

## Elizabeth Smith per *Digby*, arrived Sydney 4 April 1849



Elizabeth Smith was possibly born in Kings County but is noted on the shipping list as a native of Granard, Longford and was probably in the Granard Workhouse. She was recorded as aged 16, a Catholic house servant who could read and write. Her parents, Laurence & Bridget Smith were both recorded as dead.

We have no record of where she went to work on arrival. Despite her declaration of Catholicism on the shipping, Elizabeth married James Gardner at the Presbyterian Church in Ipswich, near Brisbane the on 25 March 1851. His origins have not yet been confirmed but he may have arrived in the colony as a convict. The identity of the witnesses has not been established and

there was no Margaret Guthrie on the *Digby* so she was not a fellow shipmate.

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*Presbyterian* Marriages solemnized in the Parish of *Ipswich*  
in the County of *Stanley*, New South Wales, in the years 1850-1851

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No. 658 I, *James Gardner* do hereby declare that I am a Member of, or hold  
Communion with, the *Presbyterian* Church.

I, *Oliza Smith* do hereby declare that I am a Member of, or hold  
Communion with, the *Presbyterian* Church.

I, *Thomas Kingsford* late of *Ipswich* Minister of the Gospel of New South  
do hereby Certify, that *James Gardner, Bachelor of Ipswich* and  
*Oliza Smith, Spinster of Ipswich* were joined together in Wedlock by me,  
on the *25<sup>th</sup>* day of *March* 1851, at *Ipswich* in the  
presence of *James Wares and Margaret Guthrie, of Ipswich*

*James Wares* } Witnesses,  
*Margaret Guthrie* }

*Thomas Kingsford* Minister.

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Copy of an entry in a register kept in the Queensland State Archives. Issued at Brisbane.

QUEENSLAND  
15 SEP 1992  
STATE ARCHIVES

Following their marriage, Elizabeth and James Garner lived on Biggs Station (later known as Granchester). They later lived on a property at Dundas near Ipswich, Queensland. Elizabeth had given birth to 15 children, 7 sons and 8 daughters. At the time of her death in March 1913, 11 were still alive (see death certificate below), four sons having predeceased her.



Family photo supplied by Sharon Martin shows James Garner with Elizabeth, nee Smith (the orphan girl) seated in front of him and some of their children, Maud, John, Rebecca and Sarah

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She

DEATH in the District of		STANLEY		in the State of Queensland.	
Registered by		Thomas Campbell Pryde		District Registrar	
Marginal Notes K. ang.	1 Number	3942	664		
	2 When died and where.	1st March 1913	Dundas		
	3 Name and surname; profession, trade, or occupation	Elizabeth GARDINER	Domestic Duties		
	4 Sex and age.	Female	81 years 11 months 27 days		
	5 (1) Cause of death.	Heart Failure	Senility	Debility	
	(2) Duration of last illness.				
	(3) Medical attendant by whom certified.	W.H. Elworthy	M.B. Ch. M.		
	(4) When he last saw deceased.	20th December 1912			
	6 Name and surname of father. Profession, trade, or occupation. Name and maiden surname of mother.	- Smith			
	7 Signature, description and residence of informant.	Certified in writing by James Gardiner Son Brassal, Ipswich			
	8 (1) Signature of Registrar. (2) Date. (3) Place of registration.	Thomas C. Pryde	1st March 1913	Esk	
	If Burial or Cremation Registered—	1st March 1913 Wivenhoe Cemetery Alfred Baker			
	9 When and where buried or cremated. By whom certified.	Geo. E. Forbes, Acting Minister John E. Hine, John Lumbridge			
	10 Name and religion of minister, and/or names of two witnesses or burial or cremation.	Kings County, Ireland About 64 years in Queensland			
	11 Where born and how long in Australian States, stating which.	Ipswich, Queensland 18 years James Gardiner			
	If deceased was married—	Ipswich, Queensland 18 years James Gardiner			
	12 (1) Where. (2) At what age. (3) To whom.	Living			
	13 Issue living, in order of birth, their names and ages.	James	59 John	48	
		Sussanah Elizabeth	57 Rebeca	46	
		Robert	55 Agnes	44	
		Mary Ann	53 Louisa	42	
		Sarah Jane	50 Maud Madiline	38	
		Margaret	49		
	Deceased, number and sex.	Deceased	4 Males		

James Gardner died on 5 October 1878 and Elizabeth remained on the property, living there with some of her children until her death on the March 1913, aged 81 years 11 months.

was buried at Wivenhoe Cemetery, grave 52.

I, Colin James Green, Registrar-General, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of an entry in a Register of Deaths kept in the General Registry Office at Brisbane, and I further certify that I am a person duly authorised by law to issue such certificate.

Extracted on 22 May 1989

Family details, photo and marriage and death certificates generously supplied by descendant Sharon Martin who notes that Elizabeth's daughter, Sarah, was her great grandmother and she sent away to be educated and became a teacher which was progressive in the 1920s. Sharon said that she 'found all of this fascinating and can only imagine how hard it must have been for those poor girls [the orphans] starting a new life here. No wonder she had such a large family and kept them close'.

Details and photographs supplied by descendant Sharon Martin with grateful thanks