

Chronology Report

Name:	John J. Coffay Jr.	
Parents:	John Coffay Sr. and Catherine Hanley^{2,17}	
Life Range	Abt 1851- 23 Nov 1898	
Abt 1851	Birth:	Roscommon, County Roscommon, Ireland.
1853 Apr 5	Emigration from Ireland:	Catherine Coffay emigrated with her children. They were passengers aboard the ship "Jane Anderson" which sailed from Liverpool to Baltimore. Catherine Coffay, age 40 William Manion, age 16 Mary Coffay, age 14 Patrick Coffay, age 11 Catherine Coffay, age 4 John Coffay, age 2⁴
1870	Census:	Baltimore,,Maryland USA. 1) John Coffee, male, white, age 70, laborer, born in Ireland, both parents of foreign birth, a U.S. citizen. 2) Catharine Coffee, female, white, age 60, keeping house. born in Ireland, both parents of foreign birth. 3) Catharine Coffee, female, white, age 20, at home, born in Maryland. 4) John Coffee , male, white, age 18, laborer, born in Maryland. 5) Bridget Coffee, female, white, age 14, at home, born in Maryland, both parents born in Maryland. 6) Michael Coffee, male, white, age 13, born in Maryland. ^{5,6}
1875	City Directory:	John Coffee, stone mason, Mount Royal Hill. Baltimore,,Maryland USA. ⁷
1877	City Directory:	John Coffee, stonecutter, McMechen near North av. Baltimore,,Maryland USA. ⁷
1877 Feb 2	Marriage:	Helen Kelly . In Immaculate Conception Church, Baltimore,,Maryland USA. Immaculate Conception Church Parish Register: John Coffay b. Ireland - son of John Coffay Helen Kelly b. England - daughter of Thomas Kelly Witnesses: William McNeil & Annie Brennan ¹³
1880 Jun 8	Census:	Baltimore,,Maryland USA. Address: Mount Royal Hill 1) John Coffay , white, male, age 28, married, stone mason, born in Ireland, both parents born in Ireland. 2) Ellen Coffay, wife, white, female, age 26, married, keeping home. born in England, father born in Ireland, mother born in England. ^{5,8}
1882 Jun	Son born (#1):	John Joseph Coffay . Born in Baltimore,,Maryland USA. Died on 30 Sep 1964 in Baltimore,,Maryland USA.
1882 Sep 19	News Item:	Sun Paper. Baltimore,,Maryland USA. Picnic - The Journeymen Marble and Freestone Cutters' Association held a picnic at Rost's Park yesterday, and was well attended. During the evening the park was beautifully illuminated, and a balloon ascension created much excitement. Capt. Wright's Band was in attendance and the committee of arrangements consisted of the following: ... John Coffay ... Lawrence Molloy . NOTE: Lawrence Molloy was the father of William Leo Molloy who married Mary Coffay, John Coffay's youngest daughter. It's interesting that the fathers had known each other 35 years before their children married.
1883	City Directory:	John Coffay, stonecutter, Mount Royal Hill. Baltimore,,Maryland USA. ⁷
1883 Apr	Daughter born (#2):	Nellie A. Coffay . Born in Baltimore,,Maryland USA. Died on 6 May 1915 in Baltimore,,Maryland USA.
1884 Nov	Daughter born (#3):	Catherine Ann "Kate" Coffay . Born in Baltimore,,Maryland USA. Died on 18 Dec 1960 in Baltimore,,Maryland USA.
1885	City Directory:	John Coffay, saloon, 139 Maryland av. Baltimore,,Maryland USA. ⁹
1885 Jun 12	Daughter born (#4):	Annie Coffay . Born in Baltimore,,Maryland USA. Died on 18 Jul 1885 in Baltimore,,Maryland USA.

