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20-23 MAY
2020
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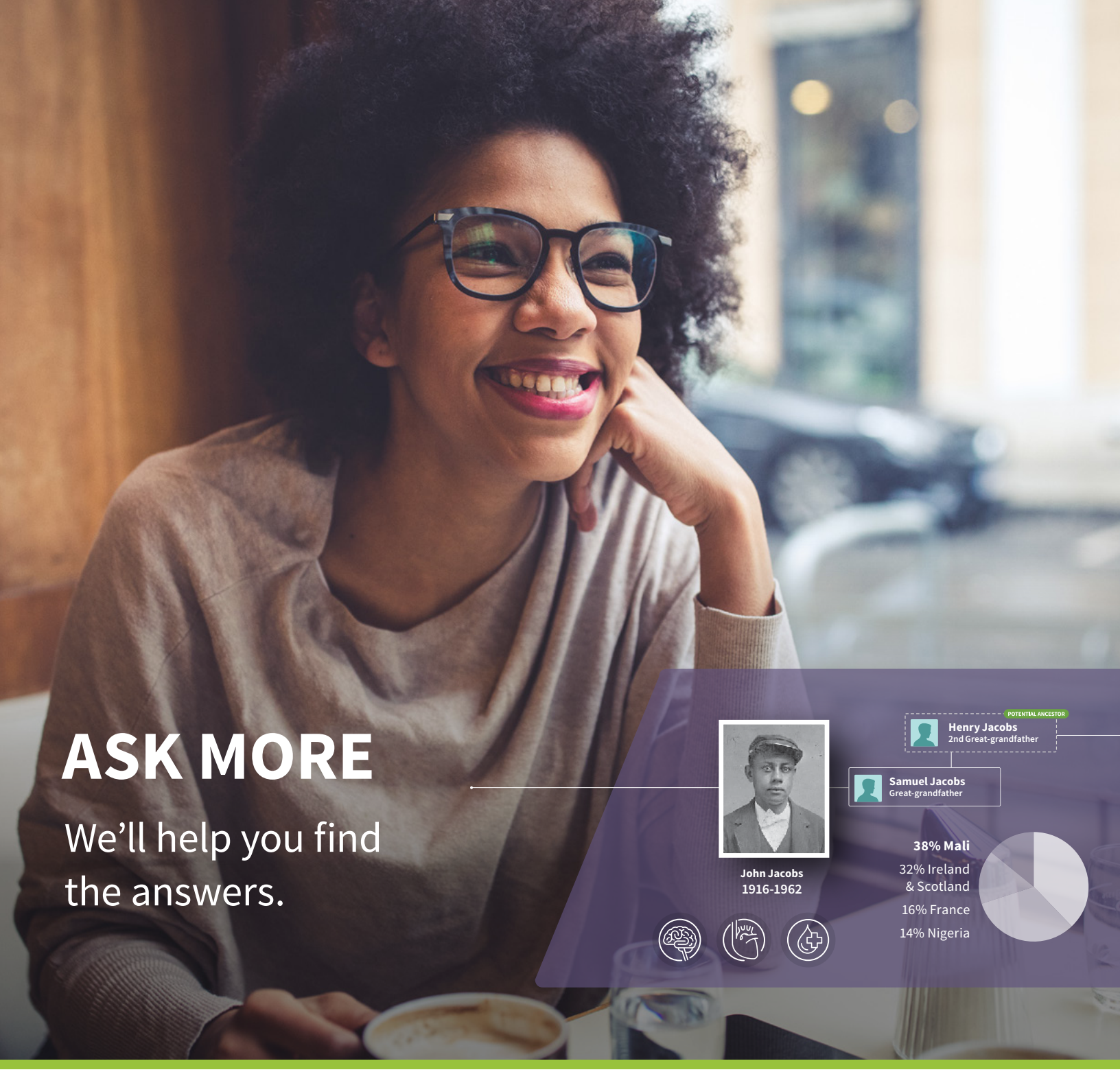

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2020 FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
20–23 MAY 2020

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE SYLLABUS

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Edited and authored by Aaron Goodwin, an award-winning genealogist, *NGS Monthly's* articles help researchers of all levels. The articles offer family historians invaluable insights on methodology and digestible recommendations on genealogical research by considering the techniques of skilled researchers and scholars, and how they solved difficult research problems. Topics often examine valuable lessons in case studies published in the scholarly *NGS Quarterly* to help readers understand how to apply new concepts to their own work.

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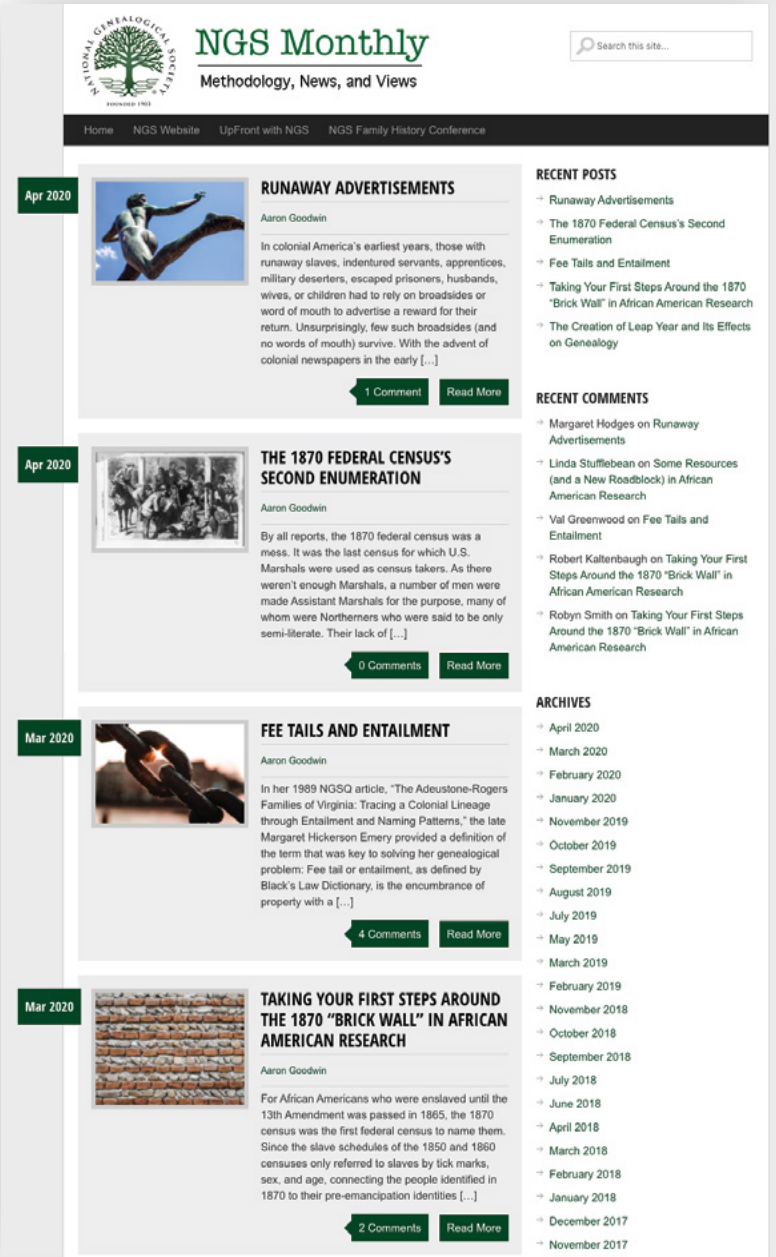

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NGS Announces Virtual Family History Conference for 2020

Join us for NGS 2020 Live! on 20 May, 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (EDT). Registration for the 20 May event closes on 15 May 2020.

NGS 2020 Live! includes lectures from Blaine Bettinger, Thomas Jones, Elizabeth Shown Mills, Steffani Raff, Judy Russell, Ancestry, FamilySearch, and FamilyTreeDNA. Plus there will be live chat, Q&A, and a chance to win over fifteen great prizes.

If previously registered for Salt Lake City, your registration has been converted to virtual.

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Register at **conference.ngsgenealogy.org**

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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

NGS Members, Conference Attendees, Speakers, Sponsors, and Exhibitors:

On behalf of the National Genealogical Society Board of Directors, our staff, and our local host, the Utah Genealogical Association (UGA), I am pleased to welcome you to Salt Lake City and the NGS 2020 Family History Conference, Echoes of Our Ancestors. Our conference committee has created a powerful program of more than 175 lectures. During the next four days, our presenters will help you advance your research by offering techniques and resources to discover your roots and build your family tree.

The conference is designed for family history researchers at all levels—beginner, intermediate and advanced. Tracks of lecture topics will sharpen your skills in diverse areas including BCG Skillbuilding, DNA, Ethnic Resources, Methodology, Religion, Records, Specialized Collections at the Family History Library, and much more. Geographical focus will center on Utah and neighboring states, along with migration into and out of the region. Topics range from local, state, regional, and general genealogy to broader topics on genetic genealogy.

We are pleased that on the Tuesday prior to the conference, the BCG Education Fund will host its workshop, Putting Skills to Work; ProQuest will host a Librarians' Day; UGA will offer several tours in the area including a visit to the Natural History Museum and Red Butte Garden; and BYU is offering a tour of their Family History Library and Special Collections. On Thursday evening, UGA will host a social event featuring talents of former Broadway stars in Echoes of Broadway at the Salt Palace Convention Center.

We thank our sponsors for their generous support. At the Platinum level, this includes Ancestry, FamilySearch, FamilyTreeDNA, and Trace.com. MyHeritage is a Diamond Sponsor and at the Silver level are American Ancestors by NEHGS, BYU Center for Family History and Genealogy, and ProQuest.

We also extend our thanks to the genealogical societies that sponsor luncheons and lectures and our exhibitors and speakers. Without the support of so many, including our terrific volunteers, our program would not be possible.

Thank you for attending the conference and supporting the National Genealogical Society. We hope that you enjoy your time with us in Salt Lake City as you see old friends, meet new colleagues, and have fun. And most important, may what you learn at this conference help you build a solid foundation for your family history, fine-tune your research skills, and refine your methodology.

Ben Spratling, President

Utah Genealogical Association

UGAgenealogy.org

On behalf of the Utah Genealogical Association, we are very excited to welcome everyone to our beautiful state to attend the 2020 National Genealogical Society Conference! UGA has been preparing for more than a year and a half for your arrival and we hope that you will enjoy all the many lectures and activities prepared for you at this NGS conference.

We recommend that you find time to enjoy the world class genealogical research facilities at the FamilySearch Library. The FamilySearch Library is open to the public and contains genealogical records from all parts of the world. The library has especially large collections for the United States, British Isles, Scandinavia, Europe, and Latin America. In addition, the FamilySearch Library has fun, engaging, interactive discovery experiences for all ages.

We would like to thank NGS for choosing the Utah Genealogical Association to host this conference. A special thanks to all the UGA committee members that have spent many long hours preparing for this amazing event. We would like to also thank the many local volunteers that are serving us at this conference. During this conference, we hope that you will meet some new friends, and make some great memories.

Kelly Summers, President
Utah Genealogical Association

Utah Genealogical Association provides genealogical information, resources, and education through instruction and published media on state, national and international family history topics, while promoting high standards and ethical practices among genealogists.

UGAgenealogy.org

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February 13, 2020

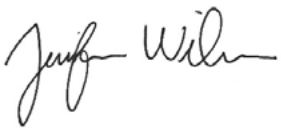
Welcome!

As the Mayor of Salt Lake County, I'm proud and pleased to welcome National Genealogical Society.

The 2020 NGS Family History Conference held on May 20-23, 2020 will attract over 2,000 attendees from around the globe to our city which has some of the best genealogical research resources in the U.S. The citizens of Salt Lake and I appreciate your visit, and your association's commitment to further the study of family history. And, I'm confident that your time in our community will be conducive to learning, researching, and networking.

While you're here, please take time to enjoy Salt Lake's many attractions, including the Family History Library, City Creek Center, Clark Planetarium, IMAX Theater, Discovery Gateway Children's Museum, The Leonardo, Utah Museum of Contemporary Art, and the many aspects of Historic Temple Square. There are over 200 restaurants and brewpubs in the walkable convention district where you can interact with our friendly locals.
Again, thank you for visiting Salt Lake, and best wishes for a successful conference.

Sincerely,



Jenny Wilson
Salt Lake County Mayor

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1894

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  Chris Paton
- **Hidden Treasures in Welsh Family History**
  Darris Williams
- **English Research: The Fundamentals and Beyond**
  Paul Milner

Due to Covid-19 the 2020 British Institute will be virtual. Each presenter will introduce topics they will cover in 2021, so you can begin your research while staying healthy and safe at home. Basic through intermediate levels of instruction will be offered in four "live" presentations with "live" question and answer time. From the comfort of your home access a full syllabus highlighting relevant record groups. Courses will run consecutively, so take one or all three from 12–14 October. We hope to "see" you there!

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International Society for British Genealogy and Family History

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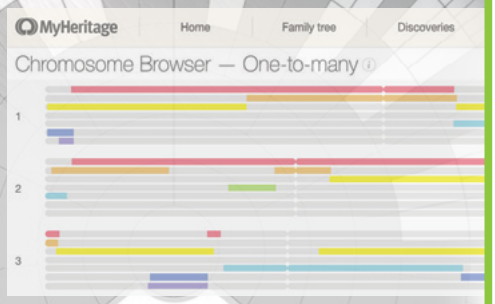

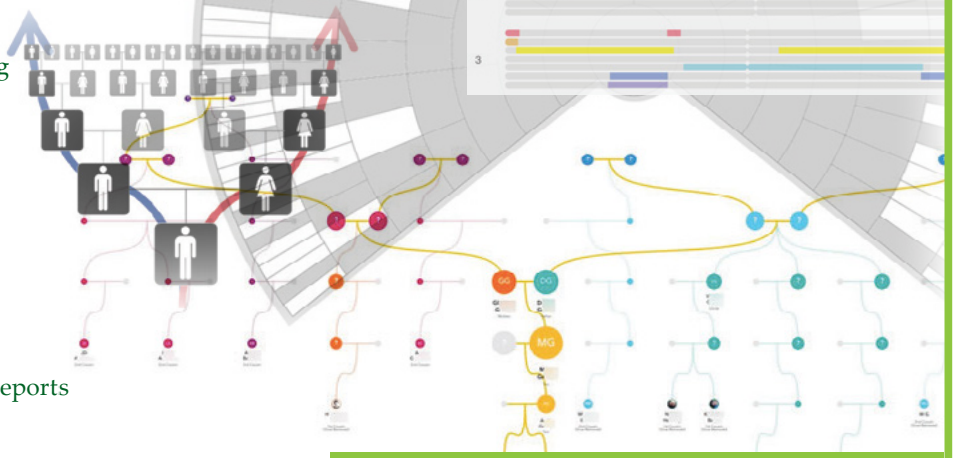

Author, Angie Bush, MS, expert genetic genealogist

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CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Suzanne Russo Adams, AG, senior content strategist, FamilySearch. Former APG and UGA board member; ICAPGen Commissioner; author of *Finding Your Italian Ancestors.*

Jan Meisels Allen, chair of the IAJGS PRAMC, represents IAJGS on RPAC, and president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Conejo Valley and Ventura County, California.

Jan Alpert, FNGS, chair of RPAC, chair of NGS conference committee, NGS board member, and former NGS president.

Danni Altman-Newell is a ProGen graduate and volunteers at the National World War I Museum. She specializes in Great War, fraternal organizations, and Midwest research.

James M. Beidler, author of four books; writes "Roots & Branches," a newspaper column and blog; and is a research-reports editor for Legacy Tree Genealogists.

Kelli Bergheimer owns Mess on the Desk, a genealogical organization company. She is also the facilitator of Genetics, Genealogy, and You.

Blaine T. Bettinger, PhD, JD, is a genealogy author, blogger, and educator. He has been writing and educating about DNA evidence since 2007.

Michael Brophy, professional genealogical researcher, heir-search specialist; featured on the Irish TV series *Dead Money*; and conducted research for *Who Do You Think You Are.*

Janine Cloud manages FamilyTreeDNA's Group Projects team and works closely with the FTDNA Y haplotree specialists and haplogroup project administrators.

Crista Cowan, Ancestry's corporate genealogist, has worked at Ancestry since 2004. Crista, as *The Barefoot Genealogist,* hosts videos on the Ancestry YouTube channel.

Molly Mulcahy Crawford, NAPHSIS President and State Registrar, Minnesota Vital Records.

Skip Duett is a member of the NYG&B Family History Advisory Committee and speaks on New York and DNA topics.

Nicole Dyer, professional genealogist with a BA in history. Teacher, lecturer, author, and creator of the "Research Like a Pro" Genealogy Podcast and FamilyLocket.

Pam Stone Eagleson, CG, researcher, writer, educator; winner of the 2004 NGS Family History Writing Contest; member of APG, NGS, and many regional genealogical societies.

Diana Elder, AG, professional genealogist, presentation specialist for ICAPGen, author of *Research Like a Pro: A Genealogist's Guide,* podcast host, and online course instructor.

Forrest Emmett, BA in family history from BYU; interned with the FamilySearch CGO office, performing an in-depth study on records for the Shoshone nations.

Michelle Ercanbrack Michelle Ercanbrack has been a professional family historian since 2009, and is the owner of Apple Meet Tree.

Joseph B. Everett, AG, MLS, family and local history librarian at BYU, with twenty-five years of genealogy experience, and specializes in US immigration, Germanic, and Slavic research.

Janis Minor Forte, writer, lecturer, presenter at the NGS, OGS, RootsTech, FGS, and local conferences, holds a master's degree from the University of Chicago.

Craig Foster, AG, is a published author and British research specialist at the Family History Library. He is accredited in Ireland and Scotland research.

Emily H. Garber, MA, with Boston University certificate in genealogical research, specializes in Jewish genealogy, methodology, and community research. She speaks, blogs, and writes about research.

Marissa Gardner, AG, graduate of the BYU Family History program and professional genealogist with more than fourteen years' experience. Her passion is tracing immigrant ancestor origins.

Sharon Gillins, researching for more than twenty-five and lecturing for twelve. She emphasizes using underutilized record sources to research nineteenth century southern life.

Debbie Gurtler, AG, works at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Her research expertise includes Latin America, Southern Europe, and the US.

Jenny Hansen, AG, graduated from BYU in family history and genealogy. She is a professional researcher, accredited in Danish research.

Harold Henderson, CG, a professional genealogist since 2009 and a board-certified genealogist since 2012. He has given and received peer review in many formats.

Laurie Hermance-Moore, MLS, AG, owner of Heritage Bridge, creates history-driven experiences for clients with midwestern roots; She lectures on Midwest history, records, and creative ways to search.

Patti Hobbs, CG, is an instructor specializing in several geographical regions as well as in identifying distant ancestry with DNA and documentary sources.

Pamela Guye Holland is a professional genealogist and specializes in Irish research and genetic genealogy. She lectures, serves on various boards, and works for NEHGS.

Daniel Horowitz is a genealogy expert at MyHeritage; liaison with genealogy societies, bloggers, and media; and lecturer worldwide. Dedicated to genealogy since 1986.

Sharon Hoyt, MLIS, CG, is a genealogy researcher, lecturer, and writer, and a winner of the NGS and Minnesota Genealogical Society Family History Writing Contests.

Miyamoto Loretta Jensen is a BYU graduate and professional researcher; specializing in Polynesian family history and genealogy.

Daniel Jones, AG, research specialist in Germanic and Slavic Europe at the Family History Library and a presenter at national conferences including FGS, IGHR, SLIG, and RootsTech.

Karen Mauer Jones, CG, FGBS, FUGA, author, lecturer, professional genealogist, and former editor of *NYG&B Record*. She served on the boards of APG and FGS.

Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG, FASG, FUGA, FNGS, an award-winning genealogical author and researcher and speaker at conferences, institutes, and seminars. Author of *Mastering Genealogical Proof and Mastering Genealogical Documentation.*

Andre Kearns, a genealogist since 2006, who shares his research as a public speaker and blogger at *Andre Kearns–Blogging on Race, Culture, History and Genealogy.*

Rebecca Whitman Koford, CG, CGL, focuses on Maryland and military records at the National Archives in D.C. She is administrator of the ProGen Study Groups.

Lianne Kruger has taught computer software courses since 1982. She loves amalgamating her teaching and computer skills with genealogy knowledge and experience to help others.

Michael D. Lacopo, DVM, is a professional genealogist based in Indiana. Researching since 1980, his expertise includes genetic genealogy, Pennsylvania German research, and social history.

David Lambert, chief genealogist at NEHGS since 1993. He is an international speaker and author of genealogy and military history.

Peggy Lauritzen, AG, FOGS, conference speaker, Family History Center director; columnist for *Reminisce Magazine*, recipient of the Laura G. Prescott Award for Exemplary Service in Genealogy.

Rhonda Lauritzen, speaker and professional biographer specializing in placemaking and oral history. She is the founder of Evalogue.Life and served as a college vice president.

Daniel R. Lilienkamp, JD, reference specialist at History & Genealogy, St. Louis County Library, lectures on the US frontier, African American, Quebec, German, Alsace-Lorraine, and Swiss research.

Barbara Vines Little, CG, FNGS, FUGA, FVGS, former NGS president; Virginia track course coordinator SLIG 2020; editor of the NGS Research in the States series and the *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy.*

Janice Lovelace, PhD, twenty-five years of experience researching family history, presents nationally on a variety of topics including ethnic groups and health research.

Annette Burke Lyttle, professional genealogist whose specialties include research methods, military, other record groups, migration, Quakers, and telling our ancestors' stories.

Angela Packer McGhie, CG, is the education director for the National Genealogical Society and a trustee for the Board for Certification of Genealogists.

Julie Miller, CG, CGL, FNGS, professional researcher, speaker, and writer; NGS Conference Committee; former NGS Education Manager; articles in NGSQ and NGS Magazine; twenty-one years as a NARA-Denver volunteer.

Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS, FUGA, pioneer in problem-solving methodology, past editor of *NGSQ*, past-president of ASG and BCG, and author-editor of *Evidence Explained* and *Professional Genealogy: Preparation, Practice & Standards.*

Anne Gillespie Mitchell, product manager at Ancestry working on Ancestry Library, K12, and RootsWeb. She has been a faculty member at SLIG and TIGR, and lectured for more than a decade.

Jill Morelli, CG, lectures about her Midwestern, northern German, and Scandinavian ancestors nationwide with a focus on intermediate and advanced methodologies and unique record sets.

Frederick E. Moss, JD, LLM, is legal advisor for FGS, represents FGS on RPAC, former law school associate dean and Colonel (retired) Judge Advocate General Corps.

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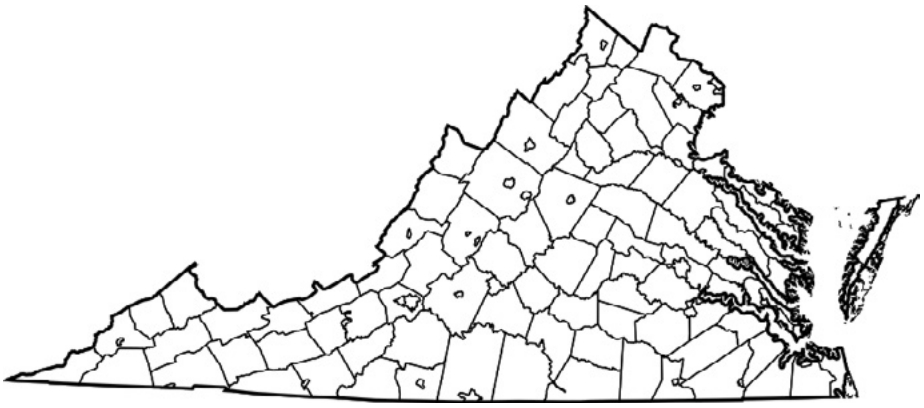

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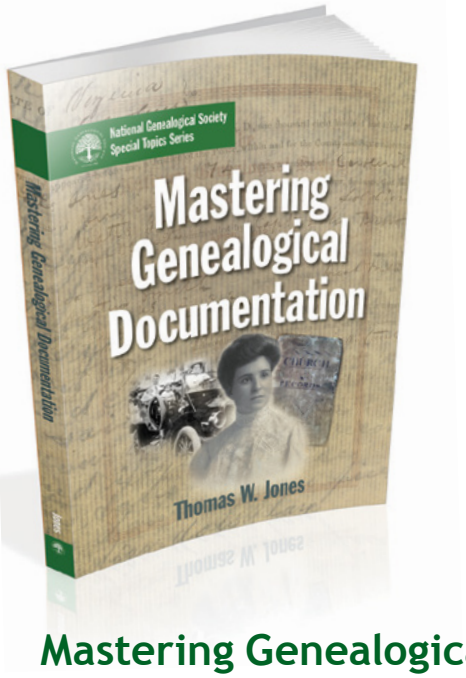

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Mastering Genealogical Proof

Mastering Genealogical Proof teaches family historians and genealogists how to reconstruct the relationships and lives of their ancestors. Readers learn about the fundamentals of the Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS), what genealogists mean by "reasonably exhaustive" research, the basics of citing sources, analysis, problem-solving, and more. Content is presented in digestible chunks. Each chapter concludes with problems providing practice for proficiently applying the chapter's concepts. Those problems—as well as examples throughout the book—use real records, research, and issues. Answers are at the back of the book along with a glossary of technical terms and an extensive resource list.

