

Mitchell

John Campbell

1862 - 1922

His Life

John Mitchell was born in Campbelltown, Argyllshire on 1st December 1861. In later life he added the middle name of Campbell. It has been suggested that the choice of name may have been to reflect his place of birth.

His father was also John Mitchell (1835 - 1896), a grocer and wine and spirit merchant born in Lochgilphead.

His mother was Janet McMillan (1836 - 1920) who was born in Campbelltown.

John spent his early life in Campbelltown and was educated at the local Grammar School. He was apprenticed as a lawyer before changing career direction, such that by 1874 he was attending the Trustees Academy in Edinburgh, and by 1887 he was studying art in Paris.

By 1891 census the whole family had moved to Newington, Edinburgh. John senior was a wine merchant and John junior, age 29, was an art student.

In 1896 he married Mary Agnes Cameron in Cupar, Fife. Mary was born in Dumfries.

In 1896 the couple's first child John Patrick Campbell Mitchell was born in Newington, Edinburgh

In 1901 census John, and Mary with son John P.C. Mitchell, age 3, were living in Newington, Edinburgh. John was a 'drawing master'.

Around this time, John is believed to have spent some months in Galloway. He enjoyed painting interesting skies. 'Autumn at Carrick' is one of his paintings from this period.

Another son, Colin Campbell Mitchell was born in 1904.

By 1911 the family were living in Corstorphine, Edinburgh although only John and his son John were at home on census night.

In 1917 The Mitchell's elder son, John, was killed during the Battle of Arras, France. He was in the RAF.

The couple's other son Colin became a well known scientist.

John Campbell Mitchell died on 15th February 1922 at home in Clermiston Road, Corstorphine, Edinburgh. His wife Mary Agnes died in Edinburgh in 1925.



John Campbell Mitchell

His Work

It is clear that John Campbell Mitchell was particularly adept at depicting clouds in his paintings.

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Galloway Hillside



Clatteringshaws



On the Solway



Cattle on the Solway