

David Aaron

(b.1817, d.1882)

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The 1881 census wrongly stated that David Aaron was born in Whitehaven, Cumberland, about 1810 and that his occupation was a 'plasterer'.

David was actually baptised at Sherburn in Elmet, a village to the east of Leeds, on 13 July 1817 and the family lived at nearby Lennerton at the time **(1)**. He was the eldest of the five children of George and Dinah Aaron. His father, George, was a 'labourer' **(1)**.

By 1837 the family had moved to the area of Alwoodley, situated to the north of Leeds, and David's father died there, aged 57, early in 1837 **(2)**. He was buried in the churchyard of Harewood All Saints Church on February 11th.

Three years later, on 29 March 1840, David married Sarah Sorby at St John's Church, Wakefield **(3)**, **(4)**. Sarah was only 17 years old at the time, whereas David was described as being of 'full age' and would actually have been 24 years old. Strangely, in the marriage register David's father was said to be called 'David Aaron' and was described as an engineer, which was totally wrong – his late father was George and he was a 'labourer'. Neither David nor Sarah signed their name and just made a mark.

At the time of the 1841 census **(5)**, David and his wife were still living in Alwoodley with David's widowed mother, Dinah, his two brothers George and Richard and their first child, Maria aged 2 months.

During the next ten years David and Sarah had four more children: Jane born 1844, Ann born 1845, George born 1848 and William born 1850. All the children were baptised at St John's Church Adel, and in the registers David's occupation was given as a 'labourer'.

In the census of 1851 **(6)**, they were still living in Alwoodley. David was now aged 34 and described as a 'nursery labourer' and his wife was 29. With them were their children: Maria aged 9, Jane aged 7, Ann aged 5, George aged 3 and William aged 11 months **(6)**. During the next seven years they had three more children: Dinah, born 1853, Emma born 1856 and Sarah born 1858. David's mother, Dinah died in 1853 and their daughter who was born in the same year was named after her.

Sadly David's wife died early in 1861 **(7)**. Her death was registered in the Hunslet district of Leeds, but no burial has been found. In the census of that year **(8)**, David was living in the Frizinghall area of Bradford with six of his children. He was aged 45 and described as an agricultural labourer and a widower.

In 1871 **(9)** David was recorded as living in High Road, Bolton Common, Bradford, with his youngest daughter, Sarah. His occupation was now a 'gardener' and his daughter, Sarah, was a worsted spinner aged 13. They also had a 'servant' living with them, described as their housekeeper **(9)**.

In November of that year, having been a widower for ten years, David married again **(10)**. His new wife was a widow, Maria Taylor (nee Hird) and the wedding took place at the Parish Church in Bradford **(11)**. However, sometime during the following few years David's wife probably died, although no death or burial records have been found for her.

By 1881 **(12)** David was an inmate in the Leeds Union Workhouse and was described on the census as a widower and a plasterer born in Whitehaven, but his occupation and place of birth were both wrong. (He was actually a gardener and was born in Sherburn in Elmete, Yorkshire). His age was given as 71 years, but this was also incorrect and he would actually have been about 64. He was possibly in poor health, as the following year he died in the workhouse **(13)** and was buried in Beckett Street Cemetery on May 3rd 1882 **(14)**. *(His first name was recorded as Daniel and not David in the Beckett Street Register.)*

Reference list

(1) 'David Aaron' (1817) Baptism of David Aaron, 17 July 1817. Sherburn-in- Elmete. England Select Births and Baptisms 1838-1975 (1817). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> Accessed 02 July 2021

(2) 'George Aaron' (1837) Burial of George Aaron, 11 February 1837 Harewood All Saints Church ,West Yorkshire Deaths and Burials 1813-1985 (1837). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 02 July 2021).

(3) 'David Aaron' (1840). Certified entry recording marriage on the Civil Registration Index, 1840. Available at : <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 02 July 2021).

(4) 'David Aaron and Sarah Sorby' (1840) Marriage of David Aaron and Sarah Sorby, 29 March 1840 St John the Baptist Church, Wakefield. West Yorkshire Church of England Marriages and Banns 1813-1935 Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 02 July 2021).

(5) 'David Aron' (1841) Census return for Alwoodley sub-district, Harewood Public Record Office: PRO HO107/1313/10, folio 6, p.6 (1841). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 02 July 2021).

(6) 'David Aaron' (1851) Census return for Alwoodley, sub-district, Harewood. Public Record Office: PRO HO107/2284, folio 54, p.3 (1851). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 02 July 2021).

(7) 'Sarah Aaron' (1861) Certified entry recording death on the Civil Registration Index, April 1861 Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 02 July 2021).

(8) 'David Aaron' (1861) Census return for Heaton, Bradford, sub-district, Shipley. Public Record Office: PRO RG9 /3341, folio 72, p.14 (1861). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 02 July 2021)

(9) 'David Aaron' (1871) Census return for Bolton, Bradford, sub-district, Idle. Public Record Office: PRO RG10 /4504, folio 76, p.17 (1871). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 02 July 2021).

(10) 'David Aaron' (1871). Certified entry recording marriage on the Civil Registration Index, 1871. Available at : <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 02 July 2021).

(11) 'David Aaron and Maria Taylor' (1871) Marriage of David Aaron and Maria Taylor, 13 November 1871 Bradford Cathedral West Yorkshire Church of England Marriages and Banns 1813-1935 Available at:

<http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 02 July 2021).

(12) 'David Aaron' (1881) Census return for Leeds Union Workhouse sub-district, North Leeds. Public Record Office: PRO RG11/4524, folio 98, p. 1(1881). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 02 July 2021).

(13) 'David Aaron' (1882). Certified entry recording death on the Civil Registration Index, 1882. Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 02 July 2021).

(14) 'Daniel (*David*) Aaron (1882) Burial of David Aaron 3 May 1882 Leeds Beckett Street Cemetery (1845-1987) Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 02 July 2021).