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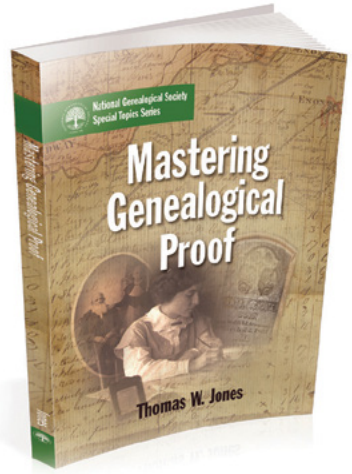

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Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG, FASG, FNGS, FUGA, is an award-winning genealogical researcher and educator. Hhe has taught at Boston University, the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh, and elsewhere. Jones was the co-editor from 2002 to 2018 of the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly.*

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Judy Nimer Muhn, conference speaker, specializes in French-Canadian, Acadian, Native American and Michigan research. Owner of Lineage Journeys, conducts research for clients.

Suzanne Kelting Myers, DO, loves all things Wild West, but also researches probate, adoption, and family history. She's an editor, lecturer and experienced educator.

Michael John Neill has extensive experience researching families of rural Midwest immigrant backgrounds and creating genealogical instructional methods.

Gena Philibert-Ortega is an author, researcher, and instructor. Current research includes women's citizenship, community cookbooks, and women's material culture.

David Ouimette, CG, CGL, BCG trustee, manages Content Strategy at FamilySearch, has researched in over fifty countries across all continents, and authored *Finding Your Irish Ancestors*.

Dana Palmer, CG, CGL, teacher, lecturer, author, and professional genealogist. Expertise in midwestern research (specifically Ohio), publishing family books, photo editing, and lineage societies.

Dan Poffenberger, AG, British Isles research manager at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, specializes in English research.

Steffani Raff, award-winning storyteller, winning the Storytelling World Award in 2016 for *The Ravenous Gown: And 14 More Tales about Real Beauty."*

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Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL, *The Legal Genealogist*, provides expert guidance through the murky territory where law, history, and genealogy come together.

Rick Sayre, CG, CGL, FUGA, former president BCG. Expertise in National Archives, Irish research, land records, government, federal land law, military, and urban research. Teaches at national institutes.

Craig R. Scott, CG, FUGA, researcher and genealogical educator for over thirty years, who specializes in NARA military records, problem solving, and publishing.

Jeanette Shiel, CG, degree in history, minor in film studies. With over twenty years of family history research experience, she enjoys teaching, lecturing, and writing.

Joseph Shumway, AG, professional for sixteen years, works with Ancestry ProGenealogists. Recognized for his work on *Who Do You Think You Are?* with thirteen guest appearances.

Janette Silverman, DSJS, research team manager, Ancestry ProGenealogists, specializes in Eastern European and Jewish research. Her dissertation, "In Living Memory," focused on Jewish genealogical research.

C. Ann Staley, CG, CGL, educator; consultant; co-leader Ann-Mar Genealogy Trips; faculty, NIGS; GSG vice president; author of articles for *NGS Magazine* and co-author of *NGS Research in the States, Florida.*

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Lori Thornton, MLS, author of *NGS Research in Mississippi*, specializes in southern research and religious records. She speaks on library and genealogical topics.

Jessica Trotter, MLS, is a researcher, blogger, and archivist working in public libraries. Her research focuses on African American, Midwest, Canadian, British Isles, and early American research.

Rich Venezia is a veteran of both *Genealogy Roadshow*'s research team and *TEDx Pittsburgh* (2017). He lives in Pennsylvania and specializes in twentieth-century immigration research.

Pamela Vittorio is an Associate Professor in NYC and a professional genealogist. She frequently lectures on historical and genealogical topics associated with North American canals.

Lauren Wake holds a BA in Family History and Genealogy from BYU and works as a Latin American Research Specialist at the Family History Library.

Kelsee Walker holds a BA in Family History and Genealogy from BYU, specializing in German and English research. She now works as a research contractor in Kansas.

Carolyn Webber, *DNA Ancestry Detective,* loves to solve mysteries and make family connections; passionate about sharing genealogical and genetic skills with others.

Ari Wilkins is a genealogy professional and staff member at Dallas Public Library. Researching for the past twenty-years, she specializes in African American research.

Katherine R. Willson, lecturer at regional and national events; president of Michigan Genealogical Council and Virtual Genealogical Association; APG board; FGS 2019 Conference Publicity Chair.

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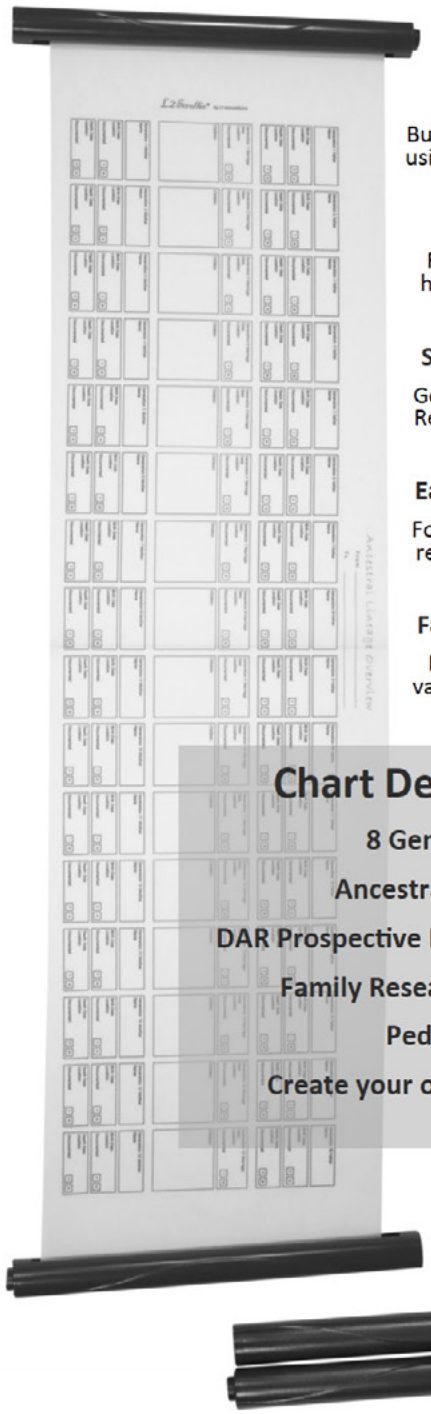

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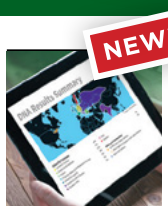


Understanding and Using DNA Test Results

Helps you understand and apply your test results in combination with traditional genealogical research to build your family tree. It covers basic types of DNA tests, including autosomal DNA, mitochondrial DNA, and Y-DNA; differences between companies that offer genetic testing; and useful third-party tools. To get the most out of the course, students should have taken an autosomal DNA test.

Genetic Genealogy, Autosomal DNA

This intermediate course focuses on using autosomal DNA to find unknown ancestors. The process uses detailed analysis and triangulation of genetic cousins' shared segments to identify common ancestors. It addresses population databases and admixture percentages as well as the use of well–researched family trees in DNA analysis.

War of 1812 Records

Explains the various records associated with the War of 1812 and their genealogical significance. Students will increase their knowledge of numerous records including Acts of Congress, pension records, Compiled Military Service Records, bounty land records, Army, Naval, and Marine Corps records, muster rolls, ships' logs, diplomatic records, and state militia records.

Researching 17th and 18th Century German Ancestors

Introduces family historians to the records, history, and causes of German migration to colonial America, the impact of religious persecution, groups that migrated, and early German settlements in Pennsylvania. Covers shipping notices, naturalization records, books, and church records in both America and Europe; how to use German guild registers, tax lists, and citizenship records.

African American Roots: A Historical Perspective

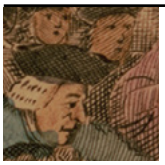
Covers records that pertain to slavery, censuses, vital records, the Freedmen's Bureau, military, and civil service records. The course begins with an overview of how to conduct genealogical research and the Genealogical Proof Standard. It examines the role of Africans, their descendants in the colonies, the growth of slavery, emancipation, and subsequent events.

Effective Use of Deeds

Designed to help family historians increase their proficiency in reading, transcribing, deciphering, and citing various deeds. Learn about types of deeds; documents associated with deeds; how to locate deeds in courthouses and libraries. You'll also learn how to transcribe and abstract a deed and how to analyze and evaluate its evidence.

Federal Land Records

Learn about the different types of land entries including cash entries, donation land, homesteads, and military bounty land. Covers which types of documents to expect in the land entry files, how to find out if an individual applied for federal land, and how to locate and order copies of the records.



Researching Your Revolutionary War Ancestors

Covers US records created during and after the war and Revolutionary War repositories such as the Library of Congress, US Army Heritage and Education Center, and National Archives. Includes military units organized; how soldiers were ranked; battle locations; bounty land awards; pension and payment records; the Compiled Military Service Record; fraternal and lineage society organizations.

Introduction to Civil War Research

Teaches how to trace ancestors, locate and understand the Compiled Military Service Record, research Union and Confederate military and prison records. Includes Civil War repositories: Library of Congress, the US Army Heritage and Education Center, and National Archives. Learn about rank; battles; pension index and application files; death and burial records.

Researching Your World War I Ancestors

Introduces records for the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps, to trace a soldier's unit during the war. Teaches about serial numbers, units, personnel records; who served in US Army divisions, American Expeditionary Forces, US Navy, and Red Cross. How to request Official Military Personnel Files; locate and obtain records of death and burial in US military cemeteries.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AG	Accredited Genealogist®
APG	Association of Professional Genealogists
ASG	American Society of Genealogists
BBC	British Broadcasting Company
BCG	Board for Certification of Genealogists®
BYU	Brigham Young University
CG	Certified Genealogist®
CGL	Certified Genealogical Lecturer℠
CGO	Chief Genealogical Officer
DO	Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
DSJS	Doctor of Science in Jewish Studies
DVM	Doctor of Veterinary Medicine
FASG	Fellow, American Society of Genealogists
FGBS	Fellow, New York Genealogical and Biographical Society
FGS	Federation of Genealogical Societies
FIGRS	Fellow, Irish Genealogical Research Society
FNGS	Fellow, National Genealogical Society
FOGS	Fellow, Ohio Genealogical Society
FUGA	Fellow, Utah Genealogical Association
FVGS	Fellow, Virginia Genealogical Society
Gen-Fed	Genealogical Institute on Federal Records
GPS	Genealogical Proof Standard
GRIP	Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh
GSG	Genealogical Speakers Guild
IAJGS	The International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies
ICAPGen	International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists℠
IGHR	Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research, University of Georgia
MLIS	Master of Library and Information Science
MLS	Master of Library Science
NAPHSIS	National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems
NARA	National Archives and Records Administration
NEHGS	New England Historic Genealogical Society
NGS	National Genealogical Society®
NGSQ	*National Genealogical Society Quarterly*
NIGS	National Institute for Genealogical Studies
NYG&B	New York Genealogical and Biographical Society
OGS	Ohio Genealogical Society
PBS	Public Broadcasting Service
PRAMC	IAJGS Public Record Access Monitoring Committee
ProGen	Professional Genealogy Study Group
RPAC	Records Preservation and Access Committee
SLIG	Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy
TEDx	Technology, Entertainment, and Design talks in local communities
UGA	Utah Genealogical Association

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Shamrocks in Cyberspace: Irish Genealogy Databases

Presented by Michael Brophy

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The volume of Irish websites has exploded in recent years. With over 70 million people worldwide claiming some Irish ancestry, the island over 4 million people have seen increased interest in travelers exploring their family history. Genealogy databases have increased dramatically in recent years to bring the Island's rich history to life. Substantial knowledge of your Irish immigrant ancestor is mandatory before exploring the great databases of Irish genealogy. This necessary first step will be followed by looking at your Irish ancestors from afar, on the internet, before you make your genealogy research trip.

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Websites to be covered: **P= paid** website **F=** free website

A. www.ancestry.com Recent release of indexed Irish Catholic sacramental records. Other collections include Civil records birth, marriage, and death indices 1864-1958, Griffith's Valuation, Irish Census records, 1916 Easter Rising records and other collections. See card catalog for comprehensive listing.

B. www.findmypast.ie **P** Contains the largest collection of Irish Land and Estate Records on the internet, the published version of Griffith's Valuation, Irish Prison records, directories, military and rebellion records, some migration records and wills. Birth marriage, and death records added in 2013. Petty session Court records 22MM added over the last several years, a unique collection.

C. www.rootsireland.ie **P** The website of the Irish Family History Foundation. The collection contains transcribed records of baptism/birth, marriage and death records. Not a complete collection of these records but the most comprehensive on the internet. Also contains census records that remain from 19th century Ireland and the 1901 and 1911 census. The site has smaller collections of passenger lists, gravestone inscriptions and Griffith's valuation.

D. www.johngrenham.com **P** John Grenham's surname search and finding aids Leveraging the surnames of 19th century Ireland will give a general idea of clusters of surnames in specific counties. Because the population was relatively static, the tool gives and idea on where to look for your ancestors by unlocking the power of surnames. Cross referencing a second surname by marriage can pinpoint a family within a county.

E. www.nationalarchives.ie **F** The website of the National Archives in Dublin. The best resource is the complete 1901 and 1911 census. Contains actual images of the census returns. Offers a general search of miscellaneous records that have been digitized. Recently added Tithe Applotment books offer a look at early 19th century rural heads of households.

F. www.nli.ie **F** The website of the National Library in Dublin. The mandatory source for any genealogy traveler to Ireland is the online version of *Manuscript Sources for the History of Irish Civilization*, entitled *Sources.* More comprehensive than the printed version, the collection contains over 180,000 manuscript sources for Irish history. Finding aids for Irish newspapers and Roman Catholic parish registers are found here. Catholic sacramental records were recently added this past summer.

G. www.proni.ie **F** The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. The recently relocated research repository contains an online database of freeholders who were entitled to vote. The list contains freeholders from the 18th and 19th century and helps alleviate the lack f census records from the

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period. Other online collections contain will calendars, street directories for 19th and 20th century Northern Ireland, and a name search for other miscellaneous collections.

H. www.irishgenealogy.ie **F** Website sponsored by the Irish government's department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltachta. New Civil vital records online for the whole island for births 1864-1919, marriages 1845-1944, and deaths 1878-1969. To help promote tourism the site offers church records from counties Carlow, Cork, Dublin, and Kerry.

I. www.thecore.com/seanruad/ **F** The 1851 index to Townlands and Towns, Parishes and Baronies is digitized here. A key to finding an exact place name for our ancestral homeland is to know the various political and religious divisions of Ireland. A great finding aid for civil boundaries.

J. www.askaboutireland.ie **F** A good guide to Griffith's Primary Valuation, published between 1847 and 1864. The primary census substitute for 19th century Ireland is digitized here. A tax list in its original inception, the valuation of properties was a multi decade task to value all the property in Ireland.

Other Websites relating to Irish genealogy and Family History research.

1. www.Cyndi'slist.com Links to hundreds of thousands of genealogy websites. Great finding aid.
2. www.familysearch.org Website of the Latter Day Saints Church. Free access to world census info and lending library catalog. Index of Civil Registration from 1845-1958.
3. www.rootsweb.com Specialized mailing lists and community message boards.
4. www.newspaperarchives.com Historic newspaper archive
5. www.usgenweb.org Free Genealogy website access project.
6. www.tiara.ie Best Irish-American genealogy group in Massachusetts. Insurance policies for Boston Irish immigrants are listed here.
7. http://www.ireland.com/ancestor/index.cfm gives a General Idea of Irish Surname origins
8. www.movinghere.org.uk Loan Fund Records Loans made in the late 1830's and 1840's by local boards and from London

11 www.eneclann.ie Eneclann commercial site for Irish CDS and books

12 www.irishhistoricicmaps.ie/historic Ordnance Survey maps released a digital archive of maps from 1837-1842 and 1888 to 1913. When used with other records, this site can help pinpoint ancestral home

13. www.groireland.ie Website for ordering Civil Registration records for the Republic of Ireland
14. www.nidirect.gov.uk/gro General register Office of Northern Ireland for ordering Civil Records
15. http://ireland.anglican.org/about/151 Anglican Parish Registers Online. More to Come!
16. www.irishancestors.ie Website of the Irish Genealogical Research Society. In 2015 and 2012 the society released databases of early Irish Birth and marriage indexes from alternative sources that predate the start of civil registration of births, marriages and deaths in 1864.
17. www.logainm.ie Place name database developed by the Irish government.

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18. www.iar.ie Irish Archive Portal. A guide to locating records and archives in Ireland.
19. www.libraryireland.com/topog Samuel Lewis' 1837 historical and statistical dictionary of place names in Ireland. This is a must resource to put your ancestor in local historic context.
20. www.genuki.org.uk **F** A research guide to Ireland's 32 counties. Contains good information on research sources, travel information and Irish history.

Bibliography and Selected, Suggested books for Irish Research

Grenham, John Tracing Your Irish Ancestors, Fifth Edition, Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, MD, 2019. (The newest edition has updated information on Irish internet resources)

Mitchell, Brian, a *New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland 2nd Edition*, Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, MD, 2002. (Very good guide book for political and religious divisions in Ireland)

Controller, Stationary Office, Dublin, *General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland,* Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, MD, 1861 (A guide book for narrowing down a place name in Ireland)

Reilly, James R*, Richard Griffith and His Valuations of Ireland*, Clearfield Company, Inc., Baltimore, MD, 2002. (Explanation of the chief census substitute of 19th century Ireland)

Roulston, William J, *Researching Scots-Irish Ancestors*, Ulster Historical Foundation, Belfast, Northern Ireland, 2006, (Definitive guide to tracing early modern Ulster ancestry 1600-1800)

Edwards, Ruth Dudley*, an Atlas of Irish History Third Edition*, Routledge, New York, New York, 2005. (A very good map book of Ireland based on historical events)

Ouimette, David S., *What's New in Irish Family History on the Internet*, Samford University Institute of Genealogy and Historic Research, lecture, 9 June 2008.

Paton, Chris, *Irish Family History Sources Online*, Gould Digital, Modbury North, South Australia, 2011. (Definitive Guide, at present, on Irish Family History Sources Online)

Dooley, Terence, *the Big Houses and Landed Estates of Ireland a Research Guide,* Four Courts Press, Portland OR, 2007. (A great guide to researching estate records of landlords in Ireland)

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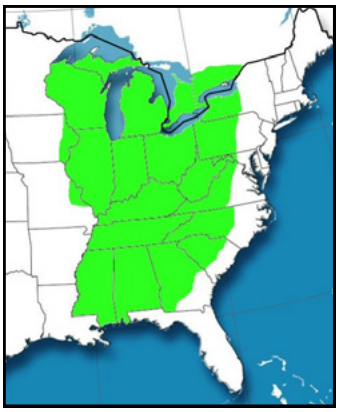

Pioneers of Greater Appalachia: Research in the Draper Manuscript Collection

Daniel R. Lilienkamp, JD
History & Genealogy
St. Louis County Library

Born on 4 September 1815, Lyman Copeland Draper grew up listening to the Revolutionary War stories told by his grandfather and the War of 1812 tales of his father. He became fascinated with American history, particularly the history of the West.

After securing the financial backing of his cousin's husband, Peter A. Remsen, Draper began collecting information about the Revolutionary War and the settlement of the West. Travelling extensively, he met with and interviewed pioneers, veterans, and their children. He copied documents, clipped or transcribed articles from newspapers, wrote and received letters, and occasionally was given original documents. He copied maps and drew new ones. He even purchased parts of the collections of John Dabney Shane and Samuel J. Rea, historians working in the same time and places as himself. These he complied into volumes by subject matter.

Upon Remsen's death, Draper was forced to find another source of income. He secured a position at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and continued to collect documents and other information. He also continued to compile and re-compile them into volumes.

Draper's intention was to use his manuscripts to write a book on Western history and biography which he tentatively titled *Sketches of the Lives of the Pioneers*. He died before his efforts came to fruition. In this, Draper was like a graduate student who never publishes because there might be some, presently unknown, piece of information that will render his current conclusions obsolete. In truth we are the same, waiting forever to publish our own family histories in the hope of one more clue identifying an elusive ancestor.

Draper will provide that his collection of manuscripts go to the State Historical Society of Wisconsin upon his death. When, the society took possession of the papers, the Society executive, Reuben G. Thwaites, oversaw the efforts to make the collection available for public use. This involved continuing Draper's arrangement putting loose manuscripts into bound volumes.

The Society arranged the volumes by subject into fifty series, each one given a one- or two-letter pressmark (A through ZZ with I and II not being used). Subsequently, the volumes were microfilmed and made available to libraries and other institutions. Any item can be found on film if the series, volume, and page number are known. Typically they are recorded in the format [volume series page]. For example, the citation 25 C 12 references volume 25 of the Daniel Boone Papers (series C), page 12. Sometimes the

"page number" is actually an item number in that particular volume rather than the page number. These became the 491 volumes that are now known as the Draper Manuscript collection.

Content of the Collection
In the twenty-first century, our vision of the American West tends to be colored by our experiences of television and movie Westerns. We think of the Wild West as the land of cattle rustlers, outlaws, and desperados, a land of stage coaches, saloons, ranchers, and a few Native Americans, with noble lawmen barely able to keep trouble at bay. Draper's West is the Trans-Appalachian West (see map above), a place infinitely wilder than the West of our imaginations. The courthouse and the lawman were both on the other side of the mountains. The Indians were at least an equal if not greater force than the settlers. The two groups, in the best of conditions, lived in an uneasy truce. People had to rely on themselves. There was no cavalry to ride to the rescue.

By the time Draper began his collecting, this Trans-Appalachian West was a settled land. In talking to the children and the grandchildren of the pioneers and listening to the Revolutionary War stories, he felt he was on a mission: a mission to preserve a history that was already receding into memory.

How to find records
Although the Draper Manuscripts are rich in information, they are not the easiest resource to use. There are a number of indexes and finding aids that will help researchers use the collection. Each will be considered below.

Guide to the Draper Manuscripts
Any discussion of the Draper Manuscript Collection must begin with a discussion of Josephine Harper's *Guide to the Draper Manuscripts*. Her work begins with a discussion of the entire collection, and then provides an overview of each series within the collection, and finally outlines the contents of each volume of the series. Indexes and appendices complete the volume and provide additional information for the researcher.

Calendars
The State Historical Society of Wisconsin published several volumes of indexes to parts of the Draper Manuscript Collection. Called the "Calendar Series," they take their name from the chronological order of the abstracts in the front of the book. An index of the principal names (of people or locations) follows to help the researcher. It does not appear that every name listed in the papers is included in the index, but instead only the key names relative to the documents.

Calendars exist for:

Series J	George Rogers Clark Papers
Series U	Frontier Wars Papers
Series CC	Kentucky Papers
Series DD	Kings Mountain Papers
Series QQ	William Preston Papers
Series SS	David Shepherd Papers
Series TT	South Carolina Papers
Series UU	South Carolina in the Revolution Miscellanies
Series VV	Thomas Sumter Papers
Series XX	Tennessee Papers
Series ZZ	Virginia Papers

Transcriptions
Craig L. Heath transcribed and published several of the Manuscript Series. Each of these transcriptions includes an every-name index. Not only does the index make the documents accessible, but many people find the transcriptions significantly easier to read than the handwritten manuscripts. As with all transcriptions, the researcher must use the actual document in conjunction with the transcription to avoid perpetuating unintended transcriber errors.

