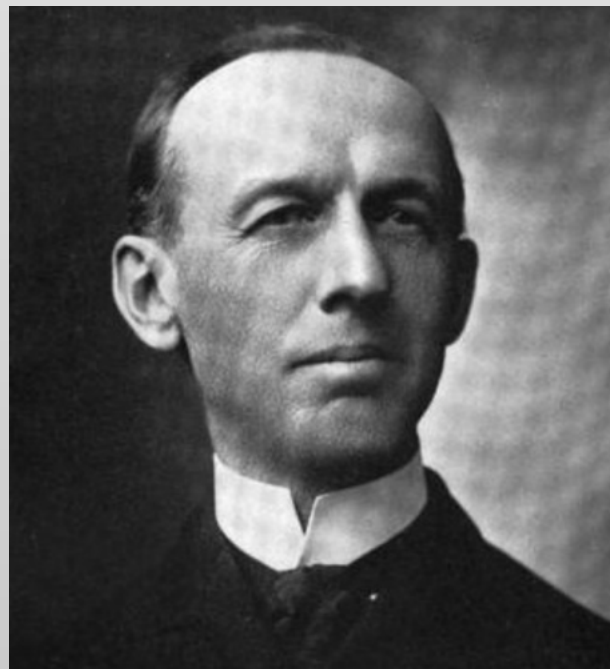


**This website is one of a series dedicated to the  
Pioneers of St. Clair County, Michigan.**

# **Hon. Henry Gordon McMorran**

**of Port Huron, Michigan**



**You are welcome to offer corrections and to make suggestions for additional  
information and/or notes.**

**All sources are scanned. Please email author to request source images.**

**by Dave Mills; 18 May 2025; [davemillsaz@icloud.com](mailto:davemillsaz@icloud.com)**

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## Hon. Henry Gordon McMORRAN

### Hon. Henry Gordon McMORRAN - Source

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Birth: 11 Jun 1844, Port Huron, St. Clair,  
Michigan<sup>29,1058,1059,7457</sup>

Death: 19 Jul 1929, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1057,7401</sup>

Burial: Lakeside Cemetery, Port Huron, St. Clair,  
Michigan<sup>1058</sup>

Occupation: Industrialist: railroads, milling, newspapers, motor  
cars, ferry company<sup>1057</sup>

Father: **Robert William MACMORRAN** - Father (25 Dec  
1816-1855)

Mother: **Isabella KEWLEY** - Mother (13 Nov 1823-22 Apr 1909)



Hon. Henry Gordon

- Son of Robert William and Isabella (Kewley) McMorran.<sup>29</sup>
- Little is to be said of Mr. McMorran's honorable career, which is now in its zenith. He has enjoyed, is enjoying and will continue to enjoy the confidence and respect of the people of his city. The citizens of Port Huron have repeatedly shown their appreciation of his untiring industry and sterling integrity, and there is every reason to feel that there will be no departure from the confidence they have always shown. His executive ability is of a high order. Both in his official and in his private life, Mr. McMorran deserves and has the highest esteem of his fellow men.<sup>29</sup>
- 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.<sup>29</sup>
- He was elected as a Republican to the fifty-eighth Congress. He was reelected and served five consecutive terms from March 4, 1903 to March 3, 1913. He was not a candidate in 1912.  
Speaker of the House Joseph G. Cannon publicly commended Mr. McMorran for his service to the nation. He credited the Port Huron industrialist with saving the country large sums of money by closely watching government expenditures.<sup>1057</sup>
- McMorran, Henry Gordon, a Representative from Michigan; born in Port Huron, Mich., June 11, 1844; attended the Crawford Private School; engaged in the wholesale grocery business in 1865 and also in the milling, grain, and elevator business; member of the board

of aldermen in 1867; city manager of Port Huron in 1875; general manager of the Port Huron & Northwestern Railway 1878-1889; member of the State canal commission; elected as a Republican to the Fifty-eighth and to the four succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1903-March 3, 1913); chairman, Committee on Manufactures (Sixtieth and Sixty-first Congresses); was not a candidate for renomination in 1912; engaged in numerous business enterprises at Port Huron, Mich.; organized the Great Lakes Foundry Co., serving as its president; died in Port Huron, Mich., July 19, 1929; interment in Lakeside Cemetery.<sup>2353</sup>

