

## James Brownfield (Jnr.)

(i). JAMES BROWNFIELD (Jnr.) was the eldest child of James Brownfield and Jane Munyard. He was born in Greenwich on August 29, 1823<sup>1</sup> and christened in St Alphege's on September 29.<sup>th</sup> James married SARAH JAMES on August 8, 1844 in Saint Peter's, Stepney.<sup>2</sup>

James was bound as an apprentice waterman to his father, on November 7, 1837 and completed his time on February 13, 1845. The Waterman and Lighterman's Company awarded him his freedom on December 11, 1845.<sup>3</sup>

On October 24, 1848, the Corporation of Trinity House granted James Brownfield, the younger, a pilot's warrant.<sup>4</sup>

Licence Number: 734  
 Residence: Marlboro' Place, Greenwich.  
 Qualification: "From London Bridge to Gravesend and back again to London Bridge".  
 Description: "5 feet 7 Ins high, fair complexion, brown hair"

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of October 1851, he was re-examined and certified:  
 "For Vessels above 14 feet Draft of Water."

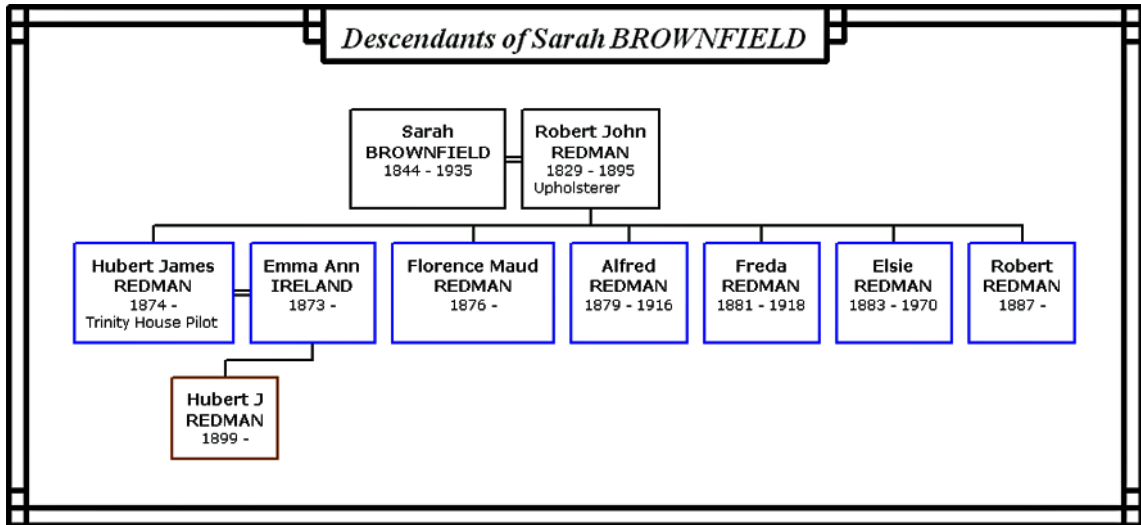
James and his family moved from Greenwich to Gravesend between 1847 and 1849.<sup>5</sup> They were living at 3 New Street in 1851<sup>6</sup> and at 60 Wellington Street in 1861<sup>7</sup> when James is recorded aged 37, a river pilot, living with his wife Jane aged 35 and their children Alice(13), Arthur(11), Helena(10), Douglas(8), Clarissa(6) and Mathew(4). Sarah Jenkins a servant aged 16 was also in the house. The family moved to 58, Parrock Street in August 1867<sup>8</sup>. Sarah James died between January and March 1868 just after the birth of their 14<sup>th</sup> child.<sup>9</sup>

James Brownfield was married for a second time on November 21, 1877<sup>10</sup> to SOPHIA ROXBERRY, who was born about 1846 and was 22 years younger than James.<sup>11</sup> In 1881 James and Sophia were still living at 58 Parrock Street, Milton in Gravesend; present were:<sup>12</sup>

