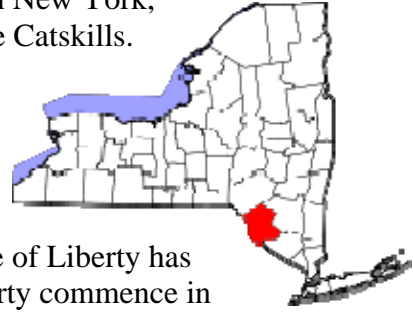


LYNCH FAMILY SUMMARY

This family lived in Sullivan County, which is in southern New York, east of the Delaware River and Pennsylvania and just south of the Catskills. All wills for Sullivan County from April 1876 to 10 August 1909 burned in a fire on the latter date. The county is divided into towns, similar to townships in the federal land states, and there are incorporated villages within the towns. Vital records were kept by the towns and villages or cities, prior to the commencement of state registration in 1914, although the Village of Liberty has only birth and death records and all records for the Town of Liberty commence in 1884. A complete set of the Liberty Register is on microfilm at the Liberty Public Library from 1910 to 1971, the year the paper folded. Microfilm of earlier papers exist, but they are incomplete. The Family History Library has deed indices from 1809 to 1878 and deed records from 1809 to 1866 (not yet checked).



1. **JOSEPH LYNCH**, born in Ireland, is listed as the father of James Lynch on James' death certificate. The same source gives his wife as **ELLEN MCGRATH**. As James Lynch was born in New York, James and Ellen, either separately or together, must have come to the United States by 1849. However, no record for them has been located in either the 1850 or 1860 census.

From the following 1870 census record in the Town of Fallsburgh, Sullivan County, New York (P.O. Woodbourne), it appears that Ellen was born about 1825 in Ireland (sh. 53; p. 463; household 374/family 401):

		age	occupation	RE	PE	birth	
Lynch	Ellen	45	Keeping House	1500	100	Ireland	Can't write
"	James	17	Works on Canal			New York	
"	Nicholas	9				New York	att school
"	Joseph	6				New York	

Until this record was discovered, it seemed possible that James was the son of the Joseph and Ellen Lynch listed in Troy, Rensselaer County, New York, in 1850 and 1860, their 1860 household containing a James H. Lynch, age 9. However, the presence of Nicholas Lynch in the above entry, who also appears in the 1880 household of James Lynch, as well as the presence of this family in Sullivan County, establishes that the Troy family is not correct.

Children:

1.
 - i. JAMES J. LYNCH, b. 21 Sep 1849, New York; m. MARY ELIZABETH MCGRATH
 - ii. NICHOLAS LYNCH, b. abt 1861-62, New York; age 9, 1870; age 18, living w/ James, 1880
 - iii. JOSEPH LYNCH, b. abt 1864, New York

2. **JAMES J. LYNCH** was born on 21 September 1849 in New York, a son of Joseph Lynch and Ellen McGrath, and died of cancer of the lip on 14 January 1935 at Rosary Hill Home, Hawthorne, Westchester County, New York.¹ James married **MARY ELIZABETH MCGRATH** about 1878, probably in Sullivan County, New York.² Mary was born on 11 November 1858 on a farm near Parksville, Sullivan County, New York, a daughter of Lawrence McGrath and Ann Keogh, and died of a coronary occlusion on 14 October 1933 at her home at

¹ Verified Transcript of Death Record kept by Town Clerk of Mount Pleasant, Westchester Co., New York. That this was the correct James Lynch is established by Mary E. Lynch's 27 Oct. 1933 probate petition, which indicates that James was then living in Hawthorne, New York. Only in the 1880 census does the middle initial "J." appear.

² Date of marriage estimated from age of oldest child, as given in 1880 census.

20 Chestnut Street in Liberty.³ She was buried in the Liberty Cemetery. James was apparently buried in Gray's Cemetery, Thompsonville, New York, according to his death record.⁴

James Lynch was listed in the 1870 census as working on a canal, in the 1880 census as a railroad agent, and in his death certificate as a telegraph company operator. Family tradition (Joan Lynch) indicates that he left the family about two months after the birth of his son George and thereafter "rode the rails" and was an alcoholic. Robin says it was when George was about 6. Mary's probate petition indicates that they were still married at her death (as does her death certificate), but described James as "from whom the decedent had been separated by judgment of the Supreme Court and with whom the decedent had not resided for over thirty years."