Census: • 1850 Census: Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 6, b Michigan.<sup>7460</sup>

• 1880 Census: Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 35, b MI. Mill owner. Father b Scotland; mother b Isle of Man.<sup>3481</sup>

Spouse: **Emma Caroline WILLIAMS**

Marriage: 29 Oct 1866, Marysville, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>12,29,143,1135</sup>

Memo: Rev. William H. Shier

Birth: 19 Dec 1845, Marine City, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>12,1059,7401</sup>

Death: 17 Sep 1917, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1059</sup>

Death: 22 Sep 1917<sup>7401</sup>

Death: 22 Sep 1919, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1401</sup>

Burial: Lakeside Cemetery, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1062</sup>

Father: **Miron Pease WILLIAMS**<sup>11,1424</sup> (6 Jun 1813-27 Jun 1884)

Mother: **Mary Margaret GALLAGHER** (4 Jan 1817-6 Jul 1883)



Emma Caroline

Census: • 1850 Census: St. Clair, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 4, b MI.<sup>1637</sup>

• 1860 Census: Vicksburg, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 14, b MI.<sup>1661</sup>

• 1880 Census: Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 34, b MI. Father b VT; mother b NY.<sup>3481</sup>

5 Children...

- i. **Mary Isabell** - Daughter (Died as Child) (23 Aug 1867-16 Mar 1873)
- ii. **David Williams** - Son (3 Dec 1870-8 Jan 1945)
- iii. **Emma Josephine** - Daughter (24 Mar 1873-1960)
- iv. **Clara Erma** - Daughter (2 Mar 1875-1958)
- v. **Charles Frederick** - Son (Died as Child) (25 Nov 1879-22 Jul 1882)

Marriage Notes: • Marriage witnessed by Henry Batchelor & Hannah Williams.<sup>143</sup>

## Descendants

**Mary Isabell McMORRAN**<sup>1060</sup> - Daughter

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Birth: 23 Aug 1867, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1062</sup>  
Death: 16 Mar 1873, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1062</sup>  
Father: **Hon. Henry Gordon McMORRAN** - Source (11 Jun 1844-19 Jul 1929)  
Mother: **Emma Caroline WILLIAMS**<sup>1133</sup> (19 Dec 1845-17 Sep 1917)

**David Williams McMORRAN** - Son

---

Birth: 3 Dec 1870, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1059,1063</sup>  
Death: 8 Jan 1945, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1060,1062,1063</sup>  
Burial: Lakeside Cemetery, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1063</sup>  
Occupation: President, Heinr-Franck Sons, Inc.<sup>1059</sup>  
Education1: BS, Univ. of Michigan, 1892<sup>1059</sup>  
Father: **Hon. Henry Gordon McMORRAN** - Source (11 Jun 1844-19 Jul 1929)  
Mother: **Emma Caroline WILLIAMS**<sup>1133</sup> (19 Dec 1845-17 Sep 1917)



David Williams

• Engaged in the milling business with his father.<sup>29</sup>

Census: • 1880 Census: Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 9, b MI.<sup>3481</sup>

Spouse: **Charlotte Cheney HOLDEN**  
Marriage: 16 Dec 1899, Chicago, Cook, Illinois<sup>1059</sup>  
Birth: 25 Jul 1877, Chicago, Cook, Illinois<sup>1059,1063</sup>  
Death: 14 Jun 1951, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1062,1063</sup>  
Burial: Lakeside Cemetery, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1063</sup>  
Father: **Charles Newton HOLDEN Jr.**<sup>1069</sup> (25 Jul 1852-13 Jul 1903)  
Mother: **Charlotte Louise CHENEY**<sup>1069</sup> (30 May 1854-29 Oct 1929)