Transcriptions exist for:

Series A	George M. Bedinger Papers
Series V	Georgia, Alabama, and South Carolina Papers
Series Z	Illinois Papers
Series GG	Mecklenburg Declaration
Series TT	South Carolina Papers
Series ZZ	Virginia Papers (volumes 1-5 only)

Others have also worked on transcriptions of parts of the Draper Manuscript Collection. The following volumes are known to exist:

Series B	Belue, Ted Franklin, *The Life of Daniel Boone*
Series C 4-13	Crabb, Anne, *Warrior-Pioneers: Extracts from the Boone Papers*
22 S 241—268	Doyle, George F., *Lyman C. Draper's Notes on His Interview with Samuel Boone*
6 S 19—241	Hammon, Neal O., *My Father, Daniel Boone*
21 U	Lobdell, Jared C., *Action at the Galudoghson* December 14 1742
Various	Payne, Dale, Frontier Memories, *Frontier Memories II* and *Frontier Memories III*
Series D	Puryear, Robert Barton III, *Border Forays and Adventures*

Indexes
Karen Mauer Green compiled an *Index to the Draper Manuscripts: Series NN, The Pittsburgh and Northwest Virginia Papers*. The index includes every name mentioned in the text. A brief introduction explains how to use the index for efficiently finding the documents in the original manuscripts.

Draper himself indexed some, but not all, of the volumes. If he created an index, it is included within the volume. Some of his indexes are more detailed than others. Some are more legible than others. Draper made these indexes for his own purposes; he did not make them for us. It is unclear if he indexed every name or only the ones he was interested in for his planned books.

Documentaries
In the early years of the last century, the Wisconsin Historical Society published five compilations of items extracted from the Draper Manuscripts. The items were selected from across the various series and volumes to explain in a chronological order some of the events of the Revolutionary War and the time immediately preceding it. The five, in historical order, are:

Documentary History of Dunmore's War, 1774.
The Revolution on the Upper Ohio, 1775–1777.
Frontier Defense on the Upper Ohio, 1777–1778.
Frontier Advance on the Upper Ohio, 1778–1779.
Frontier Retreat on the Upper Ohio, 1779–1781.

Other authors have also compiled histories from the Draper Manuscripts. The patterns of indexing and citation vary with the individual author. Some of these works are:

Harry G. Enoch	*Affair at Captina Creek.*
	In Search of Morgan's Station and "the Last Indian Raid in Kentucky".
Louis Knott Koontz	*The Virginia Frontier, 1754—1763.*
Jared C. Lobdell	*Further Materials on Lewis Wetzel and the Upper Ohio Frontier.*
	Indian Warfare in Western Pennsylvania and Northwest Virginia at the Time of the Revolution.
	Recollections of Lewis Bonnett, Jr. (1788-1850).
	The Bonnett and Wetzel Families.
Edward P. McCullough	*The Early History of Montgomery County, Kentucky*.
Dale Payne	*Biographical Sketches of the Pioneers*.
	Narratives of Pioneer Life and Border Warfare.
Darren R. Reid	*Daniel Boone and Others on the Kentucky Frontier*.

Strategies for Finding your Ancestors

The Draper Manuscripts are not now and not ever likely to be an easy resource to use. With planning and persistence, however, they do not present an insurmountable challenge.

The key to a successful search is to exhaust all reasonable possibilities. Start with Harpers Guide, then move into the calendars, the transcripts, the printed indexes, and the documentaries. If you ll proceed in a logical order of searching through the materials, it is definitely possible to find your ancestors in the Draper Manuscript Collection.

For More Information

Detailed information about the Draper Manuscript Collection [https://tinyurl.com/y94heatc] or [https://www.slcl.org/sites/default/files/Draper%20Manuscript%20Collection%20guide.pdf]

History & Genealogy's Collection Guide for the Draper Manuscript Collection [https://tinyurl.com/yc5kady2] or [https://www.slcl.org/sites/default/files/HG16%20Draper%20Manuscript%20Collection.pdf]

St. Louis County Library

History & Genealogy at St. Louis County Library

How Settlers Guides Can Help Us Understand Our Ancestor's Migration

Annette Burke Lyttle
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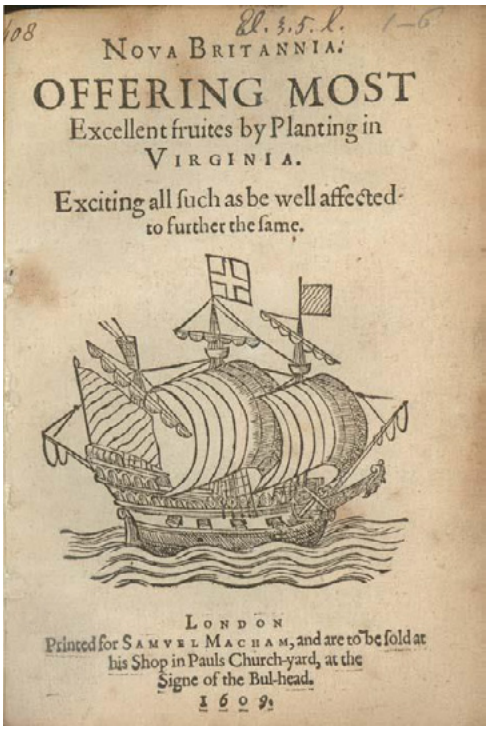
Settlers guides, also called emigrant guides or handbooks, gave our migrating ancestors details about what they could expect when they settled in a new area. While they often painted a bit of a rosy picture, they can give us tremendous insight into our ancestors' lives and also into their aspirations and motivations for moving.

From the Beginning…

From the earliest days of European settlement in North America, guides were produced as recruiting tools for new immigrants. They had several purposes:


NOVA BRITANNIA:
OFFERING MOST
Excellent fruites by Planting in
VIRGINIA.
Exciting all such as be well affected
to further the same.
LONDON
Printed for SAMVEL MACHAM, and are to be sold at
his Shop in Pauls Church-yard, at the
Signe of the Bul-head.
1609.

- To generate excitement about opportunities in the new land.
- To reassure potential settlers by providing information on what they could expect.
- To inform people about transportation available to and within America.
- To instruct readers about farming techniques and other necessary skills.

Guides were produced by early land developers, by government entities, and by individuals who wanted to share what they had learned by living in (or, more often, by visiting) pioneer lands in America. Mostly, they emphasized the benefits of settling on the frontier, but occasionally a writer would give a more realistic view of the ups and downs of pioneer life.

1University of Pennsylvania Library, "Cultural Readings: Colonization & Print in the Americas" http://www.library.upenn.edu/exhibits/rbm/kislak/promotion/a609n001.html

Typical Contents

Many guides covered a lot of territory, so to speak. For example, a guide published in London in 1820 was titled

> A Geographical, Historical, Commercial, and Agricultural View of the United States of America; forming a complete Emigrant's Directory Through every part of the Republic: Particularising the States of Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Indiana, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Illinois; and the Territories of Alabama, Missouri, with a description of the newly-acquired countries, East and West Florida, Michigan, and North-western; and comprising

> important details on the mode of settling, prospect of adventurers, religious opinions, manners and customs of the inhabitants, principal towns and villages, their manufactures, commerce, objects of curiosity, &c.; with a minute and comprehensive description of the soil, productions, climate and aspect of the country; likewise, an account of the British Possessions in Upper and Lower Canada; Accompanied by a whole Sheet Map of the United States; and correct Table or List of the principal Post and Cross Roads throughout the United States Compiled by several Gentlemen, from a variety of Original Manuscripts, and from the latest and best authorities.[1]

So the people who put this guide together were simply gathering information from a variety of other available sources and compiling it, rather than writing from their own experience.

The introduction to a guide to Wisconsin published in 1844 by the British Temperance Emigration Society and Saving Fund paints a dire picture of why people emigrate and a dire picture of emigration itself:

> Thousands of emigrants have been robbed, plundered, misled, and ruined for want of proper information on this important subject.
>
> It is supposed that the increase of the population of England is 1,000 a day. The land gets no larger for us to live upon; there is a general depression of trade, and at the same time no prospect of improvement; and it must be acknowledged by all thinking persons that bad as it is with the present, it is likely to be worse with the rising generation of the working classes.[2]

Other guides offer very practical information about homesteading and becoming naturalized, along with how to farm, how to build farm buildings, how to take care of livestock, how to run a household on the frontier, how to treat various maladies. These details can fill in the stories of our ancestors lives, showing us the work they did and the difficulties they encountered, and putting into perspective just how enormous their accomplishments were.

They can be particularly helpful in giving us insight into the daily lives of our women ancestors, as some have chapters on "Household Department: comprising cookery, pickling, making soap, making cloth, dyeing, etc., etc., etc." An example that can give us pause is this recipe:

> BREAD MADE OF WOOD
> In times of great scarcity, and where famine threatens, it is well to know how to prepare a nutritious substance, which may go under the name of *bread,* from the *beech* and *other*

[1] *A Geographical, Historical, Commercial, and Agricultural View of the Unites States of America…* (London: Edwards & Knibb, 1820). Accessed on *Internet Archive.* https://archive.org/stream/geographicalhist00blow#page/n7/mode/2up

[2] British Temperance Emigration Society and Saving Fund, The Emigrant's Instructor on Wisconsin and the Western States of America (Liverpool: British Temperance Emigration Society and Saving Fund, 1844). Accessed on *The State of Wisconsin Collection.* https://archive.org/stream/geographicalhist00blow#page/n7/mode/2up

> *woods destitute of turpentine*…. [I]n time of great scarcity in frontier countries, [this bread] may be resorted to to preserve life, with perfect confidence.[3]

Guides include information on travel routes and costs, and sometimes even train and steamboat schedules. Some describe how much work can be expected during the emigrants' first year on their new land. Many include maps. Reading a settler's guide written in the time and for the place our ancestors settled is like opening a window into their lives.

Resources (Hyperlinked in the digital version)

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[3] Josiah T. Marshall, *The Farmer's and Emigrant's Handbook…* (Boston: H. Wentworth, 1852). Accessed on *Internet Archive* https://archive.org/stream/farmersemigrants00mars#page/n7/mode/2up

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Celebrating the Vote: 100 Years of Women's Suffrage

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Timeline

1769 Married women don't have the right to their own property or earnings.

1776 New Jersey state constitution gives all free inhabitants, including widows and spinsters who own property, the right to vote.

1807 New Jersey election reform disenfranchises women.

1809 Connecticut married women allowed to execute wills.

1839 Mississippi passes the Married Women's Property Act.

1848 Seneca Falls Convention.

1848 New York passes the Married Women's Property Act.

1855 An alien female who marries a US Citizenship is automatically naturalized.

1861 Kansas women are able to vote in school elections.

1862 The Homestead Act passes and allows unmarried, divorced, and single women to claim land.

1867 Nebraska women may vote in school elections.

1869 Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B Anthony found the National Woman Suffrage Association. Lucy Stone founds the American Women's Suffrage Association.

1869 Wyoming Territory grants women's suffrage.

1870 Utah women receive the right to vote.

1887 Utah women are stripped of the right to vote via the Edmunds-Tucker Act. Women in Kansas may vote in city and bond elections.

1890 National American Women's Suffrage Association formed.

1893 Colorado women receive complete suffrage.

1895 Utah women regain their right to vote.

1896 Idaho women are granted complete suffrage.

1900 Every state has passed legislation allowing married women to own their own property and keep their earnings.

1907 Expatriation Act states that women's citizenship is that of her husband's.

1909 Women in Illinois are eligible to vote in presidential elections.

1910 Washington grants female suffrage.

1911 California grants women complete suffrage.

1912 Arizona, Kansas and Oregon grant women complete suffrage.

1913 Territorial legislature gives non-native Alaska women complete suffrage. Indiana women are eligible to vote in presidential elections.

1914 Montana and Nevada grants women's suffrage.

1917 Arkansas women become eligible to vote in primary elections. Congress provides the Hawaii territorial legislature with the power to grant female suffrage. New York and Rhode Island women receive complete suffrage. North Dakota women are eligible to vote in presidential elections.

1918 Women in Nebraska may vote in presidential elections. Oklahoma and South Dakota women receive complete suffrage. Texas women may vote in primary elections.

1919 Women granted suffrage in Canada except for Quebec. Women in Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee, Wisconsin are eligible to vote in presidential elections.

1920 The 19th amendment is ratified giving women the vote in the United States.

1922 Married Women's Independent Nationality Act (Cable Act) is passed.

1929 Literate women in Puerto Rico are granted the right to vote.

1935 All adult women in Puerto Rico are granted suffrage.

1940 Women granted suffrage in Quebec.

(Excerpted from Schaefer, Christina K., *The Hidden Half of the Family: A Sourcebook for Women's Genealogy*. MD: Genealogical Publishing, 1999).

Resources

Digital Collections

Library of Congress – Digital Collections – Suffrage: https://www.loc.gov/collections/?q=suffrage

Women's Vote Centennial: https://www.womensvote100.org/

Libraries and Archives

ArchiveGrid: https://beta.worldcat.org/archivegrid/

Church History Catalog: https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/

Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research: http://www2.houstonlibrary.org/clayton/

Digital Public Library of America: https://dp.la/

FamilySearch Catalog: https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog

FamilySearch Research Wiki – United States Genealogy – Voter Records:
https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States_Voting_Records

FamilySearch Research Wiki – United States Genealogy –United States Taxation:
https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States_Taxation

Genealogy Center: http://www.genealogycenter.org/

Godfrey Memorial Library: http://www.godfrey.org/

LibGuides Community: https://community.libguides.com/
Library of Congress: http://www.loc.gov/index.htm

LSE Digital Library – Women's Rights Collection: https://digital.library.lse.ac.uk/collections/suffrage

Midwest Genealogy Center: http://www.mymcpl.org/genealogy

Mountain West Digital Library: https://mwdl.org/

National Archives: http://www.archives.gov/

Online Archive of California: https://oac.cdlib.org/

Women's Museum of California: http://www.womensmuseumca.org/

WorldCat: http://www.worldcat.org/

Newspapers

Accessible Archives – Women's Suffrage: https://www.accessible-archives.com/collections/womens-suffrage/

Chronicling America: https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/

Fulton NY History: https://www.fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html

GenealogyBank: https://www.genealogybank.com

Newspapers.com: https://www.newspapers.com/

Online Historical Newspapers: https://sites.google.com/site/onlinenewspapersite/

The Ancestor Hunt: https://www.theancestorhunt.com/

Digitized Books and Periodical Indexes

Google Books: https://books.google.com/

Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/

Hathi Trust: https://www.hathitrust.org/

Internet Archive: https://archive.org/index.php

JSTOR: https://www.jstor.org/

PERSI: https://search.findmypast.com/search/periodical-source-index

Learn more from my series for Women's History Month 2020: *Her Voice, Her Vote* on Gena's Genealogy at http://philibertfamily.blogspot.com/ . Tweets at @genaortega and on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/gena.p.ortega

FamilySearch

The Parish Chest Records: Beyond Births, Marriages, and Deaths

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Overview

The casual English genealogist will no doubt search the Church of England parish registers of christenings, marriages and burials for the parishes in which their ancestors lived. However, depending on the parish, there can be a wealth of information in other records kept in the parish chest.

Parishes were not only the center of worship for town inhabitants but often the civic and social center as well. For almost all parishes, especially away from large cities, parish boundaries were formed out of long time custom and geographic practicality, not because of government decree. As a result, while church and civic laws and conventions were passed down from higher authorities, the execution of them can vary widely from parish to parish (Webb, 5). In fact, the lack of direct government involvement in the formation of parishes as recent as 1835 led to the statement from the 1st Annual Report of the Poor Law Commission that there were no fewer than "15,635 parishes or places separately relieving their own paupers" (Webb, 3). Relief of the poor always generated records, most often at the parish level but was not the only (typical) civil function performed by the parish. Sidney Webb states "By custom, the right and power of the parish to provide for its inhabitants whatever services or regulative ordinances were deemed locally expedient was so vaguely extensive as to be practically without ascertained limits" I is estimated that combined parish expenditures were equal to 1/5th of the budget of the national government (Webb, 4). And where there are income and expenditures, records are kept.

The big question is whether or not they have survived and how they may be of use to genealogists.

PARISH OFFICERS, THEIR DUTIES AND RECORDS

Incumbent or minister (rector, vicar, curate)

Traditionally, the minister received a tithe and a "living" from the parish. The living consisted mainly of land set aside to be used for the benefit of the minister. His duty was to: be entrusted with the registration of baptisms, marriages and burials of his parishioners, when present, he is chairman of the vestry meeting, may decline temporal duties such as bailiff, reeve, or constable and not bound to serve in war.

Records for which primarily responsible

Along with the parish clerk, register books of christenings, marriages and burials.

There were four principal unpaid offices in the parish as noted below. They were chosen in a variety of ways, depending on the parish custom. When selected, the person was bound for duty and required to perform it, typically for one year. It was often possible for the wealthy to buy their way out of the duty, especially the less pleasant ones. It is also possible for a person to serve 2 or 3 years until he could find a replacement for himself.

The Vestry

The Vestry was a kind of parochial parliament. It has also been called "a parochial social welfare committee" (Tate, 15). It may also be thought of as a parish council made up of residents of the parish with meetings generally chaired by the parish minister.

The duties of the Vestry were wide and varied, often depending on the customs of an area and often growing in scope until reforms in the 1830's. Tate states that "Strictly speaking, the vestry, as representing the inhabitants generally, had the power to administer common property and to make by-laws on all matters of public concern" (Tate, 16). The Vestry literally dealt with any issue any of the parish officers dealt with including Sabbath observance, fees for burial in church, agreements with the Overseers concerning care of the poor, bastardy agreements, providing of psalm singers, the prosecution of felons and providing of beer; literally everything. Perhaps the most powerful of duties was to require the four key offices of parish service – Churchwardens, Petty Constable, Surveyor of Highways and Overseers of the Poor – to have their expenditures brought before the Vestry for approval.

Because of the broad ranging power, many vestries which began as "open" or including virtually any resident of the parish, evolved into "select" vestries, which kept the power within the offices noted above as well as the minister, parish clerk and wealthy land holders. The effect this had on records is that often "there were no minutes, no printed accounts and no reporters for the newspapers, the persons who paid the rates themselves controlled every item of expenditure and knew everything that was going on" (Tate, 48-49). As for the records kept, it was often the case (and you will notice as you search them) that "parish account books, kept by successive Churchwardens or Overseers, and often containing the entries for a whole century, reveal, in inextricable confusion, the multifarious duties of the parish organization. Items relating to all the different parish functions often appear in one and the same rude account" (Tate, 43).

Records for which primarily responsible

The Vestry kept minutes which "may contain orders upon almost any subject under the sun" (Tate, 162). Records can be found usually from the mid-1700's well into the 1800's.

Churchwarden

Churchwardens were considered "the proper guardians or keepers of the parish church" (Tate 84,) Their work was primarily related to duties related to ecclesiastical or "church" duties but sometimes involved civil functions as well. Of the four unpaid offices, the Churchwarden was "one of dignity and importance, without very onerous duties, and was therefore little objected to" (Webb, 18). Churchwardens paid for necessary expenses using a variety of income sources. Hopefully the funds that came from "church stock or other property, customary fees for lights and particular church services, the voluntary offerings of the faithful, and the profits of 'church ales,' public games and other village sports and feasts were enough to cover expenses. If not, the churchwardens could levy the "Church Rate", temporary tax to cover their expenses. The churchwardens were required to account for rate monies, which resulted in the creation of records. The duties of the churchwarden could include: maintenance & repair of the church fabric (edifice, building), provision of materials necessary for church service, allocation of the seats in church, pew rents, keeping up of "churchways" (paths leading to the church), report to

the Archdeacon or Bishop on the performance of the incumbent, condition of the church and moral and religious delinquency of the parishioners and levying church rates as needed.

Records for which primarily responsible

Churchwarden's Accounts
Church Rates
Pew Rents
Dogwhipping
Churchwardens' Presentments

Overseers of the Poor

There were at least two and sometimes three or four chosen by the Justices of the Peace. This role often "involved unpleasant relations with one's neighbors, besides considerable work & responsibility" (Webb, 18). The overseers' primary responsibilities were to: assist a destitute person, appear at Petty and Quarter Sessions to resolve issues of removal of paupers, settlement of paupers, bastardy questions and destitute children apprenticed. An overseer could "be indicted for manslaughter if a destitute inhabitant died of starvation, after having been refused relief" (Webb, 32). Therefore, they could legally insist on the poor rate (tax to support the poor). Overseers submitted both their payments (outgo) for the poor and also their proposed poor rate (poor tax) for the upcoming year to the Justices of the Peace.

Records for which primarily responsible

Poor Rates and most records dealing with the poor up to 1834
Overseers Accounts
Settlement Certificates
Removal Orders
Bastardy Bonds and most records dealing with illegitimacy

Surveyor of Highways

The survey was chosen by and reported to the town Justices of the Peace. He was chosen from among the parish land holders. This role was also considered unpleasant. Typically, he would organize the more prosperous members of the parish to put together teams of workers to perform six days work a year on the dates and parts of the road that he chose (Webb, 30). It was a statute (legal) duty to be performed by all eligible members of the parish. Some were able to pay a fine to avoid the duty. The Justices could raise money for road work by assessing a "highway rate".

Records for which primarily responsible

Surveyors rates and accounts

Petty Constable

The petty constable worked under the high constable of the county to keep the peace although Tate states that "In many places the duties, and therefore the accounts of constables, wardens and overseers, were mixed together in a condition of indescribable confusion" (Tate179). The Constable's primary duty to "apprehend any person who had committed a felony, but also if he saw any minor offence committed, or even a breach of the peace about to take place, to apprehend the offender" (Webb, 26). He could hold "petty sessions" (or court) in his own parish and was often required to attend quarter sessions for the county. This job was the "most objected to" and "invariably filled by a substitute" (Webb, 18). He also assisted the county in raising a militia could be allowed to levy a "Constable's Rate" for his expenses. It's also possible

his expenses came from poor accounts when dealing with vagrancy or even the churchwarden's accounts depending on local practice.

Records for which primarily responsible

Constables Orders and Constables Rates

FINDING THE RECORDS

In most cases, the records have now been deposited at the appropriate County Record Office though many may still reside at the parish church. Many counties have published lists of the existing parish chest records and their location.

- Begin by searching the "big three" websites with digitized records for England and their catalogs. These include: FamilySearch.org, Ancestry.com and Findmypast.com.
    - For example: search the card catalog at Ancestry.com (www.ancestry.com) and perform a keyword search using terms such as "England" with terms used in the record titles such as "Poor" or "Churchwarden" or "Rate".
- Search the FamilySearch Catalog for your parish and check for the subjects of "poor law" and also "church records"
- Search the FamilySearch Catalog for the county in which your parish is found for a guide to existing parish records
- Search the catalog of the relevant county record office online for the parish and possible deposited records
- Search the UK National Archives catalogue http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk. This search includes a catalogue to records in over 2,500 archives across the UK.

Remember to search all available records for a parish because the roles and records are not usually clearly defined.

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Constructing Clear Citations

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Clear citations support research results, making them credible. This session focuses on citations for genealogical articles and research reports. Subtopics include citation content, sequencing, and structure.

Citing sources is hard but important.

- Citing genealogical sources is hard for at least five reasons:
  1. You must fully understand your sources.
  2. Genealogical sources are nearly infinite in variety
  3. Genealogy sources also are nearly infinite in their implications for citations.
  4. You must choose an apt model, if one exists. If one does not exist, you must create a conventional citation for your source.
  5. Citing clearly, even with an apt model, requires making many decisions.
- Citing sources is the most important task that family historians undertake:
  1. Citations show your sources' qualities and your research's thoroughness.
  2. With too few or no citations, your work is worthless to everyone except those who are gullible. ("Everyone" includes yourself.)
  3. Incomplete or confusing citations demean your work and credibility.

Why cite your sources?

- Citing a source requires you to analyze it thoroughly, giving you a research advantage and enhancing your understanding of the people you are researching.
- Source citations show you and consumers of your work the quantity and quality of the sources and information supporting your conclusions.
- Citations help you and your readers turn to the sources and information you used, without repeating a prior search.
- Habitual source citation helps you avoid plagiarizing others' work.