In 1880, the family lived in Liberty, New York (p. 7 or 181; hshld 73/family 80):

Lynch	James J.	28		RailRoad Agent	NY	Ireland	Ireland
	Mary E	20	wife	Keeping House	NY	Ireland	Ireland
	Joe Emmett	1	son		NY	NY	NY
	Nicolas	18	brother	Border	NY	Ireland	Ireland

Mrs. Mary Lynch is listed as a donor to the building fund on a plaque inside St. Peter's Catholic Church at 264 North Main Street in Liberty. The church was built in 1872,⁵ although that was before Mary's marriage, so the building fund plaque may relate to a later event or a different person. Father Edward Straub, the pastor in 1989, indicated that the earliest records date to 1894. The parish was previously a mission church of St. Mary's & St. Andrew's in Ellenville.⁶

A James Lynch, age 50, a widower, boarder and day laborer is listed in Liberty in 1900, in the household of Lawrence Mullen (ED 91, sh 1B). However, it is unclear whether this is the right James, as he is stated to have been born in March 1850, which does not square with the September 1849 birth month given in James' death record. No likely James has been identified in 1910.

In 1920, a James Lynch, age 74, a widower born in Ireland, is listed as a resident of the Sullivan County Alms House in Thompson, New York, with no occupation (ED 138, sh 5A, line 45). This is likely the right James, despite the discrepancy in age and place of birth, particularly because his death certificate gives his place of residence as Thompsonville, New York. The Rosary Hill Home of Hawthorne, in which James was presumably living on 14 October 1933, when his wife died, and in which he died on 14 January 1935, currently accepts only patients

³ Town of Liberty, Register of Deaths, p. 486 (copy furnished by Town Clerk). The death record gives her birth as occurring in Liberty, informant Mrs. Archie Ingraham, but her obituary indicates a farm near Parksville. The 1900 census and her gravestone (inspected 1 Jul 1989) give 1860 as the year, but her death cert. and obituary indicate 1857. She is age 1 in the 1860 census. The gravestone appears unreliable, as it gives her death as occurring in 1934, when it clearly occurred in 1933. For the McGrath family, see summary below.

⁴ Tom Rue searched for Gray's Cemetery on 19 July 1997 in Thompsonville. He located a cemetery on Grey's Road, called the Town of Fallsburg Historical Cemetery, but no Lynch burials were found there.

⁵ James Eldridge Quinlan, *History of Sullivan County*, p. 365 (Liberty, N.Y. 1873).

⁶ Letter from Father Straub to Bill Utermohlen, July 1989.

with a diagnosis of incurable cancer, where no further treatment is desired, and is limited to persons who cannot afford to pay for care.

Mary's obituary in the *Liberty Register* gives an account of her life and was "contributed," probably by her son George, who had earlier written for the paper:

Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Lynch

Surrounded by neighboring hills garbed in the gorgeous colors of autumn, under the canopy of a clear blue sky, and beneath the kindly glow of a bright October sun, the earthly remains of Mary Elizabeth Lynch were tenderly lowered to their final resting place in the family plot in the Liberty cemetery Monday morning. She had passed away at peace with God early the previous Saturday morning at her home, 20 Chestnut street, Liberty.

For the past four years she had been ill. Her death was not unexpected and members of her family were with her. At the grave stood her four children, Mrs. Arch Ingraham, of Liberty; Mrs. Richard E. Walsh, of Brooklyn; Grace Lynch, of New York City; and George H. Lynch, of Washington D.C. Another son, Emmett, died in Montana three years ago and is buried beside his mother.

The last rites of the Catholic Church were said by Rev. John A. Connolly, of St. Peter's Church in Liberty. The pall bearers were relatives, John and Charles McGrath, sons of Lawrence McGrath, of Livingston Manor; Frank McDermott, of Newburgh; and T. Edward Broche, of Middletown.

