> , Date: 17 Aug 1905.		
Files (2): 1139.1.jpg, 1139.2.jpg		

Name	Barney MILLS, 1169
Sources (Continued)	
1143. Early Marriages of St. Clair County , Submitter: compiled by St. Clair County Family History Workshop, Document Location: St. Clair County Library, Port Huron, Michigan, Other surname(s): Carey; Lamphere; McDonald; Williams.	
Files (2): 1143.Title.jpg, 1143.1.png	
1153. Notes of Monument Readings , Author: by David W. Mills, Lakeside Cemetery, Port Huron, Michigan, Date: 5 Jun 1989, Other surname(s): Williams; James; Nelson; Rowe.	
Files (3): 1153.1.jpg, 1153.2.jpg, 1153.3.jpg	
1440. FGR of ___?___ Wright & Mary Melissa Williams , Author: received from M. John Fox, Date: 12 Jul 1991.	
File: 1440.jpg	
1596. 1830 Census , Deerfield, Portage county, Ohio, Page(s): 207, Other surname(s): Hudson; Williams.	
File: 1596.jpeg	
1612. 1840 Census , Deerfield, Portage county, Ohio, Other surname(s): Williams; Hudson.	
File: 1612.jpg	
1615. 1842 Canada Census , Mosa twp., London District, Ontario, Document Location: SL film #281227; West LA FHL, 11 Mar 1989, Other surname(s): Mills.	
File: 1615.jpg	
1617. 1850 Census , Deerfield, Portage, Ohio, Date: 26 Sep 1850, Page(s): 201, Document Location: West LA FHL, 5 Nov 1993, Other surname(s): Wright; Hudson; Williams.	
File: 1617.jpg	
1647. 1851 Canada Census , Mosa township, Middlesex county, Ontario, Page(s): 53, Document Location: SL film #0349223, Scan/Download Date: 31 Mar 2023, Other surname(s): Mills; Nelson.	
File: 1647.jpg	
1651. 1860 Census , Kenockee, St. Clair, Michigan, Date: 16 Aug 1860, Page(s): 282, Date: 13 Apr 2021, Other surname(s): Williams; Wright.	
File: 1651.jpg	
1752. 1900 Census , Mills Twp, Ogemaw County, Michigan, Date: 19/20 Jun 1900, Page(s): ED 133, Sheet 7, Other surname(s): Mills.	
File: 1752.jpg	
2377. Mosa Township 1851/1852 Census , Page(s): 7 of 11, Publisher: <i>as of 11 January 1852; age is next birthday</i> , Date: 1 Jun 2000.	
File: 2377.7.jpeg	
3402. 100 Years , Page(s): 59, Submitter: digital image received 29 Aug 2002 from Grace Dooley, Ogemaw County, MI, Document Location: originally found on web site: "Families of Ogemaw", Other surname(s): Mills.	
File: 3402.jpg	
3403. Shanty Boys , Submitter: digital images received from Grace Dooley, Ogemaw County, 29 Aug 2002, Document Location: originally found on website: "Families of Ogemaw", Other surname(s): Mills.	
Files (3): 3403.09.jpg, 3403.16.jpg, 3403.31.jpg	
3474. 1880 Census , St. Clair, St. Clair, Michigan, Page(s): 451B, Date: 5 Nov 2002, Other surname(s): Williams; Mills.	
File: 3474.jpeg	
4630. 1900 Census , St. Clair Township, St. Clair, Michigan, Date: 25 Jun 1900, Page(s): ED 111; Sheet 15A, Date: 26 Feb 2005, Other surname(s): Mills; Davis; Carey.	
File: 4630.jpg	
4632. 1870 Census , Marysville, St. Clair, Michigan, Page(s): 422, Date: 26 Feb 2005, Other surname(s): Mills; Williams.	
File: 4632.jpeg	
5475. 1894 Michigan Census , St. Clair Township, Date: 28 Nov 2006, Other surname(s): Balmer; Mills; Williams.	
File: 5475.jpeg	
5482. 1910 Census , St. Clair, St. Clair, Michigan, Date: 4 May 1910, Page(s): ED 124, Sheet 10A, Date: 29 Nov 2006, Other surname(s): Wright; Williams.	
File: 5482.png	
6119. E-mail from Lugene Daniels , Ogemaw County, MI, Date: 13 Sep 2008, Other surname(s): Mills.	
Files (2): 6119.1.jpg, 6119.2.jpg	
6120. Plat Map of Richland Township , Ogemaw County, Michigan, Date: 1903.	
• Multiple instances of ownership by N & B Mills, B. Mills, and a John B. Mills. Perhaps John Edgar Mills?	
File: 6120.jpg	
6146. Prescott Community in Pioneer History , Author: by Ervadeen Hosbach, Date: undated, Document Location: Mills Library.	
• 42 pages	
Files (5): 6146.Title.jpg, 6146.3.jpg, 6146.4.jpg, 6146.9.jpg, 6146.28.jpg	
6147. Barney Mills , Author: Email from Lugene Daniels, Whittemore, MI, Date: 18 Sep 2008.	
File: 6147.jpg	
7065. Letter to Barney Mills from N. & B. Mills , Date: 22 Apr 1905, Document Location: Marysville Historical Museum, Date: Jun 1989.	
• note: letter dated two months before his death	
File: 7065.jpg	
7608. Almon D. Wright Death , Publisher: <i>FindAGrave</i> , Date: 28 Apr 1862, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Date: 13 Apr 2021, Other surname(s): Williams.	

Name	Barney MILLS, 1169
-------------	---------------------------

Sources (Continued)

• 7608.2 is Claim for Minor's Pension on behalf of Francis W. Wright
Files (2): 7608.1.png, 7608.2.png



	by Dave Mills; davemillsaz@icloud.com
--	---------------------------------------