Citing sources requires flexibility.

- Trying to memorize conventions, guidelines, and rules is counter-productive.
  - Citation conventions, guidelines, and rules are too numerous to memorize. Remembering flexibly logical citation principles is more manageable.
  - The guidelines' many exceptions require you to create nearly unique citations.
  - The absence of citation models for many sources requires creative citations.
- *The Chicago Manual of Style* and *Evidence Explained*—giving guidelines and examples, not models and templates—encourage flexibility.
- *Genealogy Standards* gives general guidance, not rigid rules.
- Rigid adherence to conventions, guidelines, and rules interferes with communication.
- Citing the nearly infinite variety of genealogical sources requires flexibility in determining citation content and structure.

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Citations have up to five essential components.

Many citations show—

- Whether the information they document is primary or secondary
- Whether your source is an original record, a derivative, or an authored narrative

Complete citations often eliminate the need for your narrative to discuss your sources' strengths and weaknesses.

"Besides citing sources, footnotes can convey much other useful information. If a footnote contains more than one source, it may be helpful to indicate which source supports which fact. Footnotes might include an evaluation of a source."

Michael J. Leclerc and Henry B. Hoff, *Genealogical Writing in the 21st Century: A Guide to Register Style and More* (Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2006), 15.

Full and Short Citations

- Only a work's first reference to a source cites it in full.
- Subsequent citations to the source omit authors' first names, source locations, and other details.

Who—one of the following, if known or not named elsewhere in citation:

- Author or authors
- Creator (typically a county, town, or other government, or a religious entity; occasionally a specific governmental agency)
- Informant (usual for citations to interviews, depositions, etc.)

What—one of the following:

- Title that appears on the source, capitalized headline style
  - Italicized if the source is a publication
  - If published, may be preceded by the title of a part of the source (article, chapter, section, web page, etc.) in quotation marks, not italicized, and with headline-style capitalization
  - Descriptive words may follow the title (edition, editors, number of volumes, PDF, digital image, etc.) not italicized, not in quotation marks, and capitalized sentence style
- A brief identifying description of the source, if it bears no title
  - Neither italicized nor in quotation marks
  - Capitalized sentence style

When—a complete or partial date

- If the source is published, this is its year of publication or copyright—add exact date for newspapers, month or season for journals and magazines, and exact access date for websites.
- If the source is unpublished, this is the date it was created, the date of the event it reports, or both.

Wherein—the information of interest's location within the source

- If the source is published and paginated, this is the page number(s).
- If the source is unpublished, this is a list, layer by layer (through record groups, series, collections, etc.) from the repository to the item of interest (often starts with the item and ends with the repository, but order can vary to improve clarity).

Whereis—location of the source

- If the source is a book or microfilm publication, this is the publisher's city, state, and name.
- If the source is a newspaper, this is its city and state.
- If the source is a website, this is its URL.
- If the source is a periodical, the *Wherein* answer is omitted.
- If the source is unpublished, this is the name of the repository where the source is located and its city and state.

"[Genealogical proof includes] Complete, accurate citations to the source or sources of each information item contributing—directly, indirectly, or negatively—to answers about . . . identity, relationship, event, or situation"

Second component of the Genealogical Proof Standard. See Board for Certification of Genealogists, *Genealogy Standards*, 2nd ed. (Nashville, Tenn.: Ancestry, 2019), 1.

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Citing publications differs from citing unpublished material.

- *Citation content*
  - Citations to publications answer *Whereis* with the publisher's name, but citations to unpublished material give the source's repository.
  - Citations to publications usually answer *Wherein* with some combination of image, page, and volume-plus-page numbers and waypoints, but citations to unpublished material might also give item-of-interest details and might cite a series of nested levels (like collections, series, and record groups).
- *Citation sequencing*
  - Citations to publications answer *Whereis* before answering *Wherein*, but citations to unpublished materials answer *Whereis* last.
  - Citations to publications answer *When* after answering *Whereis*, but citations to unpublished materials answer *When* immediately after the event or item that the *When* component dates.

Distinguish three kinds of online material.

- *Original online content*—material created for the Internet
  - Includes blogs, catalogs, discussion boards, searchable databases, online trees, wikis, collections of images not collected offline (like *Find A Grave*), and nearly all information related to DNA testing.
  - Cite original online content like citing a book. Substitute a URL for book-publisher information and the full access date for the book's copyright year.
- *Facsimiles of offline publications*
  - Includes images of published books, journals, city directories, maps, microfilm, newspapers, and other published materials.
  - For finished products, cite only the underlying publication. For works in progress, cite the underlying publication and add information about the material's online location.
- *Facsimiles of offline unpublished material*
  - Images created with cameras or scanners from unpublished books, papers, and other unpublished materials, including unpublished microfilm.
  - Cite like original online material with added information showing the historical nature of the unpublished material. (This is the speaker's preference, based on longstanding precedent.) You also may cite the underlying source first and append information about the image's publisher and location.

> "Records and artifacts are like all else in the universe: each can be unique in its own way. Therefore, once we have learned the principles of citation, *we have both an artistic license and a researcher's responsibility to adapt those principles to fit materials that do not match any standard model* [emphasis added]."
>
> —Elizabeth Shown Mills, *Evidence Explained*, 41.

Cite differently for different contexts.

- *Finished products*—Citations for finished products, especially printed materials where paper and shipping costs are considerations, may contain less information than needed in citations for works in progress. Format and content of citations for journals should reflect the respective house style. Citations for reports can vary with the intended recipient's needs and abilities, if they are not substandard.
- *Works in progress*—Citations for works in progress may contain more information (for example, all details about both an image and the underlying source) than citations for finished products.

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When citing published facsimiles of previously *un*published material, choose citation structures that fit your source and purpose.

- *"Simple" structure*—structured like a simple sentence (no appended clauses) to answer applicable citation questions about *either* the published facsimile or underlying source. Best for citing *on*line facsimiles of *off*line publications.
- *"Complex" structure*—structured like complex sentences (with appended clauses) to answer applicable citation questions about either the online facsimile or the underlying source, and with appended information about the other form.
- *"Compound" structure*—structured like compound sentences to fully answer applicable citation questions about *both* the facsimile and underlying source. Either may precede the other, and a semicolon and words connect the citation's two parts.

Citation Examples

OFFLINE UNPUBLISHED MATERIAL—SIMPLE STRUCTURE

N.Y., Standard Certificate of Death 14225 (1921), David B. Tucker; Department of Health, Albany.

ORIGINAL ONLINE CONTENT—SIMPLE STRUCTURE

"Antsky," comp, "Miller & Curtis," family tree, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/tree/24560827 : viewed on 27 January 2020), for Dennis Wright.

FACSIMILE OF MATERIAL PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED OFFLINE—COMPLEX STRUCTURE FOR WORK IN PROGRESS

James A. Roberts, comp., *New York in the Revolution as Colony and State*, vol. 1, 2nd ed. (Albany: Brandow, 1898), 104–5; digital image, *Archive.org* (https://archive.org/details/newyorkrevolution01statrich/page/n12 : accessed 27 January 2020).

FACSIMILE OF MATERIAL NOT PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED OFFLINE—COMPLEX STRUCTURE FOR FINISHED PRODUCT

FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/007129591 : 27 January 2020), digital film 007129591, images 1346–47, Ebenezer Tucker, original will, 4 May 1776, proved on 29 May 1776.

FACSIMILE OF MATERIAL NOT PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED OFFLINE—COMPOUND STRUCTURE FOR WORK IN PROGRESS

Alachua Co., Fla., Deed Record Q:111–12, Sanderlin to Colclough, 8 November 1883; Circuit Court, Gainesville; viewed at Alachua Co, *Ancient Records* (http://www.alachuaclerk.org/Archive/AncientJ/FrontPage.cfm?BID=586 : downloaded 27 January 2020).

Learn more from essential resources.

Note

Notice the formatting and content differences between these source-list (aka reference list or bibliography) citations and the reference-note citations above.

Board for Certification of Genealogists. *Genealogy Standards*, 2nd edition. Nashville, Tenn.: Ancestry, 2019.

The Chicago Manual of Style, 17th edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2017. The essential guide to documenting scholarly research.

Jones, Thomas W. *Mastering Genealogical Documentation*. Arlington, Virginia: National Genealogical Society, 2017. A textbook with exercises. Also available as a Kindle e-book.

Mills, Elizabeth Shown. *Evidence Explained: Historical Analysis, Citation, and Source Usage*. https://www.evidenceexplained.com/ : 2020. Online discussion forum addressing citation issues.

———. *Evidence Explained: Citing History Sources from Artifacts to Cyberspace*, 3rd edition revised. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 2017. Also available as a Kindle e-book. The essential guide to citing genealogical sources.

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Establishing Identity and Kinship with Military Records

Board for Certification of Genealogists® Skillbuilding Lecture

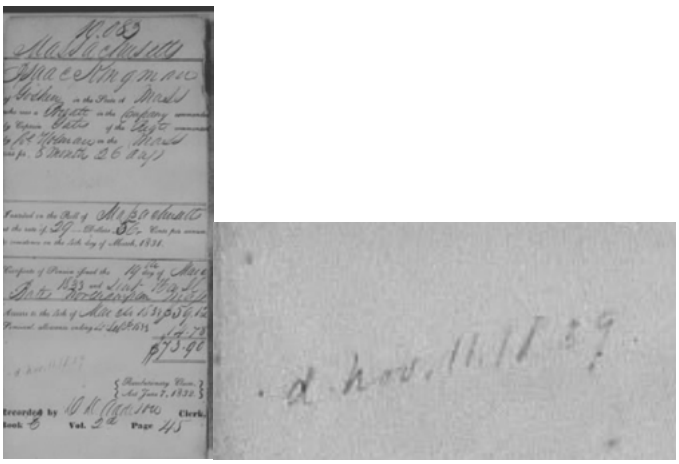
Craig R. Scott, CG, FUGA
700 Falls Road
Rocky Mount, NC 27804

Military records are not the first place that a genealogist should consider when establishing identity or kinship. Few military records created during a conflict (or records created from records created during a conflict) contain more than physical descriptions. Few of these records focus on kinship except for underage enlistment and some medical records. Those post-conflict records, such as military pensions may provide insight into kinship and identity, but generally researchers stop too soon in their research.

Case Study #1: Revolutionary War, Proof of Death

The pension of Isaac Kingman (S18917), a Revolutionary pensioner, states on the original pension jacket that he died on 11 November 1839. The pension does not provide further information on the death or the family. Based on the pension number, we know that if Isaac Kingman had a widow she did not apply for a pension. If her marriage to Isaac Kingman would have been prior to the expiration of his military service she would have been eligible for a pension under the Act of 1836, which was in effect prior to the death of the soldier.

From his pension we learn we learn Isaac was born in 1747, entered the service in 1774 from Bridgewater, Mass., and that he served in several militia companies during war. He moved from Bridgewater to Goshen, Mass. in 1777 where he applied for a pension in August 1832. He died on 11 November 1839. In 1832, by affidavit, Luke Packard stated that Isaac had married his sister, but did not provide her name. There is no further data relative to the soldier's family.



What proof of death can we find for Isaac Kingman? Who was his wife?

Research Plan:

1.

2.

3.

Case Study #2: Revolutionary War, The Entire Family

The pension of Hedgeman Triplett (S11572) states that he had eight children, but only one child, Polly Clements, who survived her father is mentioned. The pension does not provide further information the family. Based on the pension number, we know that if Hedgeman Triplett had a widow she did not apply for a pension. If her marriage to Hedgeman would have been prior to the expiration of his military service she would have been eligible for a pension under the Act of 1836, which was in effect prior to the death of the soldier.

From the pension we learn that he was reared in Culpeper County, Virginia and enlisted in October 1775, serving in various units until the siege of Yorktown. Beginning as a private he rose to the rank of Lieutenant. He was living in Franklin County, Kentucky in 1818 and applied for a pension on 01 October 1832. He died on 22 September 1837. There is mention of one of eight children and no mention of his wife, marriage, or death. Betsy Hedgeman Triplett stated in 1832 that she was the wife of Captain Thomas Triplett of Bath County, Kentucky and the daughter of Francis Triplett. She mentioned her uncle John Triplett and his children in the war: John, William, Nathaniel, Daniel, Rodger and Hedgeman.

What are the names of the children of Hedgeman Triplett?

Research Plan:

1.

2.

3.

Case Study #3: War of 1812 War Death, Proof of Marriage

Payment vouchers often contain the name of a soldier and his wife when a widow is the payee. Rarely do they contain proof of that marriage.

Elizabeth Morgan, the widow of Zackquil Morgan, deceased, a Captain in the 16th Regiment of U.S Infantry received two pension payments in 1818. Captain Morgan died on 24 August 1814 of fatigue. No proof of marriage was found in either of the payment vouchers.

What proof of marriage can be found for Elizbeth and Zackquil Morgan?

Research Plan:

1.

2.

3.

Case Study#4: War of 1812 War Death: Proof of Remarriage

Sergeant Rensselear Hartman, Captain Daniel Kelsey's Company, New York Militia died of wounds from a musket shot on 11/12 July 1813 at Black Rock, Niagara frontier. He married Elizabeth on 19 January 1812 and there were two children of the marriage: Conrad and Rhoda.

What proof of marriage can be found for a intermarriage of Elizabeth Kelsey?

Research Plan:

1.

2.

3.

Case Study #4: Parents in Military Records: Those Few Places

George Edward Palmer, a post-Civil War sailor (based on the uniform) was stationed on the USS *Swarta* (based on analysis of the few letters visible on his cap and ship possibilities of the period). No further information is available other than the picture.

Research Plan:

1.

2.

3.

Other Military Records that prove identity and kinship

In Search of a Home

Presented by Janette Silverman, jsilverman@ancestry.com

Although we often regard families moving many times over long distances, with the exception of military families, as a modern phenomenon, this is not the case. Even after our immigrant ancestors moved thousands of miles to cross an ocean and arrived in North America, often they didn't settle in one place. Locating them and tracking their movements is often challenging. In Eastern European Jewish families, adding to the complexity of identifying the families was the habit of changing names after arrival in their new homeland. Sometimes names, both given and surnames, changed many times. During this session, we will look at the many places two Jewish families lived in the early 20th century, both settling in Salt Lake City for a period.

Types of records and information to be searched for:

- Immigration – when and how did a person arrive? Where were they born and last reside?
- What was the family's religion?
- Is the family's culture/religion familiar to that of the researcher? If not, identify resources to assist in understanding.
- Census – where did a person live, who was in the household?
- City directories – locate a person's whereabouts and business between censuses.
- Military records – where did a person live at the time of the draft or at the time of enlistment? Who was their employer? Who is their contact person?
- Vital records – look for addresses at which events occurred and names of parents, children and spouse, identify burial place – does the gravestone include more information? Who were witnesses at events? Who officiated at a wedding or baptism?
- Newspaper articles/ads/notices
- What documents does the family have?

Digital repositories are instrumental in identifying records:

https://www.ancestry.com

https://www.findagrave.com

https://www.fold3.com/

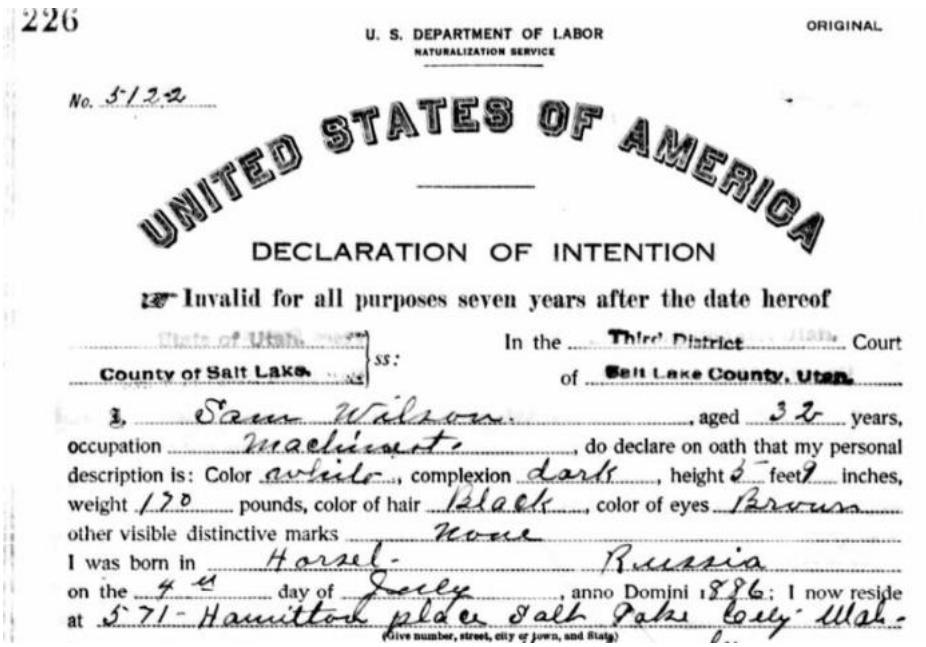
https://www.newspapers.com

http://www.newspaperarchive.com

https://www.familysearch.org

https://www.jewishgen.org

Examples of some of the records and where they were obtained:



226

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
NATURALIZATION SERVICE

ORIGINAL

No. 5122

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DECLARATION OF INTENTION

Invalid for all purposes seven years after the date hereof

State of Utah, } ss:
County of Salt Lake, }

In the Third District Court of Salt Lake County, Utah.

I, Sam Wilson, aged 32 years, occupation machinist, do declare on oath that my personal description is: Color white, complexion dark, height 5 feet 9 inches, weight 170 pounds, color of hair Black, color of eyes Brown, other visible distinctive marks None, I was born in Horsel Russia, on the 4th day of July, anno Domini 1886; I now reside at 571 Hamilton place Salt Lake City Utah.

(Give number, street, city or town, and State)

United States, Department of Labor, Naturalization Service, Declaration of Intention, Number 5122, Sam Wilson, dated 7 September 1918 in Third District Court of Salt Lake County, Utah; digital image, "Utah, Naturalization and Citizenship Records, 1858-1959," *Ancestry* (http://www.ancestry.com), accessed April 2017.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DECLARATION OF INTENTION

(Invalid for all purposes seven years after the date hereof)

State of Illinois, } ss:
County of Cook, }

In the Circuit Court of Cook County.

I, Sam Wilson, aged 25 years, occupation Machinist, do declare on oath that my personal description is: Color White, complexion Dark, height 5 feet 9 inches, weight 170 pounds, color of hair Black, color of eyes Brown, other visible distinctive marks None, I was born in Horsel, Prussia, on the 4 day of July, anno Domini 1886; I now reside at 9016 Houston Av., Chicago, Ill. I emigrated to the United States of America from Hamburg, Germany, on the vessel Augusta Victoria; my last foreign residence was Horsel, Prussia.

United States, Department of Labor, Naturalization Service, Petition for Naturalization, No. 2520, Sam Wilson, naturalized 28 March 1921 in Third District Court of Salt Lake County, Utah; FHL Microfilm 1666099, digital image, Catalog, FamilySearch (http://www.familysearch.org), accessed May 2017.

Stoves Stoves Stoves

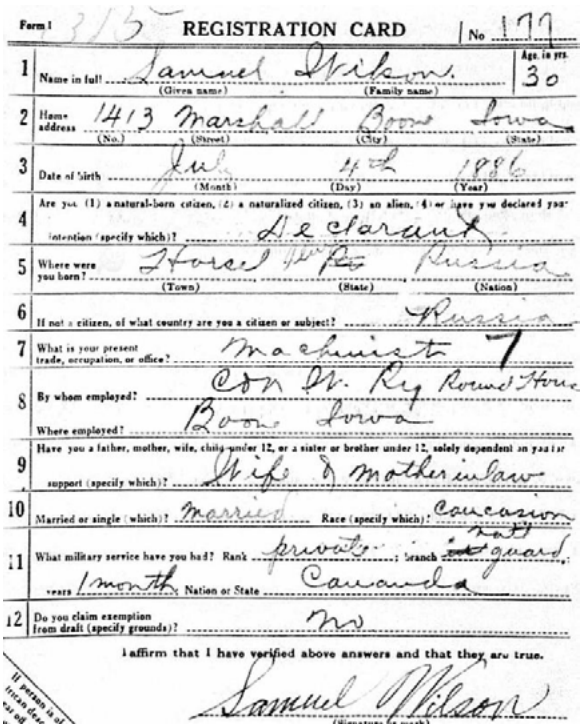
Heating Stoves and Ranges

On account of our limited room and also because of an over stock of stoves, we will give a special discount on all stoves until Sept. 15th.

Wilson Furniture Co.

1st Door East Virginia Theatre

"Stoves Stoves Stoves," Boone News-Republican, Boone, Iowa, 13 September 1916, p. 3, col. 1; digital image, "Boone News Republican," NewspaperARCHIVE (http://www.newspaperarchive.com), accessed March 2019.



Form 1 315 REGISTRATION CARD No 177

1 Name in full: Samuel Wilson (Given name) (Family name) Age in yrs. 30

2 Home address: 1413 Marshall Boone Iowa (No.) (Street) (City) (State)

3 Date of birth: July 4th 1886 (Month) (Day) (Year)

4 Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? Declarant

5 Where were you born? Horsel Wm Russia (Town) (State) (Nation)

6 If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject? Russia

7 What is your present trade, occupation, or office? Machinist

8 By whom employed? CON W. Ry Round House

Where employed? Boone Iowa

9 Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)? Wife & mother in law

10 Married or single (which)? married Race (specify which): Caucasian

11 What military service have you had? Rank private; branch ~~in~~ natl guard; years 1 month; Nation or State Canada

12 Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? no

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

Samuel Wilson

United States, Selective Service System, World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918, Iowa, Boone County, Local Board [not provide], Serial Number 177, Samuel Wilson, born 4 July 1886; digital image, "U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918," Ancestry (http://www.ancestry.com), accessed October 2019.

WEDNESDAY

Olive Branch Cemetery Restoration, grave marker of Sam Wilson (1888 – 1930), Shaarey Tzedek Cemetery, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah, photograph, uploaded 2011; digital image, "Sam Wilson," memorial 66796996, *Find A Grave* (http://www.findagrave.com), accessed October 2018.

Ketubah [Jewish Marriage Contract], Samuel Wilson and Minnie Ida Merbach, married 22 November 1912; provided by client.

Where Did They Go When They Left Ohio?

Laurie Hermance-Moore, MLS, AG®
laurie@heritagebridge.com

In this presentation, we'll focus on the years 1850-1890. Although migration began earlier than 1850, by starting in 1850 we have excellent documentation in the US Federal Census giving places of origin.

Ohio was an early—and popular— destination

Many of us have Ohio ancestors. It was the first state formed out of the Old Northwest Territory and attracted many settlers shortly after the Revolutionary War. It grew very quickly with settlers from three main regions: New England, Pennsylvania / Mid Atlantic, and Kentucky/Virginia/Tennessee.

Why did so many Ohioans decide to migrate in later years?

- Ohio had a large population early on—by 1840 it was the 3rd most populous state (after New York and Pennsylvania). It wasn't until 1890 that Illinois surpassed it. Ohio had 500,000 people by 1820, and 2 million residents by 1850.
- Of the states west of Ohio, only Indiana was smaller in land area—every other state opening to settlement in the 1800s was larger, sometimes more than twice as large. The sheer volume of acreage combined with favorable federal land policies made it possible for most to own land.
- The children of the first wave of Ohio settlers likely had no land they could own—so many headed West. Sixty-six percent of Ohio land was settled by 1820.

External Factors Driving Westward Settlement

- **River Transportation**

Indiana and Illinois opened to settlement soon after Ohio. Both were easily reachable from the Ohio River, and as the Ohio River connected to the Mississippi River, which connected to the Missouri—Missouri was also settled relatively early. Steamboats were in use by the 1820s.

- **Cessions of Native American Land**

The government systematically negotiated treaties and fought wars with Native Americans as white settlement moved westward. One clue to determining the settlement patterns and timing of land availability of any given state is to look at when different sections of land were ceded—federal land surveyors and land offices soon followed.