2 Children...

- i. **Charlotte Cheney** - Granddaughter (11 Dec 1900-2 Jun 1991)
- ii. **Henry Gordon II** - Grandson (13 Aug 1903-2 Mar 1975)

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**Emma Josephine McMORRAN**<sup>1059</sup> - Daughter

---

Birth: 24 Mar 1873, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1062</sup>  
Death: 1960, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1062</sup>  
Father: **Hon. Henry Gordon McMORRAN** - Source (11 Jun 1844-19 Jul 1929)  
Mother: **Emma Caroline WILLIAMS**<sup>1133</sup> (19 Dec 1845-17 Sep 1917)

• Recipient of letter from Samuel A. Lane.<sup>1418</sup>

• ...who lives at home with her father.<sup>29</sup>

Census: • 1880 Census: Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 7, b MI. Parents b MI.<sup>3481</sup>

Spouse: **Andrew J. MURPHY**  
Death: Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1062</sup>

No Children

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**Clara Erma McMORRAN**<sup>1059</sup> - Daughter

---

Birth: 2 Mar 1875, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1062</sup>  
Death: 1958, Detroit, Wayne, Michigan<sup>1062</sup>  
Father: **Hon. Henry Gordon McMORRAN** - Source (11 Jun 1844-19 Jul 1929)  
Mother: **Emma Caroline WILLIAMS**<sup>1133</sup> (19 Dec 1845-17 Sep 1917)

Census: • 1880 Census: Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 5, b MI. Parents b MI.<sup>3481</sup>

Spouse: **Norman McKENZIE**

• "of Regina, Saskatchewan."<sup>29</sup>

No Children

Family Notes: • No children.<sup>1062</sup>

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**Charles Frederick McMORRAN**<sup>1060</sup> - Son

---

Birth: 25 Nov 1879, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1062</sup>  
Death: 22 Jul 1882<sup>12</sup>  
Death: 23 Jul 1882, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1062</sup>  
Father: **Hon. Henry Gordon McMORRAN** - Source (11 Jun 1844-19 Jul 1929)  
Mother: **Emma Caroline WILLIAMS**<sup>1133</sup> (19 Dec 1845-17 Sep 1917)

Census: • 1880 Census: Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 6 months, b MI. Parents b MI.

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Listed as Frederick.<sup>3481</sup>

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**Charlotte Cheney McMORRAN - Granddaughter**

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Birth: 11 Dec 1900, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1059,1063</sup>  
Death: 2 Jun 1991, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1063,1394</sup>  
Education1: Pine Manor Junior College (Wellesley, Mass.) and The Liggett School (Detroit)<sup>1059</sup>  
Father: **David Williams McMORRAN - Son** (3 Dec 1870-8 Jan 1945)  
Mother: **Charlotte Cheney HOLDEN** (25 Jul 1877-14 Jun 1951)

• Much of the information that we have was given to us by Todd's Aunt Charlotte (Chotty) McMorran -- who died on 2 June 1991. She had done much work back in the 50's as her aunt and father from the 90's through the 30's. Virtually nothing that she gave us is documented, which necessitated doing a lot of it over again. Chotty was a wonderfully bright and intelligent woman, but was a hypochondriac who became a virtual recluse. We had not seen her for about 10 years. We excited her too much and she always suffered a decline after our visits. So she simply put a stop to them. She left the contents of her house to Todd. There is much to be sifted through and we only had a limited amount of time to assess what was there. Much of it is in storage in Port Huron until we can make arrangements to bring it to Meadville. From our cursory look through family papers, the most valuable material seems to be the hundreds of photographs we discovered. As one might expect, many, many are unidentified. There are a few 'Mills' photos that are identified (most had to be left in Port Huron).<sup>1394</sup>

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**Henry Gordon McMORRAN II - Grandson**

