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Benzie, James (1868 - 1924)

Walter Jernberg

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BENZIE, JAMES

File No. B-96

James Benzie was born November 11, 1868, in Aberdeen Scotland, son of Alexander (Moir) Benzie.

James lived with his parents in various parts of Scotland and as a young man learned the granite cutter's trade.

In 1889, James came to America and worked in Barre, Vermont for a short time, later working in Virginia, Wisconsin and Colorado.

In 1893, James came to St. Cloud, here he was employed by Thomas Breen, for four months after which he again returned to Wisconsin. James also worked at Cascade Locks, Oregon.

In 1907, James again returned to St. Cloud, and formed a partnership with John F. Campbell. The Benzie and Campbell Company did a wholesale business of rough and polished granite for building and monumental sales.

James Benzie was married December 31, 1894, to Sara Hunter Alexander daughter of David P. and Agnes Sheriff (Anderson) Alexander. Sara Hunter (Alexander) Benzie was born November 11, 1875, in Arbroth, Scotland.

James Benzie died in St. Cloud, June 11, 1924, burial was made in North Star Cemetery.

James Benzie was a member of the Knights of Malta, Clan Gordon and Granite Cutter's Union.

Interviewed: Sara Hunter (Alexander) Benzie
611-5th Avenue South
Date: July 7, 1937
By: Walter Jernberg

Publication Granted

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FOR THE JAMES BENZIE BIOGRAPHY

MARRIAGE RECORD BOOK C. PAGE 6651

James Benzie and Sarah Alexander

Married at St. Cloud, December 31, 1894

By: Rev. E. V. Campbell

Witnesses: Agnes Alexander and Robert Milne

DEATH RECORD BOOK I. PAGE 5 LINE 103

James Benzie, Born in Scotland, November 11, 1868

Son of Alexander Benzie and Elizabeth Moier

Died June 11, 1924

Age 55 years 7 months