For detail on land cessions: See "Indian Land Cessions in the United States, 1784-1894" on the Library of Congress *American Memory* site. http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lwss-ilc.html. It has detailed maps by state. The following Department of Interior site has comprehensive lists of the treaties by states and counties, and maps early tribes to present-day tribes: https://www.nps.gov/nagpra/ONLINEDB/Land_Cessions/INDEX.HTM

- **Federal Land Sales**

The Federal government acquired millions of acres of land between 1781 and 1804. It had developed a system of land sales in the mid-1790s, but initial purchase requirements favored speculators more than individual settlers. By 1820, land was reduced to $1.25 an acre, with a minimum purchase of only 80 acres. This encouraged individuals to migrate to purchase land.

- **Military Bounty Acts**

Bounty land was awarded as an inducement for service in the Revolutionary War, but determining how to issue warrants and setting aside blocks of land didn't happen until 1788 and later. The US Military District in Ohio was offered in the late 1790s—as was the Virginia Military District in Ohio.

The War of 1812 brought more inducements to serve, and additional military bounty land promised. New districts were set up in Illinois, Arkansas, and Missouri.

Three acts in the early 1850s extended bounty land to anyone who had served in War of 1812 or Indian Wars—and the warrants could be redeemed anywhere the government was selling land.

- **The Homestead Act of 1862**

At a time when states west of Missouri were opening to settlers, Congress provided a means to get 160 acres—as long as the settler lived on the land for 5 years and made improvements. The result was tremendous migration to Great Plains states, particularly in the 1860s and 1870s.

- **Railroads**

By the 1850s, it was possible to migrate west on the railroad. Indiana had its first railroad by 1838, Illinois by 1842, Wisconsin by 1850, Missouri by 1852, Iowa by 1855, and Minnesota by 1862.

Primary States Where Ohioans Settled

Looking at the year 1880, when much of the westward migration had occurred, the largest number of Ohioans were present in these seven states:

Indiana: 186,391 population of former Ohioans
Illinois: 136,884 "
Iowa: 120,495 "
Kansas: 93,396 "
Missouri: 78,938 "
Michigan: 77,053 "
Nebraska: 31,800 "

Locating Migration Data in Census Compendia

The Census Bureau created lengthy summaries of census data each year. Although these are not typically the census documents that genealogists use, they can provide valuable background information on an area at a point in time. Compendia from 1850-1890 were used in this presentation. Yes, 1890

compiled data exists, even if the rest of the 1890 census does not. 1850 was the first census that asked for places of origin.

Geographers use census data from 1850 and later to document and explain migration patterns. This presentation has a taste of that type of work—but keep in mind that more extensive works may exist that could bring a region to life for you. Some document ethnic groups and places of origin down to the county level. See Gerlach (Missouri), Holmquist (Minnesota), and Shortridge (Kansas) below as examples of full works created by geographers from census data.

- **1850**

United States, Superintendent of the United States Census. *Statistical View of the United States.* Washington, D.C.: Beverley Tucker, Senate Printer: 1854. https://www.census.gov/library/publications/1854/dec/1850c.html

- **1860**

United States, Department of the Interior. *Population of the United States in 1860.* Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office: 1864. https://www.census.gov/library/publications/1864/dec/1860a.html

- **1870**

United States, Department of the Interior. *The Ninth Census*. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1872 https://www.census.gov/library/publications/1872/dec/1870e.html

- **1880**

United States, Department of the Interior, Census Office. *Compendium of the Tenth Census (June 1, 1880).* Washington, DC: Government Printing Office: 1885. https://www.census.gov/library/publications/1885/dec/1880-compendium.html

- **1890**

United States, Department of the Interior, Census Office. *Compendium of the Eleventh Census: 1890.* Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1892. https://www.census.gov/history/pdf/1890statisticalcompendium.pdf

General Resources

Billington, Ray Allen, and Ridge, Martin. *Westward Expansion: A History of the American Frontier*. 6th ed., abr. Albuquerque: Univ. of New Mexico Press: 2001.

Davis, James E. *Frontier Illinois*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1998.

Dick, Everett. *The Lure of the Land: A Social History of the Public Lands from the Articles of Confederation to the New Deal.* Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1970.

Dunbar, Willis F., and May, George. ***Michigan: A History of the Wolverine State.*** 3rd revised ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing, 1995.

Edwards, Richard, Friefeld, Jacob K., and Wingo, Rebecca S. ***Homesteading the Plains: Toward a New History*****.** Lincoln: Board of Regents of University of Nebraska, 2017.

Flanders, Stephen A. ***Atlas of American Migration.*** New York: Facts on File, Inc., 1998. Has extensive maps illustrating migration routes.

Gerlach, Russel L. ***Settlement Patterns in Missouri: A Study of Population Origins with a Wall Map.*** Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1986.

Hayes, Derek. ***Historical Atlas of the United States.*** Berkeley: University of California Press, 2007. This beautiful full-color reference reproduces historical maps that tell the history of the United States. Most of these maps seem to be available on the Library of Congress or David Rumsey sites, but this work collects, organizes, and presents them in a visually stunning way. If you buy one map book, this is an excellent one and will grace your coffee table.

Holmquist, June Drenning, ed. ***They Chose Minnesota: A Survey of the State's Ethnic Groups.*** St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1981.

Hurt, R. Douglas. ***The Ohio Frontier: The Crucible of the Old Northwest 1720-1830****.* Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1996.

Lamar, Howard, R., ed. ***New Encyclopedia of the American West*****.** New Haven: Yale University Press, 1998. This general reference has extensive articles on settlement, states, transportation, Indian cessions, and more. An excellent background resource to have in your library.

Madison, James H. ***The Indiana Way: A State History*****.** Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1986.

Miner, Craig. ***Kansas: The History of the Sunflower State, 1854-2000.*** Lawrence: The University Press of Kansas, 2002.

Parrish, William, Jones, Charles, Jr, Christenson, Lawrence O. ***Missouri: The Heart of the Nation*****. 3rd ed.** Wheeling, IL: Harlan Davidson, 2004.

Peacefull, Leonard, ed. ***A Geography of Ohio*****.** Kent, Ohio: Kent State University Press, 1996. Chapter 6, by Hubert G.H. Wilhelm and Allen G. Noble ("Ohio's Settlement Landscape") provides useful background.

Rose, Christine. ***Military Bounty Land 1776-1855.*** San Jose: CR Publications, 2011.

Shortridge, James. ***Peopling the Plains: Who Settled Where in Frontier Kansas.*** Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1995.

Emigrant Guides: Digital copies are available at *Internet Archive*, *Google Books*, and *Hathitrust.* Try using keywords: emigrant guide, traveler guide, handbook, settler—plus the state name. These guides described and promoted areas on the frontier.

Railroad History by State. https://www.american-rails.com/history.html

An Important Resource: German Immigrants in American Church Records

Kelsee Walker

Why are American Church Records so Important to German Research?
When tracing German immigrants back to Germany, it is necessary to trace the town or village of origin where the family came from before research can be continued in records from Germany. If your immigrant ancestor moved to America, searches begin by looking for any mention of the hometown in American records. While many American records neglected the inclusion of the hometown of German immigrants, Protestant church records in America can sometimes help to bridge this gap.

Introduction to the Church Records
Protestant Church Records
This class will focus on Protestant church records in the United States. The word "Protestant" covers many specific denominations. Some of the most common are:
Lutheran
Reformed
Methodist
Presbyterian
Baptist

Age of Church Records
Although often inconsistent, many churches in the United States began keeping their own records between 1820 and 1850. Before 1820, records may exist but can be difficult to find and could lack critical information. By the 1850s, many Protestant churches were consistently keeping their own church records.

Language of Church Records
In the case of German churches in America, records before 1900 were largely recorded in German. After 1900, records started to change to English. Only a few churches were using German by 1930 and almost none by 1941.

Alphabets of Church Records
The Gothic alphabet was mostly used in records before 1870. After 1870, it is common to see both Latin and Gothic. By 1918, the Latin alphabet began to dominate the church records. Finding Gothic after 1930 is quite rare.

Content of the Church Records
These churches were often established independently so the content of their records may vary. The label "church records" consists of many smaller record types. The types of records that a church may have kept are:
Church History
Constitution

Lists of charter members
List of pastors
Officers/committee members
Council minutes
Membership
Birth/christening*
Confirmations*
Communion
Marriages*
Deaths/Burials*
Family books/pages*
Donations
Cemetery plots
Letters of recommendation
*= the most useful record types to the family historian

Other Details that May Appear in the Church Records
Frequency of personal data
Varying level of precision of birthplace
Immigration by decade
Province of birth

Sample data on Midwest U.S. German immigrants:

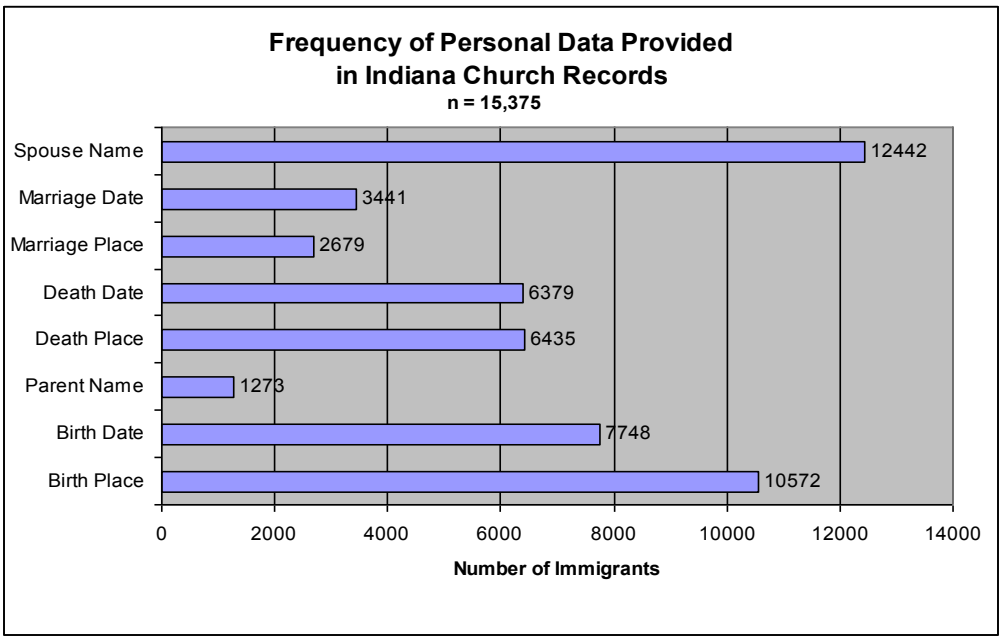


Chart From Roger P. Minert, "German Immigrants in Midwest U.S. Church Records: Personal Details on 15,375 Immigrants," in Gyles R. Hoyt, *German-American Influences on Religion II* in the series *Studies in Midwest U.S. German-Americana Vol III.* Midwest U.S.polis: Max Kade Institute, 2006.

Where are the Records Located?
Location
Look in:
The church offices (the original church office and any new locations)
Neighboring churches or successor churches
Church Archives
Public and university archives
Libraries

Accessibility
Microform
Digital Images
On-site research

German Immigrants in American Church Records
German Immigrants in American Church Records is a book series compiled by Dr. Roger P. Minert and research assistants from Brigham Young University. Both hired research assistants and students in the German Paleography course contribute to this series. The process of creating this series began in September 2003 and is ongoing.

Current Books in the Series:
Vol. 1: Indiana Protestant (Jan 2006)
Vol. 2: Wisconsin Northwest Protestant (Apr 2007)
Vol. 3: Wisconsin Northeast Protestant (Jul 2007)
Vol. 4: Wisconsin Southwest Protestant (Oct 2007)
Vol. 5: Wisconsin Southeast Protestant (Dec 2007)
Vol. 6: Nebraska Protestant (Mar 2008)
Vol. 7: Iowa Protestant (Jul 2009)
Vol. 8: Iowa Northeast (Jul 2009)
Vol. 9: Iowa Southeast (Jun 2010)
Vol. 10: Illinois North (Oct 2011)
Vol. 11: Illinois Chicago and Cook County (Mar 2012)
Vol. 12: Illinois Central (Dec 2012)
Vol. 13: Illinois South (Mar 2013)
Vol. 14: Illinois St. Clair County (Aug 2013)
Vol. 15: Michigan (excluding Detroit) (Oct 2014)
Vol. 16: Detroit I (Dec 2014)
Vol. 17: Detroit II (Feb 2015)
Vol. 18: Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota (2015)
Vol. 19: Missouri (excluding St. Louis) (2016)
Vol. 20: Missouri St. Louis County and City (2017)
Vol. 21: Missouri (St. Louis II) (2017)
Vol. 22: Missouri (St. Louis III) (2018)
Vol. 23: Missouri (St. Louis IV) (2018)
Vol. 24: Missouri (St. Louis V) (2018)

Vol. 25: Missouri (St. Louis VI) (2018)
Vol. 26: Northwest Ohio (2019)
Vol. 27: Toledo, Ohio (2019)
Vol. 28: Northeast Ohio (2019)
More forthcoming!
Published by Picton Press of Rockland, Maine (www.pictonpress.com) (2005–2015) and Family Roots Publishing Co. of Orting, Washington (2016–)

The entire series is available at the Family History Library and many volumes are available in various libraries all over the country. (Check WorldCat to see if your library has copies!)

Using the Books
Start with what is already known:

- Gather all the information known about the immigrant ancestor, including name, approximate birth year, family members, residence places, and a possible province or kingdom of birth (if known).
- Pay special attention to the places the immigrant ancestor lived in after moving to the United States. Did they live in a state that is covered in the *German Immigrants in American Church Records* book series?
- If so, check the index of the volume that is applicable to your family. Is the ancestor listed? If not, check for alternate spellings of the surname. Also check for other family members (siblings, children, aunts, uncles, cousins, grandparents, etc.) who were known to have lived in the area. Look at all corresponding pages of interest.

Using the information from *German Immigrants in American Church Records* in your research:

- If a birthplace of the immigrant was given in the records, it will be the very first thing listed after the name.
- Don't stop there! Check the source information provided at the beginning of the set of church records your ancestor was found in. It will note in which church the information was found as well as giving a reference (usually a microfilm reference from the Family History Library or the ECLA.) If possible, get a copy of the actual church record referenced to possibly find additional information that was not included in *German Immigrants in American Church Records.* (The information given in the book series only extracted certain points of interest, which means there may be other details in the record that were not extracted. For example, an obituary included in the church records may list additional names of other family members or character traits of the deceased that were not transcribed in the book series.)
- If a birthplace was given in the entry for the immigrant in *German Immigrants in American Church Records,* searches can then move on with researching which parish in Germany the place of birth of the immigrant belonged to. After finding the correct parish, research can continue by finding out where that parish's records are held (on microfilm, online, in an archive, in the church or elsewhere.)

Transcribing Documents: An Essential Skill for Genealogists

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Introduction

Transcribing handwritten documents is essential for genealogical research. A transcription is an exact written copy of a record. Everything is exactly as it is in the original—spelling, punctuation, abbreviations, and format.

Transcribing documents is the foundation of a thorough and accurate analysis, it furthers the understanding of a document and its purpose. When transcribing, little details are caught that can go undetected when just reading a document. It is harder to miss something when writing it down.

In the course of researching, it is usually necessary to refer back to a document many times. Often a document is tucked away for months or even years. Because hand-written documents are typically difficult to read, it can be very time consuming to re-read each time a document is used. If the document has been transcribed, it will make retrieving information from the document easier and will save time.

In the past, many documents could not be copied on a photocopying machine because they were too large or fragile. The only way to copy (unless photographing was allowed) was to transcribe those records. Technology has helped with this problem by making digital copies of documents available. However, having a copy of a record does not eliminate the need to transcribe it.

Deeds, wills, probates and pension files are a few examples of the types of documents that should be transcribed. Transcribing is an acquired skill that takes practice. It can be a challenge but absolutely worth the time and effort.

Transcription software for Genealogist

➢**Transcript** is a free program designed to help transcribe documents. It is easy to use, saves time, and decreases errors. It uses a split screen, document on the top and area for typing text on the bottom, www.jacobboerema.nl/en/.

➢**GenScriber** is a free program and is most helpful for transcribing columnar documents. It can be used for free-form text but does not have as many features as Transcript, http://genscriber.com/genapps/en/start.
Both websites have help sections and tutorials.

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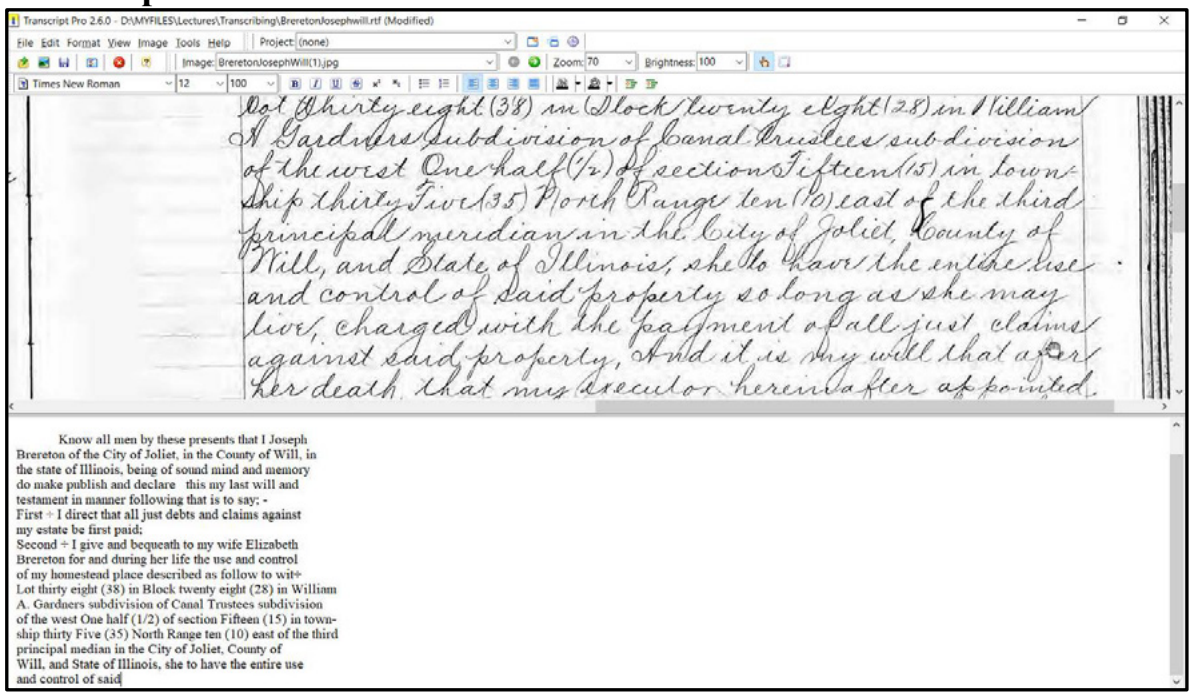
Transcript



Reading Old Handwriting

Learning how to read old handwriting is the biggest obstacle in producing an accurate transcription. It can be frustrating to distinguish between letters that look alike. Correct punctuation and spelling were often not followed and spelling phonetically was common. Before beginning the transcription, read the document several times. Usually the eyes will adjust and the handwriting and unfamiliar words will become clearer after several readings.

PROCESS

Read	Transcribe	Analyze	Proof
• Read out loud • Read as many times as needed • Consult resources for difficult words	• Include citation • Turn off spell check • Include your name and date	• Context • Purpose	• Accuracy • Set aside • Proofread

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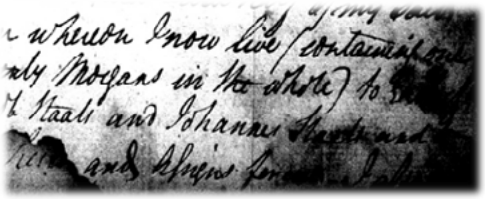
Transcribing Steps

1. Citation starting with "Transcription of."
2. If needed, include a discussion about problems with the document.
3. Name of transcriber and date transcribed.
4. Turn off spell check if using a word processor.
5. Transcribe word for word. Do not correct spelling errors, write out abbreviations, or write out superscripts and subscripts.
6. Include everything on the page, including headings, margin notes, crossed out text, underlined text, signatures, and insertions. Note if the insertions and margin notes are in a different handwriting than the body of the document.
7. Use square brackets [ ] for anything added to the document:
    a. to note corrections or short comments
    b. when letters or a word is illegible, noting the legible letters and words, using underlined spaces to denote missing letters. [d_l_]
    c. when not able to reproduce symbols exactly as given.
8. Include the typed text or boilerplate but distinguish it from what is handwritten.

Common Problems with Documents

- Faded Ink
- Inkblots
- Ripped paper
- Worn edges
- Portions missing
- Unfamiliar writing style
- Poor penmanship
- Outdated terms



➢Compare letters within the document and also in other documents that appear before and after.

➢Convert the document image to a negative (black background with white text).

➢Use reference resources and search engines to help understand unfamiliar words and phrases.

➢Use WolframAlpha to help when all or part of a word is illegible. The website (not a search engine) uses expert-level information and algorithms to answer questions, is English based, and free to use. Provide the known letters and the program provides word possibilities. www.wolframalpha.com/.

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Further Study and Resources

National Genealogical Society Continuing Genealogical Studies Course: Transcribing, Extracting, and Abstracting Genealogical Records.

National Genealogical Society Continuing Genealogical Studies Course: Reading Old Handwriting.

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St. Joe, Independence, and the Missouri Territory

"The Gateway to the West"

Peggy Clemens Lauritzen, AG, FOGS MissPeggy55@gmail.com

Early History of Missouri

1800 – Spain returns Louisiana Territory to France. 1803 – Part of the Louisiana Purchase. 1808 – First newspaper established. "Missouri Gazette". 1811 – New Madrid earthquake. 1820s – central Missouri beginning to be populated. 1820 – Missouri achieves statehood. "Missouri Compromise" allowed it be a slave state, and Maine a free state. Kept the balance in Congress. 1821 – Santa Fe Trail opens. 1829 – Missouri State Library established. 1830s – Members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints begin to arrive.	1830s – Germans begin to settle in farmlands west of St. Louis and south of the Missouri River (known as "Missouri Rhineland"). 1838 – Gov. Lilburn Boggs issues extermination order against Mormons. 1843 – St. Joseph established. 1847 – Boatmen's Bank established. 1849 – Gold discovery sparks towns of departure: St. Joe, Independence, Westport, St. Louis. 1849 – cholera epidemic, 4,000 dead. 1851 – groundbreaking for Pacific Railroad, St. Louis. 1854 – Kansas/Missouri border wars, issue of slavery. 1857 – Dred Scott decision. 1860 – Pony Express begins in St. Joseph. 1865 – 5th most populous state.

Early Settlers of Missouri

At the time of the Louisiana Purchase, thousands of French settlers were in the region. Other settlers were Ulster Scots and English.	Areas they came from: Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois Members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints were mainly from New England. (Extermination order issued – 1838.

The Trails (all have pages on the FamilySearch Wiki)

Santa Fe Trail – begins at Independence, Missouri
Mormon Trail – begins in Nauvoo, IL; joins Oregon/California Trail
Oregon/California Trail – begins at Independence, Missouri
(Many, if not most, traveled the above trails westward to California, Texas, Oregon, Colorado, Oklahoma, and Kansas.

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US Migration Trails and Roads:
https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/US_Migration_Trails_and_Roads

Conrad Beidler's Signature

James M. Beidler

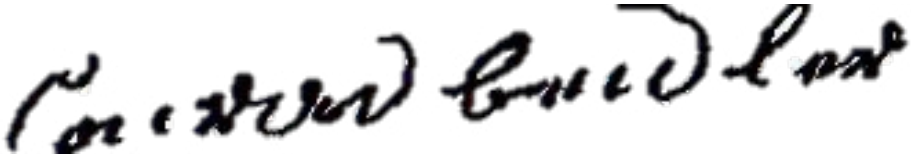
james@beidler.us

As a prominent miller in Berks County, Pennsylvania, Conrad Beidler (1730–1800), came in contact with more people—and more types of people—in his lifetime than the average Pennsylvania German. The evolution of his signature helps researchers show how these contacts changed him from a youth in Montgomery County to a prosperous Berks County man in middle age, as well as revealing a number of sources for signature data.