			<u>Marr.</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Born</u>
Jas. (Jnr.) Brownfield	Head	River Pilot	M	57	M	Greenwich
Sophia Brownfield	Wife		M	35	F	Gravesend
Harry Brownfield	Son	Waterman Apprentice	U	18	M	Gravesend
Florence Brownfield	Daughter		U	16	F	Gravesend
Edith Brownfield	Daughter	Scholar	U	13	F	Gravesend
Freda Brownfield	Daughter		U	1	F	Gravesend
Mary Kelly	General servant		U	24	F	Gravesend

James died at the age of 73 on July 2, 1897. In a report of his funeral in the Gravesend and Northfleet Standard on July 10, 1897, it records that 6 weeks before his death he had the distinction of being "the oldest acting pilot in the town when due to illness he had to relinquish his duties". He was buried in Gravesend Cemetery and his second wife Sophia and his last child, Elizabeth were eventually buried with him. In his will he left £4815 13s 4d.

JAMES BROWNFIELD and SARAH JAMES had fourteen children:



(i) SARAH BROWNFIELD was born on October 22, 1844 at Trafalgar Road, Greenwich and was christened on February 12, 1845 in St. Alphege's, Greenwich.<sup>13</sup> At the time of the 1861 census aged 16, she was staying with her Great Uncle Alfred Henry Munyard at his butchers shop in London Street, Greenwich.

Sarah married Robert John Redman on August 5<sup>th</sup> 1873 at Milton Gravesend.<sup>14</sup> Robert was the son of William Redman and Elizabeth Suters and had been born on 5 October 1829 at Dover, Kent.<sup>15</sup> He had already been married three times, to Mary Fuggle (1852– 1863), Charlotte Louisa Mc Toldridge (1865 – 1867) and Sarah Freeman (1870 – 1871). Robert and Mary Fuggle had four children, Agatha Ann, Robert J, Lydia A and William Samuel. Robert and Sarah Freeman had one child Sarah.<sup>16</sup>

Robert and Sarah were living at 110 High Street, Sevenoaks, when the 1881 census was taken. Robert aged 51, was an upholsterer, employing four men, and Sarah was 36. Also in the house were Sarah (10), Hubert J (6), Florence M (4), Alfred (2) and a servant Agnes J Castleden. Robert and Sarah had a further three children Freda, Elsie and Robert.

They were still living in High Street, Sevenoaks at Rose Cottage at the time of the 1891 census; at home were Robert and Sarah and five of their children, Florence, an apprentice milliner, Alfred, Freda, Elsie and Robert. Lily A Redman (21) a niece was also staying in the house. Robert died in July 1895.<sup>17</sup> By 1901 Sarah, a widow, had moved to 46 Cobham Street, Gravesend and was 'living on own means' with Freda, Robert and a servant Lily Saunders.<sup>18</sup>

Sarah died on 27 May 1935 at the age of 90 years.<sup>19</sup>

*Hubert James Redman* was the first child of Robert John Redman and Sarah Brownfield. He was born in 1874 at Sevenoaks, Kent.<sup>20</sup> In 1898 he married Emma Ann Ireland at Sevenoaks.<sup>21</sup> Emma had been born in 1873 at Boston, Lincolnshire.<sup>22</sup> In 1901 they were living at 23 Norfolk Road, Milton. The census states Hubert, a Trinity Pilot and Sarah were living with their son Hubert J aged 2. Emily Ireland (64) born Sheffield, Yorkshire was a visitor. Hubert died on 14 April 1916.<sup>23</sup>

(ii). JAMES ALFRED BROWNFIELD was christened on February 11, 1846 at St. Alphege's.<sup>24</sup>

(iii) ALICE BROWNFIELD was born 11 July 1847 at Marlboro' Place, Greenwich<sup>25</sup> and baptised on 8 September 1847 at St Alphege Church, Greenwich.<sup>26</sup> On July 9, 1979 she married Samuel Edwards at Christchurch, Milton<sup>27</sup> Samuel was a grocer and they lived at his shop at 161 Parrock Street.<sup>28</sup>

