

# Harry Werneth Doodson

A tree tracing the family of Harry Werneth Doodson, found at Werneth Railway Station in 1861

## Family trees prepared by Mike Doodson

Sources of information: Census returns for 1841-1911 plus Births Marriages and Deaths records, US census returns, and additional information from Lynne Stephenson (descendent of Agnes Hannah Werneth Doodson)

Entries in **bold** type - given (Christian) names  
 Entries in *italic* type - spouse surnames



## Harry Werneth Doodson

Little Harry was found on Werneth Railway Station on the evening of 17th February 1861. Authorities made every effort to find his "owner" but failed, so the police allowed John Doodson to adopt him. John and Mary Doodson had Harry baptised on 31st March 1861. The baptism records were annotated with this story of his being found and adopted.

John and Mary are a mystery. No trace has yet been found of their marriage, or any entry in censuses either side of the 1861 census. They were recorded in 1861 as DODSON, but Harry was always recorded in censuses and civil registers as DOODSON.  
**1861 census** Harry Dodson recorded as being adopted by John and Mary Dodson, living at Back Fletcher Street, Oldham  
 Unable to trace the family to 1871 census

On marriage record no name or occupation given for Selina's father.  
 John and Selina emigrated to USA (Liverpool to Philadelphia) in August 1910 (on ship Friesland). They set up home in Fall River, Massachusetts. John and Selina naturalised as US citizens in 1917  
 Note that on his US forces draft card in 1917 Selina's middle name also given as Werneth. Selina's name was often spelled Celina in the USA  
**1920 US census** - at Ash Street, Fall River, Mass. Selina recorded as Celia. John (snr) - overseer in printing works.  
**1930 US census** - at Bay Street, Fall River, Mass. Birthplace of Selina's parents given as "unknown" (but in England). John (snr) - overseer in printing works. Selina recorded as Celina  
**1940 US census** - at Bay Street. John listed as street labourer.  
 \* In 1943 Selina changed her date and location of birth in US social security records - unknown where she got this information from.