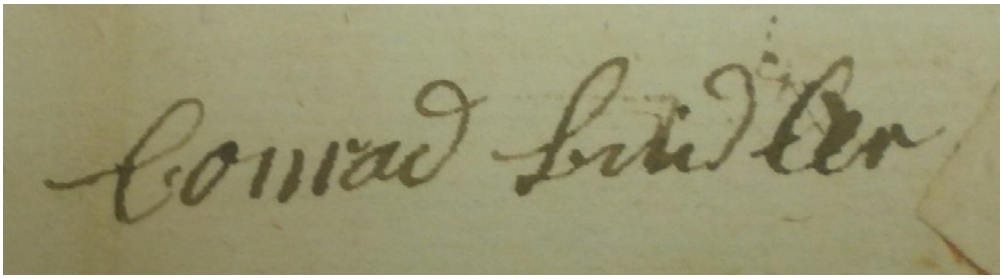
Examples of 18th and 19th century documents that may yield signatures ...

- Original wills (including witnesses)
- Original deeds (including witnesses)
- Other estate documents (Such as petitions, inventories, sheriff's juries)
- Marriage license applications
- Tax collector's affidavits
- Naturalizations
- Oaths lists
- Church charters

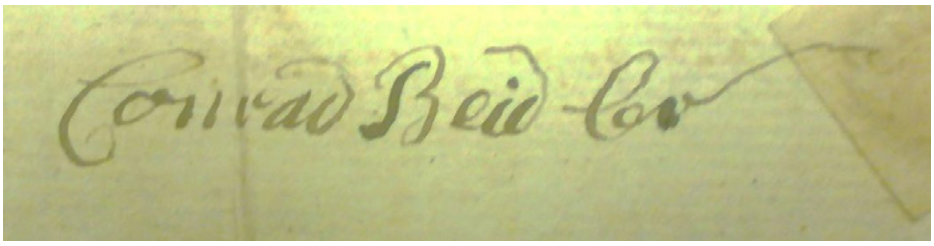
Note: Register / Recorder book versions of deeds / wills do not have original signatures—but you may find a clerk will try to imitate and make a facsimile of the signature and/or give a spelling hint



Witness to will of Adolph Pannebecker, Limerick Township, Montgomery County, written 1760

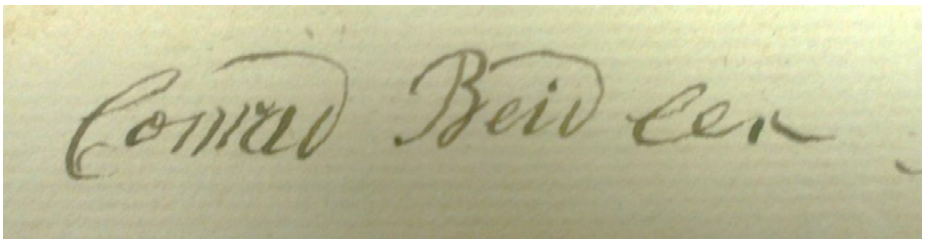


Co-Administrator of the estate of Valentine Embs, Robeson Township, Berks County, written 1775



Sheriff's juror for real estate of Sebastian Morgan, Cumru Township, Berks County, 1781

Petition for release as guardian of children of Michael Freymeyer, Robeson Township, Berks, 1782



Sheriff's juror for first appraisal of real estate of Abraham Levan, Exeter Township, Berks County, 1787

Sheriff's juror for appraisal of real estate of Gottfried Gring, Cumru Township, Berks County, 1790

Will of Conrad Beidler, Cumru Township, Berks County, 1799

A Widow, Midwife, and Nun: A Case Study

Suzanne Russo Adams, MA, AG®
suzanne.adams@familysearch.org

A widow? A midwife? A nun? Is it the same woman? Vincenza Picone - Vincenzo Cavataio als Galuzzo - Soro Rosalia Galuzzo. Genealogical and historical methodologies to discover the true identity of Vincenza Picone. Vincenza's life will also serve to illustrate the need to study history and culture in order to understand how our ancestors may have lived.

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A representative parish register from 1625 is shown here. Five of the eight females born were named Rosalia; a sixth was named Francesca Rosalia; and a seventh was named Giacoma Rosalia. Moreover, seven of the eight males listed on the page were named Rocco.

Carini, Palermo, Italy, Chiesa Cattolica Maria Santissima Assunta, Battesimi, 1625, p. 136 (Salt Lake City, Utah: filmed by Genealogical Society of Utah, 1999), FHL microfilm 1764338, https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-DRXS-435?i=1222&cc=2046915&cat=985275

The Balance Between Privacy and Records Access

Records Preservation and Access Committee (RPAC)

https://fgs.org/community/rpac/

The RPAC panel discussion on Wednesday, 20 May 2020, at 4:00 p.m. will feature Molly Mulcahy Crawford, NAPHSIS President and State Registrar, Minnesota Vital Records; Jan Alpert, FNGS, Chair, RPAC; Jan Meisels Allen, IAJGS; and Fred Moss, JD, LLM, FGS.

What is RPAC?

The Records Preservation and Access Committee (RPAC) is sponsored by the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS), the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS), and the National Genealogical Society (NGS) and supported by the Association of Professional Genealogists (APG), the Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG), the American Society of Genealogists (ASG), and the International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists (ICAPGen). Ancestry and ProQuest also have participants on the committee. Members of RPAC meet monthly to advise the genealogical community on ensuring proper access to vital records and on supporting strong records preservation policies and practices. For more information about RPAC see https://fgs.org/community/rpac/.

The Genealogical Community Responds to Excessive Fee Increases at USCIS

Led by the member organizations of RPAC and Rich Venezia who initiated RecordsNotRevenue.com, RPAC sent a statement opposing the excessive increases to USCIS on 28 December 2019 which was signed by 146 genealogical organizations representing 333,034 members located in twenty-eight states and Washington, DC. The RPAC letter can be viewed at https://fgs.org/uscis-outrageous-fee-increase/. The letter was the most overwhelming response by the genealogical community in the United States to date and would have been even greater if the deadline for responses had not occurred during the holiday season. In January the period for comments was extended until 10 February 2020. The syllabus material was due at the end of January, so RPAC will provide an update on the genealogical communities' 2020 response at the panel presentation.

What is NAPHSIS?

The National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems (NAPHSIS) is the national nonprofit organization representing the state vital records and public health statistics offices and professionals in the United States. NAPHSIS serves the vital records community by providing national leadership to advance public health and protect individual identity. Formed in 1933, NAPHSIS brings together public health professionals from each state, the five territories, New York City, and the District of Columbia. Members share a vision for a healthier and more secure world through vital records.

Model Law

Vital records and their data are collected and owned by the states, and access to records is regulated by state laws and every state's law is a little different. NAPHSIS supports and promotes the Model State Vital Statistics Act and Regulations, referred to as the "Model Law".

For more than 100 years, the Model Law has been designed—and revised—to improve the quality and uniformity of state operations, data, and services by establishing standard reporting requirements, definitions, and procedures for registering vital events and activities related to vital records and statistics. Once implemented in a state, the Model Law has a valuable impact on how vital statistics data are reported and tabulated at the state level, which in turn impacts national vital statistics. The Model Law also provides a framework for issuing legal certifications and access to information. Given that the responsibility for collecting, registering, and sharing vital records data and issuing certifications resides with the states, and not the federal government, uniformity and standardization are key components to a "national" vital records system. The Model Law provides that standardization and uniformity.

In 2013 RPAC began a dialog with NAPHSIS, explaining the importance for genealogists to have access to vital records, especially death records and cause of death. During the same time period, RPAC has responded to various state's attempts to pass the 2011 Proposed Model Vital Statistics Act which included a 125-year embargo on access to birth records, 100-year embargo on marriage records, and a 75-year embargo on death records which the genealogical community was compelled to oppose. Fortunately, the 2011 Model Act only passed in Oklahoma and Washington, DC, where genealogists did not learn of the legislation until after the legislation had become law, and in New York City where despite a strong response from genealogists, the New York Health and Mental Hygiene Department turned a deaf ear. The good news is the leadership of NAPHSIS has listened to the concerns of genealogists.

Proposed 2020 Model Law

NAPHSIS is updating the Model Law. The 2020 revision seeks to establish standards for data sharing, systems development, the integration of new and constantly changing technology, and to address topics and activities absent in the previous version. The NAPHSIS Board of Directors formed a steering committee and established four primary workgroups to facilitate various sections of the revision. The project will engage genealogists and other partners in the revision and in the advocacy process in each jurisdiction and at the national level to support adoption. NAPHSIS expects to present a draft to members and partners in June and to release the 2020 revision soon after. At the RPAC presentation you will hear the current status of the 2020 Model Law. RPAC will support the new Model Law if the embargo periods reflect the proper balance between privacy and records access and are not excessive. Having more standardized vital record statutes across the United States would be beneficial to genealogists.

Recent Experience with the 2011 Model Law

Over the last few years, variations of the proposed 2011 Model Act have passed in several states.

- **Oklahoma** was the first state to pass the Act in 2011 and because the bill was poorly written, only the deceased could obtain a copy of his/her death certificate. In September 2016, HB 2703 was enacted which made death records available to the public after 50 years and a public index of birth records after 20 years and death records after 5 years. The Oklahoma State Department of Health and Oklahoma Genealogical Society worked together to create a public vital records index in 2017 which is available online at https://ok2explore.health.ok.gov/.

- Similar efforts by genealogists in **Virginia** were able to prevent any increase in the embargo periods and instead the new law SB660 passed in 2012 made death records available to the public after 25 years and created an online index to the closed records which is available at the Library of Virginia or online at Ancestry.com.

- The **New York City** Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYCDoH&MH) revised Article 207 of the New York Health Code to incorporate embargo periods of 125 years for births and 75 years for deaths effective 1 July 2018. Led by the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society (NYG&B) over sixty genealogists attended the hearing, representing many New York area societies and organizations and more than 5,000 genealogists submitted written comments. All the genealogical community achieved from its overwhelming response was an Amendment to provide direct descendants and close relatives access to the vital records during the embargo periods. The Amendment became effective 1 January 2019.

- **Washington** has been an open records state until the Department of Health introduced legislation early in 2019 to modernize their law and increase the privacy of its citizens. Because of RPAC's opposition to the proposed 2011 Model Act in other states, the Department of Heath reached out to the genealogical community in advance of the legislation. By working with the Senate Committee on Law and Justice, RPAC was able to reduce the embargo period on access to death records from 50 years to 25 years and non-certified copies without the cause of death are available during the embargo period. Birth records are embargoed for 100 years and not 125 years as proscribed in the 2011 Model Act. In addition, the list of relatives who have access during the embargo period was expanded. Also the new statute requires the Department of Health to annually transfer vital records to the state archives.

If you learn of any legislation which will affect access to public records, contact RPAC at access@fgs.org.

Privacy Regulations

The overwhelming issue in 2019 worldwide was individual **privacy**—whether it be the GDPR, "right to be forgotten", multi-national technology companies sharing client data, or the republishing of data online from other news outlets.

California Privacy Legislation

The California Consumer Privacy Act went into effect 1 January 2020 as the strongest consumer privacy law in the United States. The law gives consumers in California more control over their personal data and they can now stop tech companies such as Facebook and Google from selling their data. California legislation is often copied by other states, so watch for privacy legislation in your state. Regulations are to be adopted by 1 July 2020. Microsoft has announced it will use California's Consumer Protection Act principles throughout the United States.

Google has a project "Nightingale" in 21 US states in which Google captured health information from Ascension, a St. Louis based Catholic chain of hospitals and doctors, to improve patient care using artificial intelligence and machine learning. Neither patients nor doctors were informed. Google is also buying Fit-Bit which captures personal health information. Similarly, the United Kingdom has given Amazon free access to National Health Service medical data including symptoms, causes, and definitions, to use in conjunction with Alexa to enable users to get medical help and advise via the "digital assistant." Individual patient data is not to be shared but there are still concerns over privacy.

Data Privacy Regulations in the European Union

If you are a genealogist researching ancestors in any of the European Union countries (EU) you have reason to be concerned. After the United Kingdom leaves the EU at the end of January, twenty-seven countries will be under EU privacy regulations which have already impacted family history records. In May 2016, the European Union (EU) enacted the General Data Privacy Regulation (GDPR) which incorporates the "right to be forgotten." The GDPR became effective on 25 May 2018. To read the GDPR see: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L:2016:119:FULL&from=EN.

Litigation suits were filed as soon as the law went into effect by None of Your Business (NoYB) created by Max Schrems, an Austrian Lawyer who has been fighting Facebook for years and challenges the Privacy Shield standard as not high enough. A decision is expected early in 2020.

In 2017 the European Union proposed e-Privacy Regulations (ePR) which once completed will have to be approved by all 27 EU member countries. The ePR will repeal and replace the Privacy and Electronic Communications Directive 2002/58/EC and will align Europe's ePrivacy regime more closely with privacy regime set out in the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Several EU countries have asked that the draft be revised because the proposed regulations may be harmful to the digital economy in Europe.

In October, the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) ruled that a request to delink sensitive information about a person found on Google is not automatic. Google can weigh the balance between the privacy of the person requesting the information being delinked and the public's right to access the information. The Court further stated the standard is high. In another similar case, the court ruled the question of removing sensitive information (extraterritoriality) can be decided by each EU country.

The EU also passed Article 15 in 2019 in which Internet providers would be required to pay publishers copyright fees when republishing an article which has appeared in print media. France is the first country to initiate the fees. Google has now said they will only publish headlines and thumbnails avoiding the need to pay the copyright fees to the source publication. The Court of Justice for the EU has ruled that unauthorized sale of used ebooks infringes on copyright.

The EU conducted its third annual privacy review in September 2019 and concluded that the EU-US Privacy Shield adequately protects personal data transfers from the EU to the US. Five thousand companies are participated in the review and the EU spot checks transactions.

The Right to be Forgotten in Canada

In December the Office of the Privacy Commissioner (OPC) in Canada released its 2018–2019 annual report to Parliament on the Privacy Act and the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA). The Commissioner is asking for increased powers and treating privacy as a "fundamental human right' including the "right to be forgotten." which if adopted would follow some of the EU's GDPR.

Canada's House of Commons Access to Information, Privacy, and Ethics Committee investigating the *Facebook-Cambridge Analytica* scandal recommended major changes to Canada's privacy laws. The committee also recommends that Canada's privacy laws offer similar protections as to those of the European Union's General Data Privacy Regulation (GDPR).

Subscribe to https://lists.iajgs.org/mailman/listinfo/records-access-alerts for updates on records access issues.

Resources for Quaker Research in the Family History Library

Annette Burke Lyttle
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The Family History Library has more than 3,000 resources for Quaker research. Learn how to make the most of this collection to find your Quaker ancestors. Ancestry has the largest collection of online Quaker meeting records, but their collections don't begin to cover everything available for researching our Quaker ancestors.

Meeting Records

The Monthly Meeting is where Quaker community representatives met to handle the business of the community, including approving marriages, disciplining members, and issuing certificates of removal. Monthly meeting records include minutes, registers of births, marriages, and deaths, and special registers on matters like manumission of slaves. While other levels in the hierarchy of Quaker meetings also kept records, the Monthly Meeting records are where we find the most information of genealogical value. In order to find records about our Quaker ancestors, we need to know their Monthly Meeting.

QuakerMeetings.com

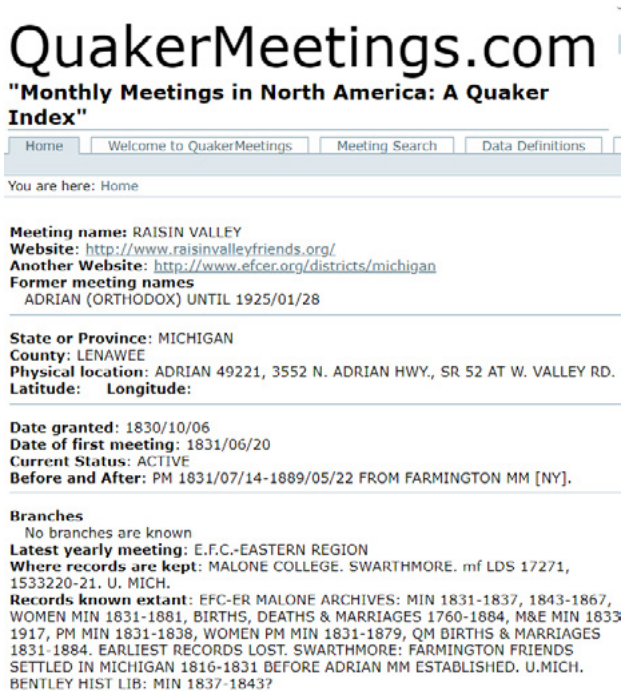
Whether we know our ancestors' monthly meeting or only the area where we think they lived, QuakerMeetings.com is an invaluable resource for locating the records of our ancestors. This website provides the following information on all North American meetings:

- Meeting name
- Former names
- Physical location
- Beginning data (date the meeting was established, date of the first meeting, current status)
- Ending data if no longer active
- Where the records are kept and what records are known to exist
- Related local histories
- Subordinate Preparative Meetings

For example, if we look at the listing for the Raisin Valley Monthly Meeting, a currently active meeting located in Adrian, Lenawee County, Michigan (see image on the next page), we find the following information:

- The meeting was "granted" (authorized to begin) 6 October 1830 and was called the Adrian Monthly Meeting until 28 January 1925
- They have a website and can be found on an additional website
- They're located at 3552 N. Adrian Highway in Adrian
- Records are kept at
    - Malone College (now Malone University) in Canton, Ohio
    - Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania

- The University of Michigan Bentley Historical Library



QuakerMeetings.com

"Monthly Meetings in North America: A Quaker Index"

Home | Welcome to QuakerMeetings | Meeting Search | Data Definitions

You are here: Home

Meeting name: RAISIN VALLEY
Website: http://www.raisinvalleyfriends.org/
Another Website: http://www.efcer.org/districts/michigan
Former meeting names
ADRIAN (ORTHODOX) UNTIL 1925/01/28

State or Province: MICHIGAN
County: LENAWEE
Physical location: ADRIAN 49221, 3552 N. ADRIAN HWY., SR 52 AT W. VALLEY RD.
Latitude: **Longitude:**

Date granted: 1830/10/06
Date of first meeting: 1831/06/20
Current Status: ACTIVE
Before and After: PM 1831/07/14-1889/05/22 FROM FARMINGTON MM [NY].

Branches
No branches are known
Latest yearly meeting: E.F.C.-EASTERN REGION
Where records are kept: MALONE COLLEGE. SWARTHMORE. mf LDS 17271, 1533220-21. U. MICH.
Records known extant: EFC-ER MALONE ARCHIVES: MIN 1831-1837, 1843-1867, WOMEN MIN 1831-1881, BIRTHS, DEATHS & MARRIAGES 1760-1884, M&E MIN 1833 1917, PM MIN 1831-1838, WOMEN PM MIN 1831-1879, QM BIRTHS & MARRIAGES 1831-1884. EARLIEST RECORDS LOST. SWARTHMORE: FARMINGTON FRIENDS SETTLED IN MICHIGAN 1816-1831 BEFORE ADRIAN MM ESTABLISHED. U.MICH. BENTLEY HIST LIB: MIN 1837-1843?

In addition, the entry says "mf LDS 17271, 1533220-21." These are Family History Library microfilms that contain records for this meeting. So QuakerMeeting.com is an excellent place to begin your search for records in the Family History Library.

FamilySearch Card Catalog

A keyword search for "Quaker" in the FamilySearch Card Catalog brings up 3,086 results in all media: books, newspapers, other periodicals, microfilm. Some are digitized so we can view them without visiting the Library, but many are not.

Research Guides

A keyword search for "Quaker research" results in 123 resources. Because of the idiosyncrasies of Quaker records—their system of dates, their often unusual names for things, their system of marriage—it's good to have background information before you start so you can understand the records.

A sampling of research guides:

Arnold, Lisa Parry. *Thee & Me: A Beginner's Guide to Early Quaker Records*. [Publication place not indicated]: L.P. Arnold, 2014. FHL call no. 973 K27a

Elliott, Wendy L. *Quaker Research Guide*. Bountiful, Utah: American Genealogical Lending Library, 1987. FHL call no. 973 K2ew

Heiss, Willard. *Church Records of the United States: Quaker Records in America: Records with Extra Dimension*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1969. https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/records/item/290024-church-records-of-the-united-states-quaker-records-in-america-records-with-an-extra-dimension

Milligan, Edward H. and Malcolm J. Thomas. *My Ancestors Were Quakers: How Can I Find Out More About Them?* London: Society of Genealogists, 1983. FHL call no. 942 D27m

Hinshaw's Index

William Wade Hinshaw's multi-volume index to Quaker records is an essential part of Quaker research. The index covers an incredible amount of extant Quaker meeting minutes and other records. The volumes of the index are available on Ancestry, but the Family History Library has physical copies of each volume.

Records

Using QuakerMeetings.com in conjunction with the FamilySearch card catalog can bring us to original Quaker records on microfilm. Using the example from the Raisin Valley Monthly Meeting, we can search the catalog by film number to see if a film has been digitized or if it must be viewed in the Library.

A search for FHL film number 17271 brings up the listing of what is on the film. Item 2 contains records from the Farmington Monthly Meeting in New York. QuakerMeetings.com told us that the earliest Quakers who came to Adrian came from the Farmington Monthly Meeting, so there should be information about those people on this film. Clicking on the item shows us that the film is digitized, but is restricted to viewing in a Family History Center or affiliate library, so it may be viewed at the Family History Library.

Compiled Genealogies

Compiled genealogies can be a big help in our research if their sources are documented. If not, we need to find the original records. But these publications can provide excellent clues.

A sampling of compiled genealogies:

Jenkins, Charles F. *Genealogical Data Relating to the Quinby Family of Hunterdon County of New Jersey and Bucks County of Pennsylvania, 1769–1915*. Manuscript. https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/170853 NOTE: Digitized with restrictions on viewing.

Leach, Robert. *Nantucket Quaker Genealogy*. Manuscript in 2 vols. FHL call no. 974.497 D2L

McBryde, Fred H. *Tyson Genealogy*. Manuscript on microfilm. FHL film no. 1,412,913, Item 12

Pool, Betty Jane Hinshaw. *Family History of Hinshaw, Hadley, Hunt, Beals, Bourton, Clayton, Millikan, Mills, Woodward, Woolman, Mackey, 1580–1992 A.D*. Las Vegas: Betty Jane Hinshaw Pool, 1995. FHL microfilm no. 1,750,812, Item 2.

Biographies

It's exciting to find a biography of one of our ancestors, and the Library has many volumes of Quaker biography. As with compiled genealogies, we use these resources with care.

A sampling of biographies:

Harrison, Richard S. *A Biographical Dictionary of Irish Quakers*. Dublin, Ireland: Four Courts Press, 2008. FHL call no. 941.5 D36hr

Milligan, Edward H. *Biographical Dictionary of British Quakers in Commerce and Industry 1775–1920*. York, England: Sessions Book Trust, 2007. FHL call no. 942 D36m

Stoneburner, John, and Carol Stoneburner. *The Influence of Quaker Women on American History: Biographical Studies*. Lewiston, NY: The Edwin Mellen Press, 1986. FHL call no. 973 F2in. NOTE: This book is in offsite storage, so it would need to be ordered ahead of your visit to the Library.

Histories and Memoirs

Histories can give us important background information on our Quaker ancestors, where they lived, what their practices were, what beliefs and attitudes they held. Memoirs can fill in details about the lives of our ancestors, giving us a better understanding of how they lived.

A sampling of histories and memoirs:

Butler, David M. *The Quaker Meeting Houses of Britain*. London: Friends Historical Society, 1999. FHL call no. 942 K24bd

Cook, Darius B. *History of Quaker Divide [Iowa]*. https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/records/item/254314-history-of-quaker-divide-struggles-and-accomplishments-of-settlers-the-story-of-their-achievements-forms-interesting-reminiscences-in-the-history-of-early-days-meetings-schools-farm-and-home-life

Hoare, Richard. *Balby Beginnings, the Launching of Quakerism*. Sheffield, England: Balby Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, 2002. FHL call no. 942.74/B48 K2h

Holmes, Theodore C. *Loyalists to Canada: The 1783 Settlement of Quakers and other s at Passamaquoddy*. Camden, ME: Picton Press, 1992. FHL call no. 971.533 H2h

Sharpless, Isaac. *A History of Quaker Government in Pennsylvania. Volume I: A Quaker Experiment in Government*. Philadelphia: T. S. Leach, 1898. https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/records/item/493815-a-history-of-quaker-government-in-pennsylvania-v-01

Searching for Resources

"FamilySearch Catalog." *FamilySearch*. https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog

"Monthly Meetings in North America: A Quaker Index." *QuakerMeetings.com*. https://quakermeetings.com/Plone/

Writing, Blogging and Presenting Compelling Stories

Presenter: Rhonda Lauritzen

WHY STORYBOARD

- Satisfying stories follow familiar patterns - patterns that mirror life.
- True stories naturally hit the right beats, if you know what they are.
- Your job is to highlight compelling moments, cut boring parts.
- Structure gives you confidence and keeps your story on point.
- Rather than feeling formulaic, a sticky note template sparks creativity.

