

Birth: Apr. 3, 1801
Plymouth
Devon, England
Death: Jan. 31, 1888
Wanship
Summit County
Utah, USA

Eldest daughter of John and Margaret Graham Gourlay, Elizabeth was of Scottish and English ancestry. She was born near the southern coast of England but was raised mainly in Scotland. According to Salt Lake City Cemetery records she was from Paisley, Scotland, so this is probably where she grew up and where her mother's family was from. She married William Anderson Nov. 28, 1823 in Glasgow, Scotland.

They had 10 children: Margaret, John (died when 1 month old), William, another John (died between age 10 and 16), James, Archibald K., Ellen (Helen), Elizabeth Ann, Peter, and yet another John (died at age 3). The Andersons joined the LDS (Mormon) Church in Glasgow in 1847, and immigrated to America in 1849. About the family leaving Scotland, daughter Ellen Anderson Holmes wrote in her autobiography, "I was born at Glasgow, Scotland, May 28, 1838. Saturday November 10, 1849 we sailed from Liverpool, England in the ship 'Zetland' with a company of 250 Saints under the direction of S.H. Hawkins, and arrived in New Orleans, December 24, 1849. There I received my first baptism in February of 1850. We remained at New Orleans five months and while there my mother was called upon to part with her little babe in death, John Anderson born in 1847. But this was only the beginning of sorrow, for when we embarked May 2, 1850 to go up the Mississippi River for St. Louis, a salute was fired from the cannon just as my oldest brother William (age 21) was passing and it killed him instantly, and my mother did not see him and was denied the news of his death until sometime afterwards.

"We lived in St. Louis three years, then in 1853 my mother, sister Elizabeth; two brothers, Peter and Archibald and myself left for our journey across the plains in the company of Captain Clawson (My father and sister Margaret having gone on before us). I was accorded the arduous experience of walking most of the way across the plains, wading the streams and gathering buffalo chips for fuel; seeing herds of buffalo that looked almost like moving mountains, and on some occasions impeding our travel and stampeding our animals. My only chance for a ride now and then was to take a spell driving my brother, James' outfit of two yoke of oxen, riding on the tongue of the wagon. At night my sister and I would lay under the wagon, an old carpet serving as a curtain and the howl of the wolves would verily make our hair stand on end, as we could look out and see their glaring eyes like balls of fire. We were assigned that place as our bedroom to afford better accommodations for a young couple, the wife soon to become a mother. When her child was born my mother took care of her. However, we had but little difficulty in traveling, nor in sickness, only the death of one child and two births, and arrived in the Salt Lake Valley in September of 1853 before the October conference. We found my father and sister Margaret well, she having married and had a babe three days old when we arrived. We stopped with my sister until father could get a place for us." [End of quote from Ellen's autobiography].

Elizabeth's husband William Anderson died in 1859, and she lived in the Sixth Ward in Salt Lake City for many years. She died in Wanship, Summit County, Utah Territory in 1888. Her funeral and burial took place in Salt Lake City.

DESERET NEWS, February 8, 1888, p. 64:
DEATHS.
Anderson. --

"At her home in Wanship, Summit County, January 31, 1888, of old age, Elizabeth Gourley Anderson, daughter of John and Margaret Graham Gourley.

"The deceased was born at Plymouth, Devonshire, England, April 3, 1801. She embraced the Gospel in Glasgow, Scotland, being baptized by Elder Samuel W. Richards on January 11, 1847; left Liverpool for St. Louis, Mo., November 10, 1849, in 1853 she came with her family to Utah; in 1859, her husband, William Anderson, died. She lived for many years in the Sixth Ward, Salt Lake City, where one of her sons now resides. She was a faithful Latter-day Saint. She leaves 6 children, 49 grandchildren and 36 great grandchildren. The remains of the deceased were brought to this city for interment."

"Mill(ennial) Star, please copy."

DESERET NEWS, February 8, 1888, p. 53:

"Funeral services over the remains of the late Elizabeth G. Anderson were conducted in the Sixth Ward meeting house this afternoon, Counselor Jesse West presiding. Elders Samuel W. Richards, James P. Paul, Samuel McKay, E. R. Young, Peter Gillespie and Jesse West were the speakers; they referred to the faithfulness and integrity of the deceased throughout her long life, and encouraged those who remained to emulate her noble example and career of usefulness."

Samuel W. Richards served a mission in Scotland from 1846-1848. He was the missionary who baptized Elizabeth in 1847 and who spoke at her funeral 41 years later. In 1852 Samuel W. Richards had succeeded his brother Franklin D. Richards as president of the British Isles mission and editor of the MILLENNIAL STAR.

There is currently no headstone on Elizabeth's grave.

Family links:

Spouse:

[William Anderson \(1798 - 1859\)](#)

Children:

[Margaret Ann Anderson Miller \(1823 - 1893\)*](#)

[James Anderson \(1833 - 1899\)*](#)

[Archibald King Anderson \(1835 - 1917\)*](#)

[Ellen Anderson Holmes \(1838 - 1916\)*](#)

[Elizabeth Ann Anderson Cowley \(1841 - 1909\)*](#)

[Peter Anderson \(1845 - 1930\)*](#)