(iv). ARTHUR JOHN BROWNFIELD (see chart on next page) was born at 3, New Street, Gravesend, Kent on the 16<sup>th</sup> July 1849 and baptised on 15 August 1849 at St Alphege Church, Greenwich.<sup>29</sup> He travelled to Australia, where he married (aged 19) Ann Jane Burrows at the Independent Church, Wells Street, Sydney, New South Wales on April 20<sup>th</sup> 1869. Ann had been born on board ship on October 20<sup>th</sup> 1849 during a voyage to Australia. Arthur and Ann's daughter Amy, married Frank W. Mckinnon and founded the Mckinnon family in New South Wales.<sup>30</sup> Arthur and Ann had ten children.

However, Arthur John Brownfield was convicted with Lucy Machan for Bigamy in 1895. He received a 9 month hard labour sentence, suspended for a 12 months good behaviour bond, he was only 5 feet 2 inches. Bruce and his father were not tall either (approx 5'4"). The marriage was registered under John Brownfield to Lucy Goodman in 1894 at Sydney. Lucy was Lucy Josephine Machan, formerly Goodman, nee Keough (born 1857, Campbelltown, NSW).

Arthur John died on 9 May 1908 at Prince Alfred Hospital, Camperdown and is buried in the Church of England section of Rookwood Cemetery.<sup>31</sup> Ann lived for a further 17 years and died in 1925 at Ryde, NSW.<sup>32</sup>

*Alice Helena Brownfield* the second daughter of Arthur John Brownfield and Ann Jane Burrows was born in Sydney in 1873. She married Sydney John Woodman on 24 January 1890 at St Silas Church, Waterloo, NSW. Both Alice and Sydney died in 1945 at Marrickville, NSW.

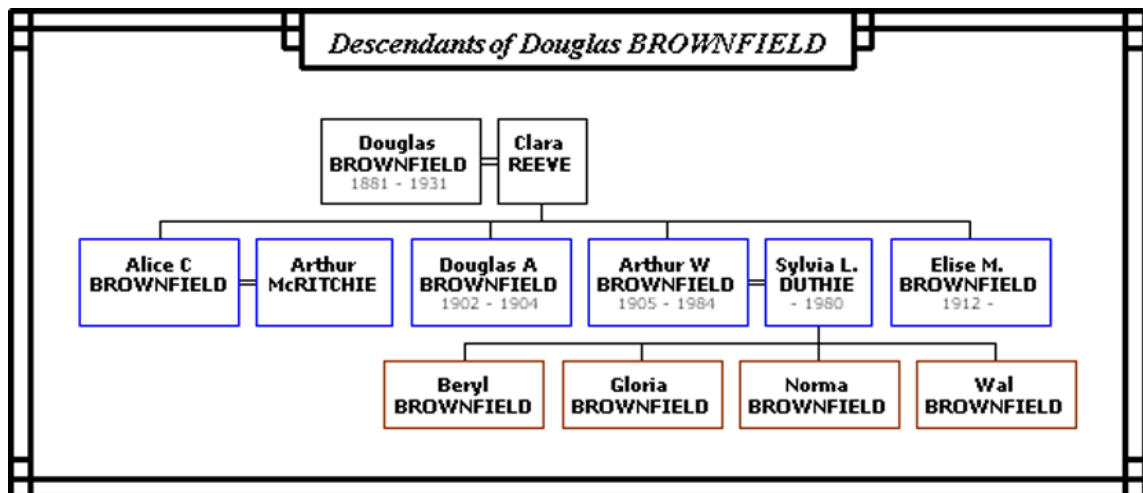
Sydney John Woodman & Alice Helena Brownfield had six children

Sydney J	1893 –
Myra C	1895 –
Gertrude A	1899 –
Muriel Elsie May	1903 – 1975
Cecil George Thomas	1905 – 1969
Eric Ronald	1913 – 1965

*Arthur Brownfield* the fourth child of Arthur John Brownfield and Ann Jane Burrows was born in 1876.