ALL STORIES NEED

- Protagonist – Who is the story about? Every story is about someone.
- We have a problem – Central conflict/problem. Internal and external.
- Theme – What is the story about? Why are you writing this story?
- Growth – Every great story is about transformation.

GO-TO TIPS THAT NEVER FAIL

- Beginning and End – Mirror opposite moments with 180-degree growth.
- Introduce the theme through dialogue.
- Darkest hour – The protagonist is empty of pride and ready to give up.
- An all-is-lost moment is followed by a spark of the divine.

FINDING THE ANGLE AND GETTING ORGANIC VIEWS

- What if you lack details? How to spot an angle and fill in context.
- The importance of finding good images, and surprising places to look.
- Ethics and considerations before sharing sensitive details.
- Marketing tips to increase viral views or spark a family's interest.

STORIES ABOUT PLACES AND BUILDINGS

- Stories of buildings and places follow the same patterns as for people.
- Why do ancestral places often beckon in in uncanny ways?
- Why storytelling strengthens the fabric of a community.
- Your family and community are hungry for your work. Case studies showing how to package stories and videos to reach them—even children.

Writing, Blogging and Presenting Compelling Stories

Presenter: Rhonda Lauritzen

Curated resources for memoir and family history writers: https://evalogue.life/writers

Story Structure

- Article on how to storyboard: https://evalogue.life/storyboard/
- Write your life story course: https://learn.evalogue.life/courses/
- Story Structure - strengthen any story: https://evalogue.life/story-structure/
- What is the theme in your story: https://evalogue.life/theme-of-your-story-toy-story-1/
- Storyboard booklet + posters (combo pack): https://amzn.to/36wKiTp

Oral history interview questions and resources: https://evalogue.life/interview

Tips and resources for telling stories with video: https://evalogue.life/video-resources/

Case studies - Examples of effective short stories and videos:

- Bible Rescue saves the family Bible and the genealogy inside:
  - https://evalogue.life/bible-rescue-saves-the-family-bible/
- Granary Arts – the untold story of history of the Ephraim's Relief Society Granary:
  - https://www.granaryarts.org/history-of-the-ephraim-relief-society-granary
- A soldier's World War I wallet:
  - https://youtu.be/4e2P-3By3uk
- The Ogden Airport's role in World War II: https://youtu.be/qLUmhxh5J_U

We would love to connect with you!

https://evalogue.life - Tell Your Story 801.917.4299

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"Hi, We're Related!" Writing to Your DNA Matches and Begging for Spit

Michael D. Lacopo, D.V.M.
www.Roots4U.com
Roots4U.blogspot.com
www.Facebook.com/Roots4U

Before delving into the Do's and Don'ts of effective communication, there are some key points we ALWAYS have to consider when working with our DNA matches.

MAKE YOUR OWN ROAD MAP

This has to be emphasized, both in searches for the unknown as well as the known. DNA testing of ANY kind is an amazing new tool in your genealogy toolbox. Like any tool, you have to use it ACTIVELY to get the most use out of it. You are here because you want to use DNA practically to establish genealogical proof. You do not want to sit PASSIVELY and wait for matches to "just happen". They won't. Laying a hammer on a pile of wood and checking on it periodically will not build a bookshelf. USE YOUR TOOLS!

In the case of looking for my unknown maternal grandfather, I needed to determine what DNA was contributed to my mother by her unknown father, because that was the DNA I needed to focus on. If her mother were still living, testing her would have immediately negated the 50% of my mother's DNA that I could ignore in this search. That was not an option. So I had to test as many close maternal relatives of my mother to give me an idea which of her DNA matches were maternal and which were paternal. Any match that matched my mother AND her maternal half-sister and/or her half-brother and/or her half-niece had to be discounted as likely maternal DNA.

Conversely, if I am using autosomal DNA to find out more about the Timmons family for genealogical purposes, my mother and her maternal relatives serve as a road map to determine who are good matches to contact. But the above-mentioned people are all descended from my maternal grandmother, Helen Marie Timmons (1917-1987). If I wanted to make sure they were Timmons matches through her father, William Armond Timmons (1876-1960), and not matches on her mother's side, I would test any of my grandmother's paternal first cousins to enhance my road map. This is why it is often *BETTER* to test more of your own **second** cousins. Remember second cousins share the same great-grandparents, so it focuses your search onto a single grandparent (or set of great-grandparents).

In the absence of testing done by you, use your SHARED MATCHES (ICW MATCHES) to better understand how an unknown person may be related to you. ***ALWAYS USE THE KNOWN TO GIVE THE UNKNOWN MEANING***!

DNA RESULTS ARE USELESS WITHOUT A PAPER TRAIL

This should not have to be stated, but unfortunately I see far too many people making this error far too often. If you have a DNA match with someone who only has researched his paternal family, your conclusions have no meaning. When searching for the unknown, your targeted testing should be yielding ever-stronger DNA matches. Each test should result in extensive bouts of good old-fashioned genealogical research. When assessing database matches, two absolutely well researched and complete trees are necessary! We know this is a rarity. ***AVOID CONFIRMATION BIAS***! What is this? "*Confirmation bias is the tendency to search for, interpret, favor, and recall information in a way that confirms one's preexisting beliefs for hypotheses*."[1] Because you think you descend from Patrick McGillicuddy and you happen to share a 12 cM segment with another descendant of this man does NOT confirm your hypothesis!

COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY

Contacting DNA matches or contacting candidates for targeted testing requires you to be succinct, informative, educated, focused, and well spoken. Sadly, I would say that the vast majority of the contacts I receive via email regarding DNA matches are complete failures. I'm sorry, but "We Match!" – without additional information – is not an email that is going to generate a response from me. For both reasons, written discourse is the best. Phone calls are rarely focused and take people by surprise. Below are MY guidelines that you can tailor for your own specific needs:

Approaching Strangers for DNA

1. *Introductions and Apologies.* This is going to be a long letter. Even being succinct, there is a lot to cover. Start with an apology regarding length and set the stage that this is going to be an odd request. This piques curiosity, but sets the stage for asking for DNA. Introduce yourself and give references or websites or Facebook pages they can check on you to make sure you are not a scammer.

2. *Share Information Regarding Your Connection.* If you suspect a family relationship, tell them how. Start with an attention grabber. Introduce yourself as a possible fifth cousin, twice removed. Again, it piques interest. Attach a photo of a common ancestor if you have one.

3. *Synopsis of How DNA Testing Works*. No, this is not meant to be a lecture. No, do not make this more than a paragraph. Yes, get them to basically understand how DNA connects people in the same family.

4. *Explanation of Why They Are Special… and You Are Not*. Let them know that their DNA holds the answer to an historical puzzler, and you are a miserable failure at providing the answers to your own questions. If you are seeking Y-DNA or mtDNA, let them know that there are few or no candidates on the planet except them.

5. *Present The Research Dilemma Like a Murder Mystery.* Make this a CSI episode. Let them know that the crime will remain unsolved without their assistance.

6. *Explain Testing Procedure and Costs.* Let them know that testing is easy. They just need to spit or scrape. You will send the test to them. You will cover costs. Experience tells me that you

[1] "Confirmation bias", Wikipedia entry (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Confirmation_bias: accessed 25 October 2017).

should leave options open. Some people would rather maintain control of their DNA tests, but they will share. Perhaps you then only pay half. Keep negotiations open.

7. *Recognize the Bizarreness of Your Request.* You are asking for a stranger's DNA. It is weird. Acknowledge it.

8. *Prove ALL Forms of Contact.* Give them your email, phone number, address, etc. If they are interested, but they have questions or reservations, let them choose their most comfortable method of contacting you.

9. *Thank Them*. They have reached the end of your long letter. They have contemplated the request. That is a lot. Ask them to respond, even if it is a negative response. Ask them to forward the letter to other family members who might be interested in helping.

It may seem counterintuitive, but I do NOT allay people's fears about DNA testing, privacy, government conspiracies, law enforcement involvement, or other irrational fears of testing. Those people are usually not going to test, and if they have some fears, they will mention them. I may attach a link to the testing site I plan on using if they want to read more. I do not flood them with too much information.

Contacting DNA Matches

1. *Introductions.* Good God, people, start with the basics! Remember the sticky badges? "Hello, My Name Is….." Even if your email address infers your name, we should have all learned a long time ago how to introduce ourselves to strangers.

2. *Explicitly Identify Both Parties Involved in the Match in Question.* Identify the kit number or test taker's name that you match. This is NOT intuitive to the person receiving your email, as many DNA testing sites do not make this obvious via email. Identify the site and testing location where you found the match. Further identify **your** kit number or name, or the test you manage for which you are writing.

3. *Provide Information About This Specific Match.* If you have tested others that match this person (see **Make Your Own Road Map**), present a possible family line where the match may occur. Always provide a family tree or a link to one, and ask for one in return.

4. *Be Knowledgeable.* Do not go overboard, but if you know you share 110 cM of DNA on two segments, state it. If you want to mention that you might be in the second or third cousin range, state it. Remember this is still very confusing to many test takers. And for those who do know what it all means, you save them a little work looking all this up.

5. *Offer Assistance*. The face of genealogy has changed. People are entering the field via DNA testing, and they often know little about their ancestry. If they are not researchers or know little, ask for basic information, such as grandparents' names and approximate dates and locations of their existence. Offer to dig for them and to share information you might find.

6. *Ask Questions Pointedly*. If you want a response, do not be wishy-washy. Have other family members tested? Can you provide a family tree or a link to one? Would you share your DNA results with me? Being direct does not mean being rude.

7. *Share, Share, Share*. I get it. You have spent thirty years and thousands of dollars researching your family, and whatever you share with someone online will just go up on their Ancestry Family Tree and your hard work will never be recognized. I get it. I really, really get it. But if you are asking for something, you have to be prepared to give something in return. That's how it works.

8. *Provide ALL Forms of Contact*. If you hate the proprietary email systems on *Ancestry* and *23andMe*, ask if they will contact you directly. Provide the information and state your preference. Let them choose how they want to respond. Provide your phone number, email address, postal address, Facebook page, webpage, etc. Not only do you want to give your contact multiple means of communication, but you also want them to be able to check you out. You are a stranger to them, and remember what your mother said about talking to strangers?

9. *Thank Them*. Be courteous. It is the right thing to do.

10. *QUIT COMPLAINING*! You followed all the rules. You wrote a lovely letter. And you still don't get a response. If you go to Facebook and complain in a public forum that people suck and nobody writes back, I guarantee karma will bite you in the butt. Don't do it. Some people don't see their Ancestry mail. Some people just wanted their ethnic pie chart and have no desire to do genealogical research or get involved in those who do. Some people are just not trusting of strangers. And some people don't want to share. That's life. Get over it. It never hurts to send a follow up letter to kindly nudge someone, because we all get busy and forget things, but be nice. And no, people did not DNA test for YOUR benefit. Stop thinking so.

11. *Should You Track Them Down Elsewhere*? Maybe. As previously mentioned, some people do not see their mail on Ancestry or 23andMe, but they provide enough clues that you can find them on Facebook or LinkedIn or somewhere else online. You have other contact information. Do you use it? Cautiously. With apologies. Remember, you want assistance, not a restraining order.

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WHO WAS CHARLOTTE (?-) FASSE GRAUE OF THE PRINCIPALITY of LIPPE GERMANY, MISSOURI & IOWA

Board for Certification of Genealogists (R) Skillbuilding Lecture

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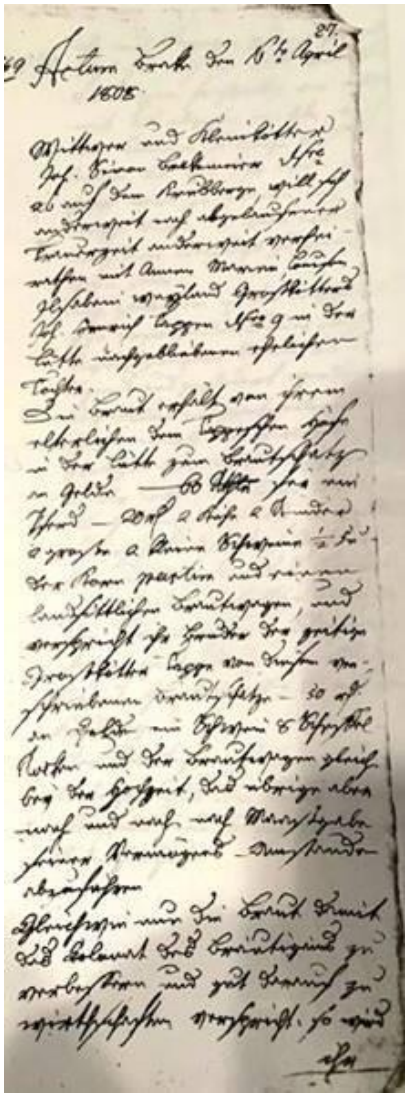
Several sources give different surnames for Charlotte Fasse Graue's father. This lecture explains the derivation of those names. Misunderstandings happen when Anglo-American naming practices differ from an immigrant's native customs. American record keepers may misunderstand what they are told or hear, or immigrants accidently misinform.

1. Introduction
   - A death certificate, a marriage record, a county history, and a family letter provide different surnames for Charlotte's father.
2. U.S. records
   - Marriage
   - Probate
   - Death
   - U.S. Census
   - Ship Passenger Lists
   - Military
   - Tax
   - Church
3. German records
   - Church baptismal, marriage and death records
   - Marriage Protocals
   - Salbuchen (tax registers)
4. German customs and history
   - Hofnamen (farm names)
   - Restrictive marriage laws of the 19th century
5. Derivative sources
   - Family letters and memories
   - County Histories and maps
   - Obituaries
   - Oral Histories
6. Conclusion – Differences in cultures affect the way names appear in records. A reasonably exhaustive search in U.S. and Lippe Germany offerings along with analysis and correlation of the facts resolved any conflict as to the identity of Charlotte's father.

Johann Simon Buschmeier - Anna Margarethe Ilsabein Brakemeier 1788 Marriage Protocol Nordrheim-Westfalsiches Staatsarchive L109-110, Nr64,p.109-110



p. 109

Johann Simon, legitimate son of the deceased Franz Hermann Buschmeier, small farmer at farm no. 22 in Krubberge, wishes to marry, once he has completed his military service, Anna Margarethe Ilsabein, legitimate daughter of the deceased Hans Hermann Brakemeier, small farmer on farm no. 26. The groom will be taking over the Brakemeier farm no. 26 in Krubberge, as is outlined in more detail in a land deed dated the 8th of this month, and approved on the 16th of this month. The groom will contribute 70 Reichstaler in dowry from farm no. 22 to the farm into which he will be marrying. He was unable to agree on this payment with his brother, the current owner of the Buschmeier farm, who found the operation to be burdened with high debts when he took ownership. Therefore, [the brother] will pay, after two free years, 2 Reichstaler and 18 Gulden in yearly contributions until the debt is paid. This contract was taken to protocol in the presence of the bride and her stepfather, as well as her guardian Johann Hermann Homberg from farm no. 20 in Krubberge, and also the groom and his brother, currently farmer at Buschmeier no. 22. The groom was born free, but will be entering serfdom now with the marriage to his bride.

Ancestry of Mrs. Charlotte Fasse Graue

- 1753 Franz Herman Buschmeyer m. Anna Dorothea Atroggen
- 1759 Johann Simon Buschmeier, son of Frans Hermann Buschmeyer, born.[a]
- 1788 Johann Simon Buschmeier & Anna Margarethe Ilsabe Brakemeyer married.[b] He took her name Brakemeyer as they lived on her land.
- 1807 Anna Margarethe Ilsabe Brakemeyer died.[c]
- 1808- Johann Simon Brakemeyer married Anna Maria Luise Tappe.[d] Their surname reverted back to the surname of the original owner of the property – Schneidermeyer. They became Schneidermeyer – their five children are all recorded as Schneidermeyers.
- 1811– Wilhelmine Christine Schneidermeyer born, daughter of Johann Simon and Anna Maria Tappe[e].
- 1838 Wilhelmine Luise Charlotte Schneidermeyer Ringe born[f]

[a] Johann Simon Buschmeyer 1 Jul 1759 entry, "Germany, Select Births and baptisms, 1558-1898," database, *ancestry.com:* accessed 12 Jan 2017, citing FHL microfilm 810,324.
[b] Buschmeyer-Brakemeyer 24 Oct 1788 entry, "Germany, Select Marriages, 1558-1929," database, *ancestry.com:* accessed 12 Jan 2017, citing FHL microfilm 1,049,468.
[c] Margarethe Ilsabe Brakemeyer entry, 10 Feb 1807 at Krubberg, Hillentrup, Lippe, Germany Death register 1755-1812; FHL microfilm 582,521.
[d] Brakenmeyer /Schneidermeyer –Tappe 1808 marriage entry, "Germany, Select marriages, 1558-1929, " *Ancestry.com* database, citing FHL microfilm 1,049,469.
[e] Wilhelmine Christine Schneidermeyer 9 Jul 1811entry, "Germany, Select Births and baptisms, 1558-1898," database, *ancestry.com:* accessed 12 Jan 2017, citing FHL microfilm 810,324.
[f] Wilhelmine Luise Charlotte Schneidermeier, 30 Oct 1838, entry #47, Baptism register of Evangelisch, Hillentrup, Lippe, Gemany; FHL microfilm #810,325.

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German Genealogical Word List, https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/German_Genealogical_Word_List
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German Surname Changes, http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~ehrhard/genealogy/Farm%20Names.htm
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THURSDAY

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Websites current as of 5 Jan 2020

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Identifying Slaveholding Ancestors Using DNA Testing: Successful Strategies for African Americans

By Andre Kearns, BA, MBA

Lecture Number (T204)

Thursday, May 21, 2020, 8:00am

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Was slave master Smyre my ancestor?

Good research starts with a good question, and this was mine. My third great grandfather Henry Johnson was born enslaved in Lincoln County, North Carolina in the 1830s. Family oral history identified his father only as "Master Smyre". Who was this man? Was this true? How could I be sure?

African Americans face many challenges in advancing our family histories. One key challenge is successfully tracing back to slaveholding ancestors. Many African Americans have European ancestry dating back to slavery, the result of offspring between white men and enslaved women. Lack of documentation has traditionally made it nearly impossible to trace these connections.

DNA testing offers African Americans new possibilities to discover and validate these relationships. In this session I will teach successful strategies for researching slaveholding ancestors using DNA. I will share how I used extensive DNA testing to validate Henry Johnson as a descendant of the slave owning Smyres who emigrated from Germany to North Carolina in the early 18th century.

How have I done it? I will share my approach to genealogy:

- Start by **creating a family tree** based on what you know and work your way back
- **Talk with your family**. Oral history is an important part in African American genealogy research
- **Extend your tree with genealogical records research**. A key challenge for African American researchers is limited available documentation due to slavery. I will share the short list of records which I have found useful in extending my family history
- **Research with a critical mind**. Always examine original documents, expect to encounter inconsistencies, look for clues and patterns and ask what's likely
- **Discover with DNA testing**. There's a record etched in our DNA which can fill in the holes left by lack of documentation. There are different types of DNA tests available. Understanding what results each test type provides you should inform which one you should select.

Researching Slaveholding Records. I will apply this approach to my own family tree and share how I researched available documentation to identify Master Smyre.

- **Census records** helped me to build a family tree for my ancestor Henry Johnson post-emancipation and to identify the Smyre family of Lincoln County, North Carolina
- **Census slave schedules** quantified the number of enslaved persons owned by Smyre family members and helped me to deduce who might have owned Henry
- I examined **Probate records** to determine whether Henry's name appeared in Smyre family estate distributions
- I reviewed Smyre family **Deeds** for enslaved persons named Henry who might have been sold

Leveraging Extensive DNA testing. I identify my enslaved ancestor Henry Johnson's father as John Smyre (1785-1877) son of German emigrants to Lincoln County, North Carolina based on:

- **Hundreds of Autosomal DNA matches** shared between Henry Johnson descendants and Smyre descendants
- **Triangulated DNA matches** between Henry Johnson descendants and John Smyre descendants
- **YDNA matches** between a direct paternal descendant of Henry Johnson and John Smyre descendants
- **Location research** indicating that Henry Johnson descended from Smyres who lived in Lincolnton, Lincoln County, NC. John Smyre is the only Smyre buried in Linconton
- **Returning to slave census records.** By 1860 John Smyre Jr owned only one slave, a male in the same age range as Henry Johnson

John Smyer, Plain Deutsch Pioneer. I will share the family history I uncovered about the Smyres of Lincoln County.

- Slavery in Lincoln and Catawba County, NC
- John Smyre was the oldest son of Johannes Schimerer and Utilla Bost, lived on the eastern bank of South Fork of Catawba River which is near Lincolnton.
- Johannes Schmierer was likely a Palatine, an early 18th century emigrant from the Middle Rhine region
- Schmierer was a landowner, farmer, mill operator, logger, woodworker and merchant
- Slave narratives reveal a difficult life for those enslaved by the Smyres and Bosts

Family and Reconciliation. I will share how I have connected with Smyre descendants whom I DNA match. This experience has enriched my life. I will share our experiences getting to know each other and our struggle to reconcile our family's past.

- Finding common language with my Smyre cousins to discuss family history and slavery
- Challenging them to confront the history of slavery in the family
- Challenging myself as an African American to explore my German ancestry
- My pilgrimage to Lincoln County, NC to pay tribute to Henry Johnson

Reference and Useful Links. DNA test services and tools

- AncestryDNA: www.dna.ancestry.com
- 23andMe: www.23andme.com
- FamilyTreeDNA: www.familytreedna.com

Research Resources

- Ancestry: www.ancestry.com
- FamilySearch: www.familysearch.com
- US Federal Census on Ancestry
- US Census Slave Schedules on Ancestry
- US Wills and Probates on Ancestry
- Lincoln County, NC and Catawba County, NC Deeds on Familysearch
- John Smyer, Plain Deutsch Pioneer by Ianne Smyer
- Slave Narratives: https://www.loc.gov/collections/slave-narratives-from-the-federal-writers-project-1936-to-1938/about-this-collection/

Family Search's Secret Weapon: Court Order Books

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In 1739 Jacob described court orders as

> Orders Are of several Sorts, and by divers Courts; as of the Chancery; King's Bench, &c. Orders of the Court of Chancery, either of Course or otherwise, are obtained on the Petition or Motion of one of the Parties in a Cause, or of some other interested in or affected by it; and they are sometimes made upon Hearings and sometimes by Consent of Parties[1] . . . They are to be pronounced in open Court, and drawn up by the Register from his Notes; . . . Orders of the King's Bench, Are Rules made by the Court in Causes there depending; and when they are drawn up and entered by the Clerk of the Rules, they become Orders of the Court . . . Orders of Justices of Peace . . . during all their Sessions, may alter or revoke their Orders and make a new Order to vacate the former, though it be drawn up;

Bouvier, a hundred years later made it simpler: "Orders: Rules made by a court or other competent jurisdiction." [2]

[1] Giles Jacob, *A New Law-Dictionary Containing, the Interpretation and Definition of Words and Terms Used in the Law: and Also the Whole Law, and the Practice Thereof, under All the Heads and Titles of the Same* ([London] Printed by E. and R. Nutt, and R. Gosling, 1739), 519.

[2] John Bouvier, *A Law Dictionary Daapted to the Constitution and Laws of the United States of America, and of the Several States of the American Union with References to the Civil and Other Systems of Foreign Law*, 2 vols. (1839; reprint New York: Lawbook Exchange, 1993), 2:210.

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What Are Court Orders and How Can They Help Us?

During the colonial and post-colonial period to the mid-1800s, the local governing body acted as both the overseer of government operations (the poor, roads, schools, etc.) and the lowest court hearing cases dealing with minor offenses. Even for those jurisdictions that separated government operations from court suits, the clerk was charged with recording the operations and orders of the various bodies. For many jurisdictions this same pattern continued into the post-colonial period.