Mary E. Lynch was a part of that rugged generation fast passing away. Seventy-six years ago she was born on a farm near Parksville, the daughter of Larry McGrath and Ann Keogh McGrath. Both her parents were born in Ireland and came to this country as immigrants when children. They were among the pioneers in this section which in the early days was a part of Ulster County. Besides Mary there were three other daughters, Catherine, the eldest; Frances, the youngest; and Hanna. Catherine alone survives. Her daughter, Rose, attended the funeral of her Aunt Mary, as did also the son and daughter of Hanna, Frank and Alice McDermott, of Newburgh. Frances, who lived with her father in the homestead on John street, Liberty, died many years ago while still a young woman.



As a child, Mary Lynch was advanced in learning for her years. She was a teacher in the rural schools of the county when 15 years of age. Her alertness and penetration of mind constituted her chief characteristic. She retained her mental faculties to the end. For several years she conducted a bakery in the village of Liberty which advanced from a very humble beginning to take its place with equal importance to the other business enterprises of the thriving village. The older residents of Liberty knowing her remember well the fact that no less by her courage than by her indefatigable works over many years she forged ahead and in her own right earned a competency that

afforded her independence in her declining years. It is not too much to say her townfolk were always proud of Mary Lynch.

She was a quiet, unassuming little woman. She characteristically held her own counsel and seldom spoke of a neighbor unless it were to his good.

The passing away of Mary Lynch leaves to the community the memory of one respected and beloved.

To the one who is writing these lines there will ever be impressed in his mind the full glory of nature herself as reflected in the Sullivan County hills on the morning last Monday when they claimed back to their shelter the body of one of their children. The limitless expanse of the deep blue sky, the bright gold sun, the incomparable beauty of the raiment of the trees, the musical symphony of their waving branches all seemed to stand in their majesty as a challenge to the unbelievers in the faith in an Almighty God that was the mainstay in the life of Mary Lynch and the comfort of her last earthly days.⁷

In 1900, Mary and her family were living with her father on Main Street in Liberty (ED 92, sh 12B):

McGrath	Lawrence	Head	Dec	1839	Wd	Ireland	Ireland	Ireland	Saloonkeeper	imm 1855
Lynch	Mary	dau	Nov	1860	Wd	NY	Ireland	Ireland		6 ch, 5 al
--	Emmet	gson	Mar	1879	S	NY	NY	NY	Teamster	
--	Helena	gdau	Dec	1881	S	NY	NY	NY	Saleslady (bakery)	
--	Irene	gdau	Feb	1883	S	NY	NY	NY	Saleslady (bakery)	
--	Grace	gdau	Mar	1885	S	NY	NY	NY	at school	
--	George	gson	Mar	1890	S	NY	NY	NY	at school	

In 1910, Mary and George were living at 15 John Street in the Village of Liberty, where she owned a mortgaged house (ED 141, sh 3A; p. 112):

Lynch	Mary E.	Head	49	D	NY	Ireland	Ireland	Own income	6 ch, 5 al
--	George H.	son	29	S	NY	NY	NY	None	

In 1920, Mary owned a mortgaged home at what is listed as 15 Darby Street, but was probably 15 John Street, which is listed immediately adjacent. She was age 62 and divorced, with no occupation. In the same house are Arthur and Lorinda Merrill and their son, as well as a boarder (ED 127, sh 2A (p. 126)). In 1930, she lived at 20 Chestnut Street, in Liberty, which she was renting for \$35 per month. She was described as age 70 and a widow, with no occupation. A Florence Murphy, with a son and daughter, were renting rooms in the same house for \$30 per month. Mary did not own a radio, although the Murphys did. Her death certificate indicates that she had been suffering from cardio renal vascular degeneration for 12 years prior to her death.

Mary E. Lynch, of the Village of Liberty, Sullivan County, New York made her will on 29 October 1932. She directed her executors to provide for the perpetual care of her family burial plot in the cemetery at Liberty, New York. To her children, she left \$6000 to her daughter

⁷ Copy from microfilm, date not given, but presumably in the week after 14 Oct 1933. Copy courtesy of Liberty Public Library, Meike Cryan, Librarian, 3 Nov 1989.