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Birth: 13 Aug 1903, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1059</sup>  
Death: 2 Mar 1975, Ft. Gratiot Township, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1063</sup>  
Burial: Lakeside Cemetery, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1061</sup>  
Occupation: Pres., E. B. Mueller Co., Port Huron<sup>1059</sup>  
Education1: Philips Exeter Academy; BA, Princeton University, 1925; MA, Architecture, Princeton, 1927<sup>1059,1061</sup>  
Father: **David Williams McMORRAN - Son** (3 Dec 1870-8 Jan 1945)  
Mother: **Charlotte Cheney HOLDEN** (25 Jul 1877-14 Jun 1951)  
Spouse: **Jean Stewart WESTON**  
Marriage: 9 Mar 1940, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1061</sup>  
Birth: 12 Jan 1919, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1064</sup>

Father: **Dr. Loy Albin WESTON**<sup>1069</sup> (4 Oct 1891-15 May 1939)

Mother: **Kate STEWART**<sup>1069</sup> (22 May 1894-aft 1980)

4 Children...

- i. **(Living, Male)** - G Grandson
- ii. **(Living, Male)** - G Grandson
- iii. **(Living, Male)** - G Grandson
- iv. **(Living, Female)** - G Granddaughter

## Ancestors

### Robert William MACMORRAN - Father

---

Birth: 25 Dec 1816, Glaspin, Lanarkshire, Scotland<sup>1059,1070</sup>  
Memo: near Douglas  
Immigration: Feb 1823, Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina<sup>7461</sup>  
Death: 1855, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1059,2453,7401</sup>  
Burial: Port Huron Cemetery, Port Huron, Michigan<sup>29</sup>  
Occupation: tailor<sup>29</sup>  
Father: **Hugh MACMORRAN**<sup>2453</sup> - **Grandfather** (abt 1782-abt 1 Sep 1824)  
Mother: **Jean GORDON**<sup>1070,7401</sup> - **Grandmother** (abt 1783-)

- Are Thomas McMorran and Robert McMorran brothers? My guess is if they are brothers, they are half-brothers and here is why.<sup>7455</sup>

- He emigrated to America when 21 years of age, and settled in Port Huron, Mich.<sup>1059</sup>

- Robert William MacMorran: b. Dec 25, 1816 d. 1855. After his return to Scotland he ran away back to America but being under age his family brought him back to Edinburgh. However, as soon as he was of age he again sailed for America and lived for a time in New York, then came to Port Huron, Mich., where he imported fine woolens for the tailors from England and Scotland. He had a sun stroke a year before his death and in his delirium destroyed all family records."<sup>7455</sup>

- According to their marriage certificate, Robert and Isabella McMorran were married in Port Huron, Michigan on the 25th of December 1842 (Exhibit E(4)). At the time of his marriage Robert was 23 and Isabella was 18. This recorded document provides proof Robert was most likely born in 1819 and not 1816. If Robert had been born in 1816, he would have been 26 on his wedding day, not 23.<sup>7455</sup>

Census: • 1850 Census: Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 32, b Ireland [sic]. Tailor.<sup>7460</sup>

Spouse: **Isabella KEWLEY** - **Mother**  
Marriage: 25 Dec 1841, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1062,1070,7401</sup>  
Birth: 13 Nov 1823, Klaineth Mooar, Isle of Man<sup>1059,1070</sup>  
Death: 22 Apr 1909, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan<sup>1070</sup>  
Burial: Port Huron Cemetery, Port Huron, Michigan<sup>29</sup>  
Father: **William KEWLEY**<sup>1070</sup> - **Grandfather** (abt 1780-Jul 1856)  
Mother: **Ann CARMOND**<sup>1070</sup> - **Grandmother** (abt 1783-1858)

Census: • 1850 Census: Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 26, b Isle of Man.<sup>7460</sup>

2 Children...

- i. **Hon. Henry Gordon McMORRAN** - **Source** (11 Jun 1844-19 Jul 1929)
- ii. **Anna** - **Sister** (abt 1846-)

**Isabella KEWLEY** - **spouses...**

Spouse: **Robert William MACMORRAN** - **Father** (See above)  
2 Children

Spouse: **John CHASE**

**Hugh MACMORRAN**<sup>2453</sup> - **Grandfather**

---

Birth: abt 1782, Douglas, Lanarkshire, Scotland<sup>1059</sup>  
Memo: near Douglas  
Death: abt 1 Sep 1824, Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina<sup>7402</sup>  
Memo: aged 42  
Occupation: Farmer<sup>7402</sup>