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- 1885 Jul 18 Death of Child (# 4): **Annie Coffay.** In Baltimore,,Maryland USA.¹⁶
- 1886 City Directory: John Coffay jr., saloon, 94 Maryland av. Baltimore,,Maryland USA.¹⁰
- 1886 Nov Son born (#5): **Thomas Coffay.** Born in Baltimore,,Maryland USA. Died on 18 Dec 1886 in Baltimore,,Maryland USA.
- 1886 Dec 18 Death of Child (# 5): **Thomas Coffay.** In Baltimore,,Maryland USA.
- 1887 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John Coffay,** saloon, 1429 MD av (house # was changed from #94 by city of Baltimore)⁷
- 1888 City Directory: John Coffay, saloon, 1429 MD av. Baltimore,,Maryland USA.⁷
- 1888 Jul 17 Court: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. From the Baltimore Sun:
Criminal Court - Judge Phelps - Selling liquor on Sunday - **John Coffay,** pleaded guilty, \$20 and costs.
NOTE: This was probably John J. Coffay Jr. who at the time had a saloon on Maryland Avenue and Oliver St.¹¹
- 1889 May Son born (#6): **Bernard Coffay.** Born in Baltimore,,Maryland USA. Died in Aug 1889 in Baltimore,,Maryland USA.
- 1889 Aug Death of Child (# 6): **Bernard Coffay.** In Baltimore,,Maryland USA.
- 1890 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John Coffay,** saloon, 400 Pinkney pl
NOTE: The Coffays moved to this address before May 1889. It is the same address listed in the New Cathedral Cemetery record for John & Helen Coffay's son, Bernard.⁷
- 1891 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA.
John Coffay, stonecutter, 10 Elm st.
John Coffay jr. stonecutter, 15 Mount Royal Hill
Note: There were 2 listings. Elm st. was on Mount Royal Hill and #10 was across the street from #15. John Coffay & his family may have moved from the one dwelling to the other during that year.⁷
- 1892 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John Coffay,** stonecutter, 1910 Elm st.⁷
- 1892 May 6 Daughter born (# 7): **Mary Margaret Coffay.** Born in Baltimore,,Maryland USA. Died on 13 Sep 1974 in Baltimore,,Maryland USA.
- 1893 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John Coffay,** stonecutter, 1910 Elm st.⁷
- 1896 City Directory: John J. Coffay, stonecutter, 1910 Elm st. Baltimore,,Maryland USA.⁷
- 1896 Jun 19 Death of Father: **John Coffay Sr..** In Baltimore,,Maryland USA.²
- 1896 Jul Business Venture: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John and Helen Coffay** obtained a permit to build a structure on the corner of North Ave. at Elm St. for the purpose of conducting a confectionary business.
- 1897 City Directory: Baltimore,,Maryland USA. **John J. Coffay,** grocer, 400 North av., home 1910 Elm
NOTE: 400 North Avenue was the location at the foot of Elm St. where John & Helen built a stand for selling food. They were ordered to remove it by the mayor.⁷
- 1897 Nov 11 Court: Baltimore Sun Article. Baltimore,,Maryland USA.
MRS. COFFAY'S CAKE STAND
Mayor Hooper, Judge Ritchie Holds, Cannot Be Sued For Ordering It Torn Down
"Judge Ritchie, in the Superior Court, decided yesterday that **Mrs. Ellen Coffay** had no cause of action against Mayor Hooper for being required to remove a frame structure erected at the corner of **North and Elm** avenues, near the **western approach to the North avenue bridge.**
Mrs. Coffay obtained a permit for the structure in July, 1896, her intention being to open a little cake and confectionary store. She leased a small lot and spent about \$150 on the structure. When it was about completed she was notified by the building inspector, with approval of the

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Mayor, that it must be removed. She was given thirty days in which to comply with the notice. The structure was removed and suit was brought against the Mayor as private individual.

The permit obtained by **Mrs. Coffay** contained the provision that the structure would be removed at any time after thirty days' notice from the Mayor. It was claimed for **Mrs. Coffay** that as the structure was in the Annex a permit was not necessary, and, therefore, could not be revoked. The Mayor, it was also claimed, acted without lawful authority in the matter and made himself personally responsible for any loss caused by the removal of the structure. Mayor Hooper and Building Inspector Owens were called as witnesses for **Mrs. Coffay**.

The court decided that, entirely independent of any question of lawful authority, it must be shown that the Mayor had not acted in good faith in ordering the removal of the structure, and instruction was granted taking the case from the jury on the ground that no legally sufficient evidence had been offered entitling **Mrs. Coffay** and her husband to remove damages. Judge Ritchie remarked that there was not a particle of evidence to support the claim or to show any lack of good faith on the part of the Mayor.