Grace Lynch, \$3000 to her son George Lynch, \$3000 to her daughter Irene Lynch, and \$500 to her daughter Lena Ingraham. The remainder of her property was left to her son George Lynch and her daughter Irene Lynch, equally. If she were to survive either her daughter Grace or her daughter Irene, then their shares were left to the remaining children equally. Mary appointed William G. Birmingham (an attorney) as her executor.⁸

The petition of Birmingham to probate her will was filed October 24, 1933, and indicated that Mary had died on 14 October 1933. Her heirs were named as:

James Lynch, husband, of Hawthorne, New York;
Lena Ingraham, daughter, of Liberty, New York;
Irene L. Walsh, daughter, of 201 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, New York;
Grace Lynch, daughter, of 140 East 63rd Street, New York City; and
George Lynch, son, of 3028 – 45th Street N.W., Washington, D.C.

The appraisal of Mary's estate indicated that she owned \$5000 in real estate, \$165 in stocks and bonds, \$7,263.90 in mortgages, notes, cash and insurance, and \$137 in other miscellaneous property, for a total of \$12,565.90. After funeral of administration expenses of \$955 and debts of \$186.22, this left \$11,424.68 for distribution.

The real estate was a house and lot on the northerly side of John Street in the Village of Liberty, which was conveyed to her by Lawrence McGrath by deed of 10 March 1908 (Deed Book 153, p. 406), less what she had conveyed to Charles V. Mauer by deed recorded in Book 194, p. 103. The other principal asset was a bond and mortgage in the amount of \$6,000, due and payable on 14 December 1937, with 5% interest payable every three months by Archibald Ingraham and Lena Ingraham, secured by a mortgage on property on the east side of South Main Street in Liberty.⁹

Children:

- i. JOSEPH EMMETT LYNCH, b. Mar 1879, New York; d. 17 Feb 1931, Billings, Yellowstone Co., N.Y.; listed as a sheepherder, age 56, at death, residence 21 S. 27, although he had resided in Billings only 2 days at the time of his death.¹⁰ *Liberty Register*, 19 Feb. 1931: Joseph Emmet Lynch, formerly of Liberty, but who has resided in Billings, Mont., for a number of years, died at St. Vincent Hospital at Billings on Tuesday. . . . Mr. Lynch left Liberty about 25 years ago." Buried Liberty Cemetery.
- 2 ii. HELENA LYNCH, b. Dec 1881, New York; m. ARCHIBALD ROBERT INGRAHAM
- iii. IRENE LYNCH, b. Feb 1883, New York; m. RICHARD E. WALSH; Richard was a lawyer; they lived in New York City and had no children; after he died Irene moved to their cottage at Point Lookout.¹¹

⁸ Surrogate's Court Sullivan Co., N.Y., Estate No. 4-459.

⁹ *Id.* Street addresses are taken from the appraisal, filed 27 Feb. 1934.

¹⁰ Death certificate, Montana (Blgs. 2946). Birth from 1900 census. Gravestone: 1879-1933 (inspected 1 Jul 1989). Names sometimes Emmet.

¹¹ Joan Lynch, 10 June 1990.

- iv. WILLIAM LYNCH, b. Feb 1883, New York; twin of Irene, died at age 1 or 2¹²
- v. GRACE E. LYNCH, b. Mar 1885, New York; Joan describes her as "black Irish"
- 3 vi. GEORGE HENRY LYNCH, b. 25 Mar 1890, Liberty, Sullivan Co., New York; m. DOROTHY NINEA PISTOR

3. **HELENA LYNCH**, known as Lena, was born in December 1881 in New York, probably at Liberty in Sullivan County, a daughter of James J. Lynch and Mary Elizabeth McGrath. Helena married **ARCHIBALD ROBERT INGRAHAM** about 1906. Archie was born on 29 April 1882 in New York, a son of Minnesah and Amanda Ingraham.¹³ He was of medium height and build, with brown hair and brown eyes.¹⁴ In 1900, Archie lived in Neversink, Sullivan County, with his parents.