He was jailed 6 times from 1896 to 1900 for vagrancy. He died in 1922

*Amy Constance Brownfield* the fifth child of Arthur John Brownfield and Ann Jane Burrows, was born on 20 March 1879 at Marian Street, Red fern NSW. She married Frank William Louis McKinnon on 23 July 1895 at the Registry Office, Newtown NSW. During their married life they lived in Erskinville and Tempe. Frank was a pram maker. Frank died on 28 February 1941 and Amy married for the second time in 1944 at Marrickville to Trevor Lloyd Cameron. Amy died on 22 July 1962 at Balmain Hospital and is buried with her husband Frank McKinnon at Woronora Cemetery at Sutherland.



*Douglas Brownfield* the sixth child of Arthur John Brownfield and Ann Jane Burrows was born at Redfern in 1881. He married Clara Reeve in Sydney in 1899. Douglas served in the Boer War and WW1. He enlisted on 21 August 1914 for the Great War, and served with the 1<sup>st</sup> Light Horse Field Ambulance A Squadron as a Corporal. He was discharged on 13 April 1916. Douglas died in Sydney in 1931.

(v) HELENA BROWNFIELD was born between October and December 1850<sup>33</sup> but not christened until October 17<sup>th</sup>, 1852 in Holy Trinity Church, Milton By Gravesend, Kent.<sup>34</sup>

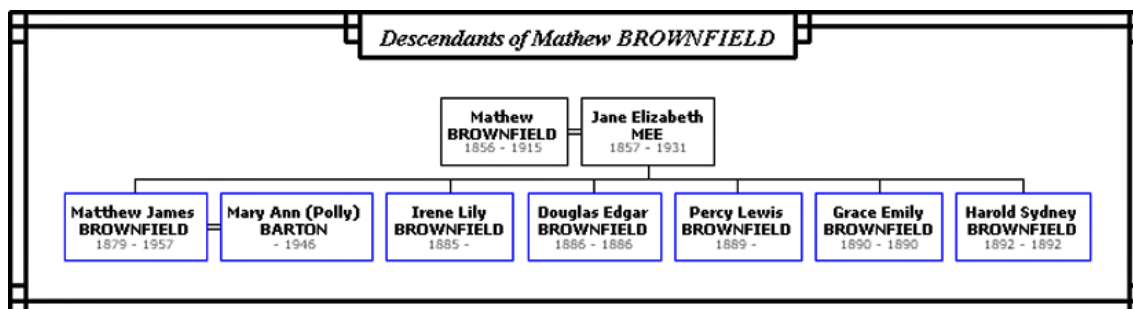
(vi) DOUGLAS BROWNFIELD was born in Gravesend between January and March 1853,<sup>35</sup> Douglas travelled to Sydney in NSW Australia in 1880 aboard the Somersetshire, he arrived on 20<sup>th</sup> February and was recorded as a ‘mariner’,<sup>36</sup> and in 1881 he arrived in Sydney on May 14<sup>th</sup> on board the Potasi<sup>37</sup>, when he was recorded on the passenger list. Douglas collapsed and died suddenly in May 1893 in Gravesend. In a report on the inquest, it states that he was a marine engineer aged 45, who had been home from the colonies for 6 years. He had been attended by a specialist for deafness and had seen his GP Dr. McFarland during January and February. The doctor had diagnosed and treated him for heart disease and at the inquest said he was not the least surprised at him dying in this sudden manner.<sup>38</sup>

(vii) CLARISSA BROWNFIELD born in Gravesend between October and December 1854.<sup>39</sup> She was christened on December 22, 1854 at Holy Trinity Church, Milton.<sup>40</sup> In 1871 she was still living with her parents at 58 Parrock Street at the age of 16, but had started work as a draper’s apprentice<sup>41</sup>. In 1881, when the census was recorded, Clarissa,

then aged 26 and unmarried, was staying with her Uncle, William James at 42, Westbourne Park Villas, Paddington, London. William James was aged 49 and lived with his wife Annie and their 9-year-old daughter Maud. William was a wine merchant.<sup>42</sup>

Clarissa married Arthur Ambrose Neale in 1883 at Kensington, London.<sup>43</sup> Arthur was born in Lambeth in 1853. Between 1884 and 1889 they had four children, Ethel, Alfred Gordon, Dorothy and Horace Arthur. The 1891 census records show that they were living at 2 Normandy Villa, Harrow, Middlesex; recorded are Arthur (38), a Commercial Clerk, his wife Clarissa (36) and the four children; they also had a domestic servant, Margaret E Caulter<sup>44</sup>.

