

Faed

Susan

1827 - 1909

Her Life

Susan Bell Faed was born on 8th June 1827 at Barlay Mill on the outskirts of Gatehouse. She was the fifth child and only daughter of James Faed, millwright and his wife Mary McGeoch.

At the bottom of this file is a Faed family tree which shows where Susan fits in.

She was a rather striking girl, taking her good looks from her mother, and would often model for her artist brothers.

Like her brothers, she attended Girthon School but, as was the wont at the time, she was expected to carry out domestic duties at home. Her father died in 1843 but she and her mother remained at the Mill for some time.

By 1851 Susan was in Edinburgh looking after her brother Thomas. Her mother Mary was nearby, living with Susan's brother James.

Susan and her mother returned to Gatehouse by 1861 and were living at 'Fleetbank' on Dromore Road. Mary Faed died there in 1866.

Susan is known to have painted during this period for she had a picture 'The Country Lass' hung at the Royal Academy in London. Her brother James wrote that "(she) painted some beautiful heads" and that he was amazed at the standard of her work when she had no training. She exhibited at the Royal Scottish Academy in 1883 and 1884.

She was married at age 59, on 2nd February 1887, to John Walthew, a widowed cotton spinning manufacturer from Stockport. The wedding took place in Marylebone, London and her brother Thomas was a witness.

Her husband died in 1889 after only 2 years of marriage. Her brother John's wife Jane died in Gatehouse in 1897, after which Susan went to live with John as his housekeeper at Ardmore.

Susan was very proud of her brothers' achievements and kept a scrapbook of press cuttings. They in turn seem to have supported her financially whilst she carried out family housekeeping duties and also after her husband died.

John died in 1902 and Susan continued to live at his house until her death in 1909.

Mary McKerrow's biography of 'The Faeds' says "She was remembered (*in Gatehouse*) as an old lady of grace, intelligence and of particular charm."

Her Work

Try following the links below to find examples of this artist's work.. When you have viewed the contents, remember to use your browser's "back" button to return to this page.

[Wikipedia](#)

[In the Artist's Footsteps](#)

Although Susan was good at painting heads, the Artists Footsteps website has two of her landscapes



Galloway Farm



Fishing Boat at Breakwater



The drawing on the left was created by Susan Faed. It depicts the fictional character Rose Bradwardine from Walter Scott's novel 'Waverley' which was published in 1814.



Susan Faed by Thomas Faed (1840)



Susan Faed by James Faed

Faed family – artists & engravers



Barlay Mill & Miln of Barlay, Laurieston Road, Gatehouse

John **Fead** (b.1704? d.1788?) m.1736 Kirkmahoe Mary **Walker** (b.1722? d.1758?)

1. Barbara **Fead** (b.1737 Kirkmahoe d.???)
2. William **Fead** (b.1739 Kirkmahoe d.1816?)
3. Samuel **Fead** (b.1740 Kirkmahoe d.???)
4. James **Fead** (b.1743 Kirkmahoe d.???)
5. Margaret **Fead** (b.1747 Kirkmahoe d.???)
6. John **Fead** (b.1751? d.1804?)
7. Robert **Fead** (b.1754 Kirkmahoe d.1821?)
8. Simon **Fead** (b.17--? d.???)

Agnes **Robson** (b.?? d.???)
 Janet **Ferguson** (b.?? d.???)
 Beatrix (Bessie) **Smith** m.1850 Gordon (b.?? d.???)

N.B. The father of this family was born and died with surname Fead, probably pronounced 'Fede'. The children were all called Fead at birth but during their lifetimes the surname was changed to Faed, probably without changing the pronunciation.

- John **Farish** (b.?? d.???)
 Janc **Chalmers** (b.?? d.???)
 Janet **Smith** (b.?? d.???)
- John **Fead** (b.1780? d.1841?)
 - Samuel **Fead** (b.1782? d.1849?)
 - Barbara **Fead** (b.?? d.???)
 - William **Fead** (b.1787? d.1850?)

Margaret **Fead** (b.1772? d.1852?)
 James **Fead** (b.1777 Kirkton d.1843 Girthon) m.1819 Girthon Mary **McGeoch** (b.1790 Girthon d.1866 Anwoth)
miller & engineer

1. John **Fead** (b.1819 Girthon d.1902 Girthon) **artist** m.??? Jane **MacDonald** (b.1820 Gigha d.1897 Girthon) no children
2. James **Fead** (b.1821 Girthon d.1911 Edinburgh) **engraver**
3. William **Fead** (b.1823 Girthon d.1888 Melbourne) **farmer**
4. Thomas **Fead** (b.1825 Girthon d.1900 London) **artist** m.1852 London Frances Mary **Randz** (b.?? d.1895?) 2 children
5. Susan Bell **Fead** (b.1827 Girthon d.1909 Girthon) m.1887 London John **Walthew** (b.1822 Hyde d.1899 Stockport)
6. George **Fead** (b.1829 Girthon d.1852 Edinburgh)

Mary **Cotton** (b.1827 Edinburgh d.1887?) m.1853 Edinburgh

- male stillborn (b.1854?)
1. James J K **Faed** (b.1856 W.Calder d.1920 New Galloway)
 2. William Cotton **Faed** (b.1858 W.Calder d.1937 Jersey)
 3. John **Faed** (b.1860 Edinburgh d.1861?) died 7 mths
 4. Ellenor Merry **Faed** (b.1864 Edinburgh d.1955 Edinburgh)
 5. Francis Grant **Faed** (b.1867 Edinburgh d.1914 Edinburgh)
 6. Stewart **Faed** (b.1869 Edinburgh d.1898 Nice)
 7. Mary Annie **Faed** (b.1871 Edinburgh d.1945?)
 8. Mark George **Faed** (b.1873 Edinburgh d.1951 Edinburgh)

Eleanor Annie **Herdman** (b.1873 Edinburgh d.1951 Edinburgh) m.1897 Corstorphine

- Janet **Armstrong** (b.?? England d.???) 5 sons; lived in Channel Islands m.?? Australia
- 1. James **Brechin** (b.?? d.???)
 - 2. Arthur Edward W **Barclay** (b.?? d.???)
- David **MacMillan** (b.?? d.???) m.1898 Edinburgh
- 1. Margaret Corson **Smith** (b.?? d.???)
 - 2. Frances Helen **Whitwell** (b.?? d.???)

James Ronald Herdman **Faed** (b.1899 London d.1915 Dardanelles)
 John Alastair **Faed** (b.1905 London d.1981 Zimbabwe) m.1933 South Africa Frances **Herdman** (b.1905 Edinburgh d.1996 Edinburgh) lived in Zimbabwe

Brian Collins (b.?? d.???)
 Fiona Joan **Faed** (b.1934?)
 Martin James Collins (b.1978?)

Simon James **Faed** (b.1937?) m.1990 Glasgow Philippa **Milne** (b.?? d.???)

Carline Corsar Wilson **Smith** (b.?? d.???)
 Stuart Alastair **Faed** (b.1964?)
 James Alastair (b.1992) Charles Simon (b.1994) Georgina Frances (b.1999)

Janet Frances **Faed** (b.1967?) m.??? Kevin **Foulkes** (b.?? d.???)
 Sasha Hayley (b.1992) Kathryn Emily (b.1995) Mathew Alastair (b.2003)

Sources of information for this tree include :

1. The Faeds – A Biography
by Mary McKerrow (1982)
2. James Faed Junior – Celebrating 150 Years
by Stuart Faed (2006)