• Hugh MacMorran: An owner of woolen mills in Lanark. Came to Charleston, S.C. where he died of yellow fever in 1821. His widow, Jean Gordon MacMorran returning to Edinburgh, Scotland (where she remarried) taking with her her son Robert William MacMorran.<sup>7455</sup>

Spouse: **Jean GORDON** - **Grandmother**  
Marriage: 14 Feb 1811, South Lieth, Midlothian, Scotland<sup>1070,7458</sup>  
Birth: abt 1783<sup>7461</sup>  
Memo: age 40 upon arrival in Charleston in 1823  
Immigration: 1823, Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina<sup>7461</sup>

• Hugh MacMorran married a Jane Finlay. This could be Jean or Jane. Her maiden name was Gordon. I found a marriage certificate for a Jean Gordon and Andrew Finlay on Ancestry who were married on Nov. 13, 1793, in Midlothian, Edinburgh (Exhibit E(1)). I found a Birth Certificate for a John Finlay born to Andrew Finlay and Jean Gordon with a birthdate of March 6, 1801 in Edinburgh (Exhibit E (2)). I believe John Finlay was Jean/Jane McMorran's son from her marriage to Andrew Findlay. His date of birth and his age on the ship manifest to South Carolina is about right.<sup>7455</sup>

2 Children...

- i. **Thomas McMORRAN** - Uncle (1807-12 Aug 1887)
- ii. **Robert William** - Father (25 Dec 1816-1855)

**Jean GORDON** - spouses...

Spouse: **Andrew FINLAY**

Marriage: 13 Nov 1793, Edinburgh, Scotland<sup>1070,7455,7459</sup>

1 Child...

- i. **John** - Half Uncle (6 Mar 1801-)

Spouse: **Hugh MACMORRAN** - Grandfather (See above)

2 Children

**William KEWLEY**<sup>1070</sup> - Grandfather

---

Birth: abt 1780, Isle of Man, Great Britain

Death: Jul 1856, Sarnia, Lambton, Ontario, Canada

Spouse: **Ann CARMOND** - Grandmother

Birth: abt 1783, Isle of Man, Great Britain

Death: 1858, Sarnia, Lambton, Ontario, Canada

1 Child...

- i. **Isabella** - Mother (13 Nov 1823-22 Apr 1909)

## Siblings

**Anna MACMORRAN**<sup>1371</sup> - Sister

---

Birth: abt 1846, Michigan<sup>7460</sup>

Father: **Robert William MACMORRAN** - Father (25 Dec 1816-1855)

Mother: **Isabella KEWLEY** - Mother (13 Nov 1823-22 Apr 1909)

Census: • 1850 Census: Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan. Age 4, b Michigan.<sup>7460</sup>

Spouse: **Gottlieb C. MEISEL**

1 Child...

i. **Robert McMorran** - Nephew

## Nieces and Nephews

**Robert McMorran MEISEL**<sup>1371</sup> - Nephew

---

Father: **Gottlieb C. MEISEL**<sup>1371</sup>

Mother: **Anna MACMORRAN**<sup>1371</sup> - Sister (abt 1846-)

Spouse: **Grace Loretta GRAVES**

Father: **Albert A. GRAVES**<sup>1371</sup> (abt 1851-)

Mother: **Susan Sylvia WESTCOTT**<sup>1371</sup> (abt 1854-)

1 Child...

- i. **Eleanor Susie GRAVES** - Grandniece

## Aunts and Uncles

**Thomas McMORRAN**<sup>2453</sup> - Uncle

---

Birth: 1807, County Armagh, Ireland<sup>7456</sup>  
Death: 12 Aug 1887, Goodland Twp, Lapeer, Michigan<sup>7456</sup>  
Father: **Hugh MACMORRAN**<sup>2453</sup> - Grandfather (abt 1782-abt 1 Sep 1824)  
Mother: **Jean GORDON**<sup>1070,7401</sup> - Grandmother (abt 1783-)