By 1901 they had moved to “Deronda” Station Road, Wealdstone, Middlesex, with their children.<sup>45</sup>



(vii.) MATHEW BROWNFIELD was born between October and December 1856, at 32 The Terrace, Gravesend<sup>46</sup> and christened at Holy Trinity Church, Milton on January 28, 1857<sup>47</sup> He married Jane Elizabeth Mee on November 25, 1878 at the parish church, Milton next Gravesend. Jane was the daughter of Richard James Mee a pilot and Sarah Ann Mee who had been born in Greenwich in 1857. Jane was aged 21 when they married. After their marriage Mathew and Jane lived with Jane’s parents at 26 Prospect Street, Gravesend<sup>48</sup> but by 1881 they were at 1 Whitehall Place, Milton in Gravesend, with their 2 year old son Matthew Jame.<sup>49</sup> They had moved to 17 Wilfred Street, Gravesend by 1886<sup>50</sup> and in 1890 were living at 16 Wellington Street.<sup>51</sup> The 1891 census states Mathew was a marine engineer and they were residing at 34 Wellington Street, with their children, Matthew J(12), Irene L(5) and Percy L(1). By 1898 they had moved to 110 Wellington Street, Gravesend. The 1901 census records show they had again moved to 98 Wellington Street and it states Mathew was a ‘Tug Agent Nav. Shore’. Their two younger children Irene Lily and Percy Lewis were living with them and Matthew James, their only other surviving child, was master of a vessel moored at South Shields, Durham.



Mathew died August 3, 1915 at Bethenhampton in Dorset (The death was registered at Bridport)<sup>52</sup>. Probate was granted to his widow and Mathew James Brownfield, Sub Lieutenant Royal Naval Reserve. He left £8098 15s 10d.<sup>53</sup>

*Matthew James Brownfield* was the first child of Mathew Brownfield and Jane Elizabeth Mee. He was born in 1879 at 26 Prospect Place, Gravesend and baptised on 3 June 1879 at Holy Trinity Church, Milton. The 1901 census states Mathew was the master of the *Nubia*, a steam tug, moored at Durham. He married Mary Ann “Polly” Barton in 1906 at Gravesend. Polly was the daughter of George Henry Barton and Mary Ann Peill. In 1915 at the time of the death of his father, he was a Sub Lieutenant in the Royal Naval Reserve. Mathew and Polly had no children. Polly died on 1 November 1946 at Polar Star, Spa Esplanade, West Beach, Herne Bay, Kent. After Polly’s death, Mathew continued to live with his widowed sister-in-law at Herne Bay. He died on 24 September 1957 at Faversham.

(ix.) ADA BROWNFIELD was born December 7, 1858,<sup>54</sup> and died the following year on September 26th. She was buried at St George's Gravesend in consecrated part of Gravesend and Milton Cemetery on October 2, 1860.<sup>55</sup>

(x.) BERTHA BROWNFIELD was born on October 7, 1861<sup>56</sup> and christened at Christchurch, Milton<sup>57</sup> on October 30<sup>th</sup>. She died in June 1863. She was buried at St George's Gravesend in the consecrated part of Gravesend and Milton Cemetery on June 25.<sup>58</sup>

