

**NAME:** GUNN, Isabel                      **PARISH:** Orphir, Orkney                      **ENTERED SERVICE:** 26 June 1806  
[also FUBBISTER, John also Mary of St. Andrews; GUN, Isobel or Isabella]

**DATES:** b. 10 Aug. 1780  
d. 7 Nov. 1861

Appointments & Service

Outfit Year:	Position:	Post:	District:	HBCA Reference:
<i>*An Outfit year ran from 1 June to 31 May</i>				
1806	Came out on <i>Prince of Wales</i> to Moose, then on to Albany			C.1/765 fo. 2, 38d, 44; B.135/a/ 93 fo. 40d; B.3/a/108 fo. 20d
1806-1807	Labourer	Albany	Albany River	A.15/7 fo. 59; A.5/5 <i>passim</i> ; B.3/d/119 fo. 48d, 50d, 53. B.3/a/109 fos. 1d, 3 B.3/a/109 fos. 11d, 14 B.3/a/109 fo. 14d
Six trips inland including:				Coues, ed., <i>Alexander Henry Journal</i>
1806, 9-28 September	Travelled (also John Scarth) to Henley House			E.3/3 fo. 58-58d (24 May 1808);
1807, 21 May-19 June	Travelled (also John Scarth) to Martins Fall			B.3/a/110 fo. 35d-36
1807, 22 June	Left Albany for Martins Fall, on to Pembina in the fall			B.3/d/122 fo. 54d, 57d, 60
1807, 29 Dec.	Gave birth to a boy at Pembina in the North West Company House			B.3/a/111 fo. 23d; B.3/f/7
1808, May	Left for Albany via Martins Falls with Hugh Heney			fos. 1d-2
1808-1809	Washerwoman	Albany		
1809, 14 Sept.	Discharged, since "We cannot think of keeping this Woman any longer, as she is of a bad Character, and has not answered the intentions for which she was detained.			
1809, 20 Sept.	Isabel and her son went home on <i>Prince of Wales</i> .			C.1/772 fos. 2, 68; A.16/7 fo. 59
1821	Living with James Scarth (14, at school) and Nelly Craig (8, at school)			1821 Census of Stromness
1851	Living on Hellyhole Street as a "stocking knitter"			1851 Census of Stromness
1861	Living on Main Street south end as a "stocking & mitten maker"			1861 Census of Stromness
1861, 7 Nov.	Died			<i>The Orcadian</i> , 23 Nov. 1861 p. 3



**Parents:** John Gunn and Isobel Leask m. 22 Dec. 1764 (Warren Sinclair)  
**Siblings:** Jean b. 1765 (Warren Sinclair); George (1768-1852) m. 1809 Margaret Leask (1784-post 1861) (Warren Sinclair); Marjory b. 1771 (Warren Sinclair); Janet b. 1777 (Warren Sinclair); Helen b. 1784 (Warren Sinclair)  
**Son:** James Scarth (son of John Scarth) b. 29 Dec. 1807, baptized by William Harper, school teacher at Albany 16 October 1808 (B.3/a/111 fo. 5) and registered at by William Clouston Stromness 12 Nov. 1809 (Warren Sinclair)

**References:**

Search File "Gun, Isabella"; *Dictionary of Canadian Biography* Vol. V  
Alexander Henry Journal, 29 Dec. 1807 (Elliott Coues edition, p. 426); Brandon House Journal (B.22/a/15, 2 March 1808); Albany House Journal (B.3/a/110 fo. 36)  
**Novels:** Stuart Whitley, *Climates of Our Birth: A Novel* (Winnipeg: Watson & Dwyer, c. 1994); Audrey Thomas *Isobel Gunn* (Penguin, 1999)  
**Poems:** Stephen Scobie, *The Ballad of Isabel Gunn* (Quarry, 1987); Anne Fleming, "Questions for Isabelle Gunn," *Prairie Fire* Spring 1994, (15 No. 1) pp. 136-139  
**Article:** Bolus, Malvina, "Son of I. Gun," *The Beaver*, Winter 1971, pp. 23-26