• Are Thomas McMorran and Robert McMorran brothers? My guess is if they are brothers, they are half-brothers and here is why.<sup>7455</sup>

Spouse: **Martha Jane DOUGAN**

5 Children...

- i. **William** - 1st Cousin (1839-12 Sep 1914)
- ii. **Isabella** - 1st Cousin (1844-16 Jun 1927)
- iii. **John** - 1st Cousin (1845-6 Apr 1920)
- iv. **Mary** - 1st Cousin (10 May 1853-1901)
- v. **George T.** - 1st Cousin (15 Oct 1859-18 Aug 1910)

**John FINLAY** - Half Uncle

---

Birth: 6 Mar 1801, Edinburgh, Scotland<sup>7455</sup>  
Immigration: Feb 1823, Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina<sup>7461</sup>  
Father: **Andrew FINLAY**<sup>1070</sup>  
Mother: **Jean GORDON**<sup>1070,7401</sup> - Grandmother (abt 1783-)



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- 1401. FGR of Miron Williams & Mary Margaret Gallagher**, Submitter: received from M. John Fox, Date: 12 Jul 1991, Other surname(s): *Kimball; McMorran; Mills; Neal*.
- 1418. Letter from Samuel A. Lane of Akron, Ohio to Miss Emma J. McMorran of Port Huron**, Date: 2 Sep 1899, Document Location: received 12 Jul 1991 from M. John Fox of Meadville, PA, Other surname(s): *McMorran*.
- 1424. Pedigree Chart from Emma Caroline Williams, b 1845**, Submitter: as modified by M. John Fox of Meadville, PA from work of DWM, Date: received 12 Jul 1991, Other surname(s): *Gallagher*.
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- 2453. The McMorrans of Michigan, USA**, Author: by Marcel Safier, Annerley, Queensland, Australia, Date: 24 Aug 2000, Other surname(s): *Dougan; Ingram; MacMorran*.
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- 7401. Pedigree Chart from David Williams MacMorran**, Author: see note below, Date: received 12 March 2020 from Brenda Williams, Other surname(s): *Williams; McMorran; Kewley; Gordon*.
- Pamela Fox dropped it off there (Port Huron Museum) from Charlotte McMorran's paperwork on the family tree.
- 7402. Return of Deaths in the City of Charleston 1824**, Document Location: from Brenda Williams, Date: received 12 Mar 2020, Other surname(s): *MacMorran; McMorran*.
- 7455. Hugh McMorran Family Tree**, Author: by Brenda Williams, Submitter: forwarded by author, March 2020, Other surname(s): *MacMorran; Gordon; Finlay*.
- 7456. Descendants of Thomas McMorran**, Publisher: *Lynn-Nolin User Trees*, Date: received from Brenda Williams, March 2020, URL: <https://tappingroots.com>.
- 7457. Passport Application of Henry Gordon McMorran**, Date: 17 Jan 1900, Document Location: <https://tappingroots.com/2020/06/01/mcmorrans-european-excursion-is-no-smallpox/#more-1310>, Date: 22 Aug 2020.
- 7458. Scotland, Select Marriages, 1561-1910**, Submitter: received from Brenda Williams, Dayton, OH, Date: March 2020, Other surname(s): *MacMorran; Gordon*.
- 7459. Marriage of Andrew Finlay & Jean Gordon**, Midlothian, Edinburgh Register of Marriages, 1751-1800, Submitter: from Brenda Williams, Dayton, OH, Date: received March 2020.
- 7460. 1850 Census**, Port Huron, St. Clair, Michigan, Date: 16 Jul 1850, Document Location: received from Brenda Williams, Dayton, OH, Date: March 2020, Other surname(s):

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*MacMorran; McMorran.*

- 7461. Ship's Manifest: Vessels Arriving at Charleston, SC**, Date: February 1823, Submitter: received from Brenda Williams, Dayton, OH, March 2020, Other surname(s): *McMorran*.

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