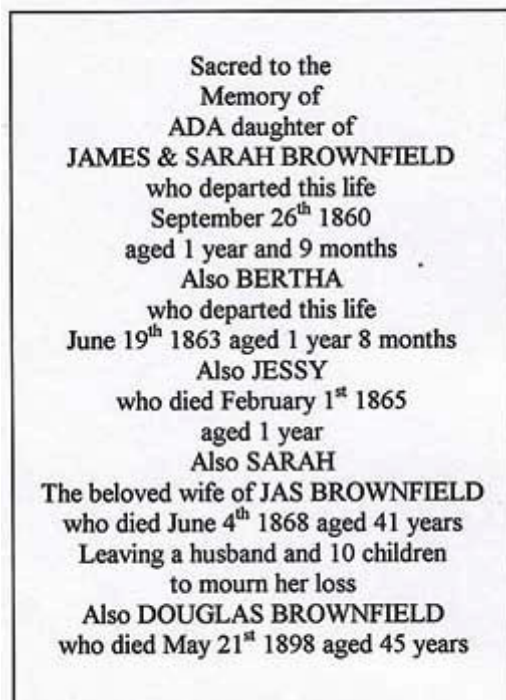
(xi.) HARRY BROWNFIELD was born October 7, 1862.<sup>59</sup> In 1881 he was still living with his parents and his occupation is given as an apprentice waterman.<sup>60</sup>

(xii.) JESSY BROWNFIELD was born February 20, 1864<sup>61</sup> and died aged 11 months. She was buried at St George's Gravesend in consecrated part of Gravesend and Milton Cemetery on February 7, 1865.<sup>62</sup>

(xiii.) FLORENCE BROWNFIELD who was born on February 26, 1865 at 58 Parrock Street, Gravesend.<sup>63</sup> She was baptised on 2 April 1865 at Christ Church, Milton, Gravesend.<sup>64</sup> Florence married Frederick Horace White on 26 October 1886 at Christ Church, Milton, Gravesend.<sup>65</sup> Frederick, a waterman, was the son of Frederick White.<sup>66</sup> The 1901 census states they were living at Milton with their children, Frederick (b.1889), Florence Jessie (b.1890), Douglas Neale (b.1895) and a servant Alice M White.

(xiv.) EDITH BROWNFIELD who was born on May 10, 1867<sup>67</sup> at 58 Parrock Street. In 1901 Edith was living with her Uncle Mathew at 171 East India Dock Road. When he died in 1908 she inherited his personal effects, shares and properties. At the age of 42 years, she married, and a notice in *The Times* on 29 June 1909 read:

*STONHAM: BROWNFIELD, on 26th inst., at St Marylebone Church, by Rev Cecil B Welland, Henry Archibald Stonham, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., to Edith niece of the late Dr Matthew Brownfield.*<sup>68</sup>



Henry had been a medical student at Westminster Hospital and was admitted as a member to the Royal College of Surgeons in 1891.<sup>69</sup> Edith died on 29 July 1911 aged 44 years, and a notice in *The Times* read:

*STONHAM, On the 29th July, at a nursing home, London, Edith the wife of Henry A Stonham, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H., and niece of the late Matthew Brownfield, M.R.C.S. Funeral from 85 Baker-street, W, at 10am, Thursday, Ilford Cemetery, 11.30am.*<sup>60</sup>

**Memorial Inscription in Gravesend Graveyard**

James Brownfield and his second wife Sophia had two daughters:

(i) FREDA BROWNFIELD who was born February 23, 1880<sup>70</sup>. Freda emigrated to Canada and lived in Innisfall, Alberta.<sup>71</sup>

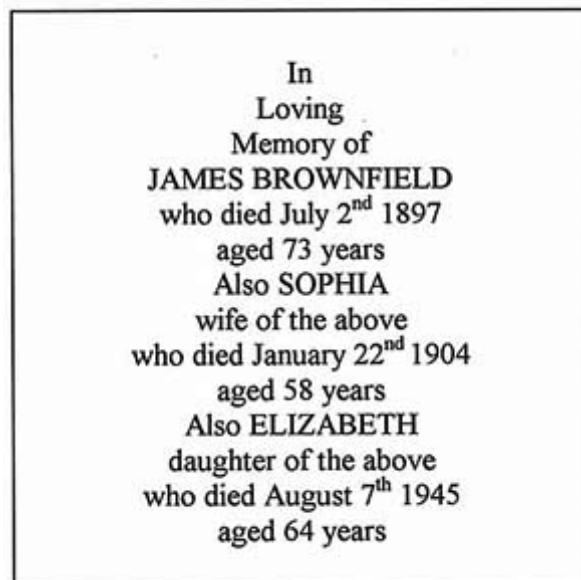
(ii) ELIZABETH BROWNFIELD who was born at 58, Parrock Street on August 18, 1881<sup>72</sup> and christened at Christchurch, Milton on September 28 the same year.<sup>73</sup> Elizabeth married Sydney Murray KIRBY in 1908. She had a daughter Myra Betty KIRBY in 1910. Elizabeth was always known as Bess or Bessie. She died on August 7, 1945 and is buried with her mother and father in Gravesend Cemetery.<sup>74</sup>