Victor Smith, attorney for **Mrs. Coffay**, took non pros. Thereby preventing a verdict being delivered in the Mayor's favor, and entitling him to bring the suit again.

No evidence was offered for the Mayor. It is said that the permit was improperly issued to **Mrs. Coffay** by a subordinate, who was promptly removed upon the discovery of what he had done. City Solicitor Elliott appeared for the Mayor."¹²

1898 Nov 23	Death:	Baltimore,,Maryland USA.
1898 Nov 24	Death Notice:	Baltimore,,Maryland USA. The Sun Paper COFFAY - On November 23 JOHN COFFAY , aged 46 years, beloved husband of Ellen Coffay, (nee Kelley) and son of Catherine and the late John Coffay. The funeral will take place from his late residence, No. 710 Thirty-fifth street, Hampden, on Saturday, November 26, at 8 A.M. thence to Saint Thomas Church where a Requiem Mass will be said for the repose of his soul. Friends and relatives of the family are invited to attend. ²
1898 Nov 26	Burial:	Baltimore,,Maryland USA. Interment Records New Cathedral Cemetery John Coffay, Jr. , 710 35th St. Buried in Section H, Lot 269 Cause of Death: Typhoid fever Address: New Cathedral Cemetery, 4300 Old Frederick Road, Baltimore, MD 21229, USA ¹

Source Citations

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1. *New Cathedral Cemetery Records* (Interments and plat books, 1793 - 1977, Baltimore, Maryland. All records are on microform at the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore. The plat records only are available at New Cathedral Cemetery, Baltimore).
2. *Baltimore Sun Paper Death Notices - Enoch Pratt Library Archives*; microfilm.
3. Baltimore City Health Department, Maryland, death certificate ; Maryland State Archives, Annapolis.
4. Ancestry.com. Baltimore Passenger and Immigration Lists, 1820-1872 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 2004., "Original data: Baltimore, Maryland. Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at Baltimore, 1820-1891. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. Micropublication M255, rolls # 1-19."
5. 1880 U.S. census, Baltimore, Maryland population schedule, Baltimore, enumeration district (ED) 228, p. 20, dwelling 141, family 141; digital images, *Ancestry.com*; citing National Archives and Records Administration microfilm T9.
6. 1870 U.S. census, Baltimore City, Maryland population schedule, Baltimore County, 9th District, Post Office: Towsontown, p. 149, dwelling 1016, family 1015, John Coffee; digital images; citing National Archives and Records Administration microfilm M593.
7. *1887 - 1904 Baltimore City Directory* (Baltimore, Maryland: R.L. Polk & Co. B.R. Sheriff, n.d.).
8. 1880 U.S. census, Baltimore, Maryland population schedule, Baltimore, enumeration district (ED) 228, p. 20, dwelling 140, family 140; digital images, *Ancestry.com*; citing National Archives and Records Administration microfilm T9.
9. *Baltimore City Directory* (Baltimore, Maryland: B. R. Sheriff and Taylor, n.d.).
10. *Baltimore City Directory* (Baltimore, Maryland: John Wl Woods, n.d.).
11. *ProQuest Historical Newspapers The Baltimore Sun (1837-1985)*.
12. "Mrs. Coffay's Cake Stand," *The Baltimore Sun*, Nov. 11, 1897, online archives, p. 10.
13. Immaculate Conception Church Baltimore, MD. *Registers of baptisms, marriages, and interments of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Mosher Street and Druid Hill Avenue, Baltimore, MD [microform] : 1852 - 1955* (Annapolis, MD: Maryland State Archives.)
14. Social Security Administration, "Ancestry.com. Social Security Death Index [database on-line].," database. *The Generations Network, Inc., 2009.* Original data: Social Security Administration. *Social Security Death Index, Master File. Social Security Administration.* (accessed 21 Mar 2009), entry for John Coffay, 1964, SS no. 214-01-9377.
15. *ProQuest Historical Newspapers The Baltimore Sun (1837-1985)*, 12/21/1960.
16. "Death Notice," *The Baltimore Sun*, June 19, 1885, online archives.
17. Genealogybank.com, "An Unightly Landmark," *The Baltimore Sun*, June 23, 1896, online archives, p. 10.