Archie was a grocer. In 1910, he was a salesman in a grocery store and they lived in a rented home at 56 South Main Street in Liberty (ED 159, sh 1A). By 1920, they owned their own home at 43 Chestnut Street in Liberty, where they were also living in 1918 and 1930. Archie was described as a retail merchant in the grocery business in 1920 (ED 127, sh 16A [p. 140]) and a proprietor of a grocery store in 1930 (ED 53-18, sh 11A). Their home was worth \$5,000 in 1930.

Children:

- i. HELEN INGRAHAM, b. 18 Jul 1911, New York; d. 25 May 1994, Bensalem, Bucks Co, Penn; m. CHARLES PARTICELLI¹⁵; possibly the Charles Anthony Particelli who was born on 4 Jul 1905, got his ss# in Connecticut, and died in Sarasota, Florida on 11 Mar 1988, last a resident of Valrico, Hillsborough Co, Fla¹⁶
- ii. MARIAN INGRAHAM, b. abt 1915, New York

4. **GEORGE HENRY LYNCH** was born on 25 March 1890 at Liberty, Sullivan County, New York, a son of James J. Lynch and Mary Elizabeth McGrath, and died on 22 December 1978 at Washington, D.C.¹⁷ George married **DOROTHY NINEA PISTOR** on 20 January 1923 in New York City. Dorothy was born on 13 August 1895 in the Hackney Registration District, London, England, a daughter of Thomas Alfred Pistor and Emilie Ninea Gregg (see the Pistor summary), and died on 9 May 1955 at Washington, D.C.¹⁸

¹² Joan Lynch, 1989 & 10 June 1990.

¹³ Date of birth: World War I Draft Registration Card, Ancestry.com; parents given in Central New York Upstate Family Tree by Louise Chen at Ancestry.com.

¹⁴ World War I Draft Registration Card, Ancestry.com.

¹⁵ Age 8 in 1920; Age 18 in 1930; b. & d.: ssdi; husband: Joan Lynch.

¹⁶ SSDI; Fla. death index, Ancestry.com; Joan indicated Helen was living in Florida.

¹⁷ Gravestone, Arlington National Cemetery (Grave 9312-F, section 6). Birthdate also given in resume & WWI draft registration.

¹⁸ Gravestone, Arlington National Cemetery, except the birth year is given as 1897. Joan Lynch says her mother was born in 1895, and that that date is given in her family Bible, in her mother's hand, in Joan's possession. In addition, the Free BMD index indicates that Dorothy was born between July and September 1895.

George grew up in Liberty. He was short, with brown eyes and hair. In his youth, he was slender, having been rejected from by the Reserve Officers Corp for being underweight.

George graduated from Cornell University. Before he left New York he was Managing Editor of the Liberty (N.Y.) Register, a weekly newspaper, and Vice President of the Liberty Register Company. He also served as Sullivan County correspondent for the New York metropolitan dailies, including the New York Times. He later served as Managing Editor of the Cornell Alumni News and wrote a column "The Week in Washington" for 58 newspapers in New York and Pennsylvania. He was twice President of the New York State Society of Washington.

George graduated from Georgetown University, College of Law. While in law school, he worked as a night policeman at the U.S. Capitol. In July 1917, when registering for the draft, he was a clerk and private secretary for Congressman Charles B. Ward of New York. He was admitted to the bar in the District of Columbia in 1917. He served overseas for two years in World War I, when he was a Captain in the U.S. Army, Judge Advocate.



In 1920, George was listed in the census as living in a rooming house at 309 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Washington. His occupation was then self-employed lawyer. He was later in government service, retiring from the Federal classified Civil Service in 1960 as Deputy General Counsel of the U.S. Veterans Administration. During World War II, he was General Counsel of the Retraining and Reemployment Administration in the Office of Mobilization. He was also Security Officer of that Administration, Chief Legal Advisor, Administration of World War I Federal Bonus; Member, Council on Appeals; Chief Attorney, Eastern area; Chairman, Loyalty Board of Appeals; and Director of Security, U.S. Veterans Administration.¹⁹

George lived for many years at the Westchester Apartments at 4000 Cathedral Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C.

Children:

- i. JOAN MARY LYNCH,
- ii. CHRISTINE ROBIN LYNCH; m. DAVID DRUMMOND BROWN (see Brown Family Summary)

¹⁹ Biographical summary primarily from resume prepared by George H. Lynch.