(Elizabeth was the grandmother of Jim Steele and the Great Aunt of Sybil Spence)

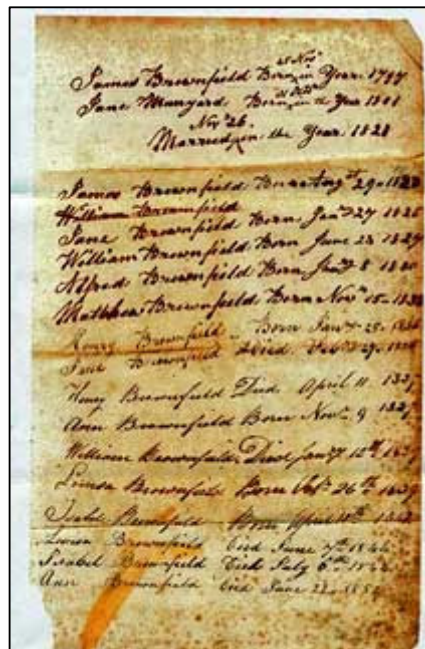
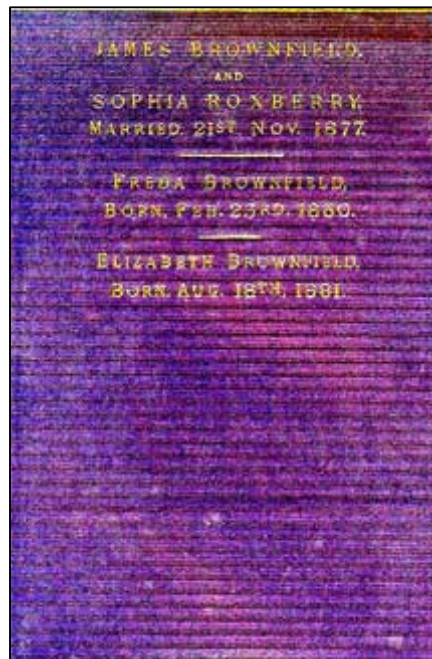
James Brownfield made a will in March 1897, shortly before his death in July the same year, in which he stated that he was temporarily resident at 19 Trafalgar Road, Gravesend. In this will, he left “*my piece of freehold ground situated in Wrotham Road Gravesend recently purchased by me from the Kent and Essex Land and Investment Society Limited together with the messuage or dwelling house I am now erecting thereon and intended to be called ‘Kingswear’*,” in trust for his daughters Freda and Elizabeth with his wife Sophia to have the use of it for her lifetime. Sadly, however, despite being younger than her husband, this was not to be for long, for in the Gravesend Reporter of Jan 30, 1904 there is a report of

***‘ Sudden death of Mrs Brownfield’***

*We regret to record the death of Mrs Brownfield which took place at her residence “Kingswear” Wrotham Road, on Friday of last week, the termination of her useful life being remarkably sudden. For some days the deceased lady had not enjoyed her accustomed good health, but early on Friday morning she was taken seriously ill and died the same day at 2.30p.m. Mrs Brownfield was well known as a willing helper in all church matters, chiefly in connection with the Holy Trinity Church, where her loss will be deeply felt.*



**Memorial Inscription in Gravesend Graveyard**



**Cover and page from Family Bible in the possession of Jim Steele**

### Sources

#### *James Brownfield (the younger)*

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19. Information from Jo Newbury

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