It is at the local level, that we learn details not found elsewhere: who were the millers, the tavern owners, the constables, who practiced law, what local clergy could perform marriages, who was appointed overseer of a road (and sometimes who were the members of his road gang), where were the ferries and bridges, what witnesses weren't local and how far did they travel, the results of grand jury inquisitions, and even whose children were being taken under the care of by the local authorities and why.

These records survive in many but not all cases in varying states of preservation. They are usually unindexed with the exception of court cases, which may or may not be indexed simply by the style of the case (*Smith* vs *Jones* or *Smith*, et al vs *Jones*). An adverse index listing the defendant first is sometimes available. Thus, they often require reading (or at least skimming them page by page). We'll explore some tricks to skipping over items of no interest and only focusing on the ones that can help us learn more about our families and solve our "brick wall" problems—both those involving relationships and those involving migration.

Court order record books, however, are not limited to local courts. They are part of the records of every court, even the United States Supreme Court. Appellate court order books often provide a synopsis of the case as it is brought—all parties included in the suit (not just the surnames of the first-named plaintiff and the first-named defendant) as well as the reason for the suit. Witnesses are often named; depositions may be entered in their entirety, and exhibits such as deeds, survey plats, wills, etc., are sometimes entered as well. In addition, since appellate court are also courts of record sometimes a variety of documents including deeds, wills, and naturalizations may be found among the entries. The amount of information varies from place to place, court to court, and clerk to clerk. Never assume that one court order book is an example of what all the court order books for that court are like.

Court order books often allow a researcher to track a suit from its beginning to its end. And, it is that ended date—whether the suit is dismissed, there is a final verdict, or the suit is appealed—that is needed to locate the loose court papers (court case files are typically filed by ended date).

For those that persevere, the Reward is often great!

Not enough time and too far away? FamilySearch has the answer. The following are some random examples from a variety of court order books from the local to the federal level readily available on FamilySearch and viewable from the comfort of your own home.

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Suit for Back-payment of Alimony

An order to release from jail a defendant, who was charged with contempt of court, when he delivered personal property (described) sufficient to pay back alimony of $235 and an additional $40 due 1 May 1890.

[*Hanna Haggerty* vs *Robert Haggerty*, Shelby Co., Tenn., Chancellor's Order Book, 1888–1912, p. 21, DGS 8663709, image 16 of 944, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QHV-N3CK-L9F6-L)].

Indenture

At court 8 Oct 1798: Ordered that Jesse Campble be by the clerk of this Court bound out to James Hood to lern the art and mistory of a joiner.

[Fleming Co., Ky., Court Minutes (Order Book) Vol. A, unpaged DGS 7647005, image 28 of 406, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C9PK-FFDV).].

Power of Attorney from apparent South Carolina heirs of Georgia property

At Oct court 1785 a power of attorney from William Gaston, John Gaston, Joseph Gaston Junr., Joseph Gasten, Martha Gaston, Alexander Walker, Easther Walker all of Chester County, South Carolina, planters, to Hugh Gasten sadler, of the same to convey two tracts of Land in the State of Georgia in Washington County, the warrants of survey granted unto Alexander Gaston and David Gaston.

[Chester Co., S.C., Minute and order book, 1785-1795, pp. 28–29, DGS 8152228, image 27 of 432, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSKJ-L7DW-Z)].

New England mariners sue for wages in Federal District Court in District of Columbia

6 Apr 1803 Peter Gilbert, Charles Rambler, William Richardson, Benjamin Bumford, Thomas Goodwin, Charles Diggle and Ebenezer Webster, seamen on board the Ship *Governor Strong*, Libellants against the Ship *Governor Strong*, her Rigging, Tackle, apparel, and Furniture and Job Choate Master and all others concerned now lying at Alexandria. Respondents sue for wages of $381.71 stating the ship had been sold and the voyage so altered as to authorize the said Libellants to demand their discharge and their wages . . the ship is about to leave the United States. The Answer of Job Choate, the Master states that Libellants signed Articles and shipped in the manner described in the said articles when he produces and from whence it appears that they bound themselves to perform a Voyage from Boston to Wiscusset [Maine] and from thence to the River Saint Croix [Maine-New Brunswick] and to the City of Washington and elsewhere where freight should offer from thence to her Port of discharge in the United States . . .

[United States District Court (District of Columbia) Order Book, 1801–1827, pp. 7–11, DGS 8151835, images 444–446 of 668 *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSKJ-W39D-1)].

Mortgage Foreclosure; Owner Currently Non-Resident

The foreclosure of a mortgage that may well have been the impetus for a migration as in

The President and Directors of the State Bank of Illinois who Sue for the use of the people of said state against Elijah Carter. In Chancery. This day came the complainant by their solicitor and it appearing to the court that the Deft is a non-resident and that the legal notice has been inserted in a public newspaper of this state a sufficient length of time And also that the said Deft has notwithstanding failed to file his

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answer to the Complainants bill herein Therefore it is ordered and decreed that the mortgage mentioned in the said complaint's bill be and the same is hereby foreclosed and that . . . commissioners [are hereby appointed] to sell and convey the premises in the said mortgage mentioned to satisfy the debt due the complainant.

[Union County, Illinois, Order book, 1818–1848, pp. 73–74, DGS 8547424, images 153–154 of 324, *Family Search* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C3QC-V96R-Y)

Minor Heirs no real property

12 Nov 1866 This day came H. O. Weaver, a resident of this county and files his petition . . . that he may be appointed to be the Guardian of Nancy, William and Hosia Ingram, minor heirs of James M .Ingram Decd; and it being shown to the satisfaction of the court that said minors are under the age of fourteen years and reside with their mother in this County and have no Guardian that they have an estate in their own right in this county consisting of cattle of the value of about one hundred and fifty dollars, and that it is necessary some person should be appointed to act as Guardian of said property . . .

Conecuh Co., Alabama, Probate Order Book A, pp. 49–50, DGS 7737654, images 381–282 of 842, *Family Search* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C914-KWG6-M).

Inditement of Grand Jury—Family relationship

March Term 1834. The state of Missouri vs James Lucas Senr, John Lucas & James Lucas Junr. Indictment Malicious Mischief a True Bill

It is ordered by the Court that the defendants be recognized for their personal appearance on the first day of the next term of this court. It appearing to the Court that John Lucas and James Lucas Junr are infants under the age of twenty one years the court orders that James Lucas Senr their father enter into a recognizance for their appearance at next term

Carroll Co., Missouri, Circuit Court Record, Volume A, 1833–1847, pp. 5–6, DGS 7631006, images 36–37 of 595, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-L9LM-HS6X).

A potpourri of items in a county order book

An index includes entries for ferry licenses, grocery licenses, issuance of a 160-acre grant, lists of grand and petit jurors, reference to building a jail, application for relief by Lewis Jones, medical attendance, order to purchase a fireproof safe, to issue a licence to keepers of billiard tables, to search for county orders prior to 7 July 1857, to establish boundaries of the various precincts, to issue a pedlers' license, and to pay Douglas County for boarding Ripley Dodge, a prisoner. A report on p. 105 dated 7 July 1858 noted that the county had two additional school districts, a total of 618 students in eighteen districts and thirteen teachers (ten male and three female) who had been examined and to whom certificates had been issued.

Douglas Co., Oregon, County Journal, Volume 1, 1853–1868, index and p. 105, DGS 100602687, digital images, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-9927-2XP).

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Pursuing Pilgrims—Identifying the DNA Signatures of *Mayflower* Passengers

Janine Cloud - Group Project Manager, FamilyTreeDNA
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Four hundred years ago this September, the merchant ship *Mayflower* set sail from Plymouth, England, headed to Northern Virginia and the promise of freedom and a better life. Though they ended up north of their planned destination, this group of 102 "saints and strangers" left a mark on history much larger than they probably ever anticipated.

Only 52 of those pilgrims survived the first winter, but their descendants have multiplied through the centuries and include presidents and poets, soldiers and singers, generals and journalists. Generations of genealogists and family historians have spent countless hours seeking connections to those families who played pivotal roles in the foundation of the United States of America. Family lore citing *Mayflowe*r ancestors is as widespread as that citing Native American ancestry and can be as challenging to document. This talk discusses the use of DNA testing as part of that documentation.

The Partnership

In September, 2016, the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD), well known for the quality of the documentation they require for membership, proposed a policy accepting the use of Y-DNA as supporting evidence for membership[1] and in 2017, the GSMD partnered with FamilyTreeDNA in an effort to identify the Y and mtDNA signatures of the passengers by testing proven direct paternal and direct maternal descendants of Pilgrims. Those testers who meet specific qualifications receive an icon or "badge" on their FamilyTreeDNA results dashboard.[2]

While the GSMD established a DNA group project[3] at FamilyTreeDNA in 2001,[4] the partnership between the national organization and the testing company encouraged the group project to focus on upgrading existing members to meet the minimum requirements. In addition, the Society's focus on recruitment has seen the project go from 503 members in July, 2017, to its current 1106 members.[5] In addition to the official Mayflower Society DNA Project, several of the

[1] https://www.themayflowersociety.org/images/DNA_Policy_Finalx.pdf
[2] https://www.themayflowersociety.org/blog/item/309-new-partnership-with-ftdna-and-gsmd
[3] https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/mayflowersociety/about
[4] Internal company data.
[5] Internal company data.

pilgrims' family associations have projects, and though they may not focus on the *Mayflower* connection, most of the surnames represented on the ship have DNA projects as well.

The Passengers

Not all of the 102 passengers aboard the *Mayflower* were part of the sect known as Separatists or Pilgrims, though the GSDM states on their website, "Anyone who arrived in Plymouth on the *Mayflower* and survived the initial hardships is now considered a Pilgrim with no distinction being made on the basis of their original purposes for making the voyage."[6] A total of 74 men, 28 women, and probably 31 children were aboard along with an estimated 30 crew members and Captain Christopher Jones. Eighteen of the men and women were listed as servants, all but five of them attached to Separatist families.

The Pilgrims[7]

Survivors of the winter of 1620-21 include the following:

John Alden	Peter Browne	Samuel Fuller	Henry Samson
Bartholomew Allerton	James Chilton	Samuel Fuller (son of Edward)	George Soule
Isaac Allerton	Mrs. James Chilton	Constance Hopkins	Myles Standish
Mary (Norris) Allerton	Mary Chilton	Elizabeth (Fisher) Hopkins	Elizabeth Tilley
Mary Allerton	Francis Cooke	Giles Hopkins	John Tilley
Remember Allerton	John Cooke	Stephen Hopkins	Joan (Hurst) Tilley
Elinor Billington	Edward Doty	John Howland	Richard Warren
Francis Billington	Francis Eaton	Richard More	Peregrine White
John Billington	Samuel Eaton	Priscilla Mullins	Resolved White
William Bradford	Sarah ( ) Eaton	William Mullins	Susanna (Jackson) White
Love Brewster	Moses Fletcher	Degory Priest	William White
Mary ( ) Brewster	Edward Fuller	Joseph Rogers	Edward Winslow
William Brewster	Mrs. Edward Fuller	Thomas Rogers	

[6] https://www.themayflowersociety.org/the-pilgrims/the-pilgrims
[7] ibid

The DNA

Test types

- **Autosomal DNA**
  - DNA inherited from both parents, 50% from each parent, made up of the randomly recombined DNA each parent inherited from his or her parents.
  - Reveals matches sharing ancestors in approximately last 5-6 generations,
  - Provides an estimate of the percentage of ancestral origins inherited from ancestors along all lines.
  - Both men and women can test as everyone has autosomal DNA.

- **Mitochondrial (mtDNA) DNA**
  - Contained in mitochondria, cytoplasmic organelles involved in cellular energy production.
  - Does not recombine, or mix, with DNA from other ancestors.
  - Passed from mother to child so can be used to trace direct maternal line and confirm shared maternal ancestry.
  - Changes, or mutates, slowly since many copies exist in each cell.
  - Traces maternal migrations over thousands of years.
- **Y DNA**
  - Nuclear DNA, one of a pair of sex chromosomes.
  - Recombination limited to pseudoautosomal regions (PAR) and genetic genealogy uses non-recombining portion.
  - Only males inherit from their fathers, so can be used to trace direct paternal line and confirm shared paternal ancestry.
  - Reveals migratory paths of paternal line
  -
- **Challenges of each type of test**
  - Y-DNA reveals nothing about female ancestors.
  - Y-DNA traces only a direct paternal line but cannot distinguish between brothers within the past two or three hundred years.
  - mtDNA reveals nothing about male ancestors, even though men can take the test.
  - mtDNA traces only the direct maternal line and changes so slowly that determining when matches share a common maternal ancestor can be difficult.
  - Autosomal DNA divides in half each generation so you can only go back about five to six generations with confidence.
  - As you go back, the amount of DNA available to inherit from a specific ancestor decreases, so the chances of not inheriting any from a specific ancestor increases.
  - Recombination affects the amounts inherited.

Confirmed DNA Signatures[8]

Surnames	Haplogroup	Female Pilgrim	Haplogroup
Alden (Aldin)	R-M269	Joan Hurst	H1a1
Billington	R-M269	Priscilla Mullins	H6a1a9
Bradford (Bradfort)	I-M253	Elizabeth Walker	H1j
Brewster (Brusstar, Bruster)	I-M253	Mary, First wife of Stephen Hopkins	V
Cooke (Cook)	I-M223	Mary Chilton	T2b
Doty (Dotey, Doten, Doton, Doughton, Doughty, Douty)	R-M269		
Eaton	R-M269		
Fuller	R-M269		
Hopkins (Hobkins)	R-M269		
Howland	R-M269		
Rodgers (Rogers)	R-M269		
Soule (Sole, Sowle, Soal, Soale, Sowl)	I-YSC0000261		
Standish	I-M170		
Warren (Warrens, Warrin, Warrins)	E-M35		
White (Whyte)	R-M269		

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Resources

The Mayflower Society DNA Project, https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/mayflowersociety/about
The General Society of *Mayflower* Descendants, https://www.themayflowersociety.org/
Mayflower 400, https://www.mayflower400uk.org/
The *May-flower* and her log, July 15, 1620-May 6, 1621: chiefly from original sources by Ames, Azel, 1845-1908 via Internet Archive, https://archive.org/details/mayflowerherlogj00ames/page/20/mode/2up
ISOGG Wiki, https://isogg.org/wiki/Wiki_Welcome_Page
FamilyTreeDNA Learning Center, https://learn.familytreedna.com/

[8] Internal company data

U.S. Immigration Problems: Finding Your Ancestor's Hometown

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Family Sources—

- Family Bibles
- Journals, letters
- Loose papers, mementos, photographs
- Trunk in the attic
- Older family members (talk to the oldest ones first!)

Government & Church Sources—

- Censuses
    - State
    - Federal (every 10 years since 1790, available after 72 years for privacy)
- Passenger Lists, arrivals (and departure, if readily available)
- Naturalization Papers
- Passport Applications

- Military records, draft registrations and service records

- Town & County histories

- Church records (baptism, confirmation, marriage & death)

- SS-5 Application (some people had more than one!)

- Government vital records (birth, marriage & death)

- Probate records

- Pension records

- Alien registration files

- Newspapers / Obituaries

Search for similar records for EACH immigrant in the family until the hometown is identified.

Some Useful Websites

http://www.familysearch.org

FAMILY TREE tab – see what has already been done and collaborate with other submitters.

INDEXING tab – if you can read a few key words you can contribute and help make records more accessible.

SEARCH > RECORDS tab – search indexed records from FamilySearch collection. Family trees, censuses, some church records & vital records, draft records for WWI & WWII, passenger lists, some military service records, some naturalization records, various record types & always growing. *Check back regularly for updates.*

SEARCH > CATALOG tab – search collection for records on town, county, and state level for places of interest. Many of these records are available online (camera icon) or on microfilm.

SEARCH > RESEARCH WIKI tab – research guidance & resources

SEARCH > BOOKS tab – town and county histories, transcribed church records, and other published resources available from the Family History Library.

http://www.usgenweb.org – state and county resources

http://www.ancestry.com – family trees, censuses, some church records & vital records, draft records for WWI & WWII, passenger lists, some military service records, some naturalization records, various record types & always growing. *Check back regularly for updates.*

http://www.fold3.com – naturalization records, military records, American Indian records, some censuses, various record types

http://www.findmypast.com – databases include a U.S. Catholic Church records collection

http://www.google.com – search for other websites with family information

http://www.archives.gov – military service records, naturalization papers, passport applications, alien registration files, etc.

- http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/ – order military service records
- http://eservices.archives.gov – order censuses, court records, passenger lists, naturalization records, passport applications, land records, WWI draft registration, military records, pension records, Native American records, etc.

- http://www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/state-archives.html – list of state archives and their contact information to request a search for naturalization records in the state or county courts

http://www.socialsecurity.gov – order a copy of the original application

- https://secure.ssa.gov/apps9/eFOIA-FEWeb/internet/main.jsp

https://www.reclaimtherecords.org – activist organization making vital records (mostly indexes) more accessible. Check their databases for vital records from your ancestor's state.

State and County websites – find them by searching for "[state name] genealogy" or "[county name] genealogy"

- Use these to find information about ordering vital records (birth, marriage, death)

http://www.findagrave.com – cemetery database; sometimes exact birthplaces or maiden names are added to memorials; you can request a photo if you know what cemetery your ancestor was buried in.

http://www.billiongraves.com – cemetery database

http://www.newspapers.com – newspapers and obituaries

http://newspaperarchive.com – newspapers and obituaries

http://www.genealogybank.com – newspapers and obituaries

An Echo in the Forest: Records of the Civilian Conservation, 1933–1942

Pamela Vittorio

FindingTheirRoutes@gmail.com

The Civilian Conservation Corps
A Brief History:

- Rationale for the CCC and FDR's Plan
- Alphabet Agencies
- Qualifications for Enlistees
- Conditioning Camps in NYS
- CCC Camps (Life in Camps/Meals/Communication/Entertainment)
- Work Projects, and Classifications
- CCC Boys and their Records
- LEMs (Local Experienced/Enrolled Men)
- Leaving Camp
- Memorabilia
- Websites and Resources

Start with Legacy CCC.
Do you know his location? Camp number? If not, you may still be able to have a record agent search by his name and dates.

Records at NARA:
Fill out the application. You won't need to send money until you receive a letter from NARA in St. Louis and the amount you need to pay. ($25 to $70 depending on the number of pages). Pay the invoice within 30 days. They will send you the documents they have.

The Main CCC records are held at the National Archives at College Park Maryland.
Civilian Conservation Corps, Record Group (RG) 35
https://www.archives.gov/research/guide-fed-records/groups/035.html

Personnel Records are in St. Louis: Online Application for Personnel Records
Write in Person:

National Archives & Records Administration
ATTN: Archival Programs
P.O. Box 38757
St. Louis, MO 63138

Requests for Civilian Conservation Corps records should include:

- Full name used at the time of service (provide exact spelling and include the middle name if known); nicknames (if known)
- Social Security Number (if known)
- Date of birth
- Place of birth
- Home address (city and state) at time of service
- Parents' name
- Dates of service
- CCC Company numbers
- Location of CCC camp(s) (city and state)
- Title(s) of position(s) held
- Lack of the preceding information may result in our inability to identify a record.

This is a helpful manual for additional information on the records:
Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Civilian Conservation Corps, RG 35, compiled by
Douglas Helms. National Archives and Records Administration.
Digital copy available courtesy of Michigan State University on Hathitrust:
https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=msu.31293011850421;view=1up;seq=5

Criteria to Consider before you Search For/ Order Records

1. **Age and Residence:**
   Find the age of your male ancestor in the 1930 U.S. census.
   Determine the location of his nearest Relief Agency. (It might be in a city with a larger population than your ancestor's town/village).
   Relief Agencies were where the candidates would have to apply.
   Temporary Emergency Relief Administration –TERA (1931--)
   Time Period:
   Identify the time period that your male ancestor served in the CCC and look at the possible range of dates.
   - **Length of service**
   - **Qualification of Applicant/Enrollee**

2. Service periods were a minimum of 6 months. Some served for 1 year or more. A LEM could serve longer (see below).

Guide to the CCC Records (useful for overview): https://sirismm.si.edu/EADpdfs/NMAH.AC.0930.pdf

LEMS = "Local Experienced Man"
Your ancestor or relative may have been a LEM. These men were still part of the "CCC" forestry experience but could be married and usually from the area near the camp.
If your male ancestor or family member lived in a rural area near one of the camps/parks on the CCCLegacy List, look in the 1930 census to see what type of occupation he had. Consider looking in the CCC files (e.g.

More info on "LEMs": https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fsbdev3_004791.pdf

Camp Lists

- CCC Legacy has organized lists of all the camps around the country. http://www.ccclegacy.org/CCC_Camp_Lists.html
- Conditioning Camps --Recruits got their gear & mess kits
- You can search a camp **HERE**: http://catalog.crl.edu/search~S3 Go to the bottom of the page and enter the Camp Number. You can order certain materials/items via interlibrary loan/microfilm

Research on the CCC and Enrollees
https://www.wva-ccc-legacy.org/Research_on_CCC_Camps_and_Members.html
New York State Camps. Search on www.ccclegacy.org for other camps (by state)

Corps	Location
First Corps	Fort H.G. Wright
Second Corps	Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn
	Fort Totten
	Mitchel Field
	Fort Niagara
	Fort Slocum
	Madison Barracks
	Plattsburg Barracks
	Fort Wadsworth
	Fort Jay
	Army Depot, Brooklyn

"Happy Days," May 20, 1933. Volume 1, issue 1, page 2.

New York State records and project cards: (On microfilm) A3268.
http://iarchives.nysed.gov/xtf/view?docId=ead/findingaids/A3268.xml

CCC Worker Lists, Archives, and Information (Also check CCC Legacy)
CCC Alumni _Records: https://sova.si.edu/record/NMAH.AC.0930

Excellent blog on Workers and record locations:
http://cccresources.blogspot.com/2011/03/ccc-state-by-state-idaho.html
Complete List National Archives (Smithsonian Guide):
https://sirismm.si.edu/EADpdfs/NMAH.AC.0930.pdf
This is a finding aid from the Smithsonian for all the states/areas and archival reference information.

African American Camps: http://tph.ucpress.edu/content/22/3/168

THURSDAY

Consult NARA and Group 35 for information on the segregated camps. https://www.archives.gov/research/african-americans/record-groups/rg-035-ccc

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Native American Resources: http://www.archives.gov/pacific-alaska/seattle

CCC Publications:

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By year, issue, and location. https://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1595
Florida: https://archive.org/details/floridacivilianconservationcorpsnewsletters
Indiana: http://cdm16066.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/p16066coll49
Kentucky: http://kdl.kyvl.org/catalog/xt7x959c623m/text
Virginia:
http://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/guides/ccc.htm?_ga=2.172771878.480741531.1540398158-66841931.1540398158
Wisconsin: https://search.library.wisc.edu/catalog/9910639330802121

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Help! The Irish Church Records I Need are Missing

David E. Rencher, AG®, CG®, FUGA, FIGRS — © All rights reserved.
Echoes of Our Ancestors – National Genealogical Society Conference
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Introduction

In some instances, Irish genealogical research quickly eliminates the availability of church records for the area of interest. A variety of reasons may explain this. For Catholics and Presbyterians, it may be as simple as they weren't kept for the years needed. For members of the Church of Ireland, they may be among the group that were destroyed in the Public Records Office in Dublin in 1922. For non-conformists, they may be difficult to identify the existence of whether they were ever kept at all. If the available church records are missing, then all roads lead to the same place—it's time to begin using alternative sources of information to reconstruct the family relationships.

Alternative Record Sources

All researchers are enthusiastic about church records because they often give evidence of a direct relationship between husband and wife, children and parents, and in some instances grand-parents. Alternative sources come in two variations—direct and indirect evidence. Some will establish a relationship between two individuals while others only leave the absence of any other reasonable alternatives, thus from the available evidence, one may establish the identify of generations. The following record sources for Ireland are all useful in the absence of church records:

- Estate, land and property records
- Probate records
- Lists of names – census substitutes
- Newspapers
- Records of the poor
- Compiled genealogical collections

Each of these sources have multiple strengths and weaknesses and should be used in tandem to reconstruct the view of the family. It is likely that the picture will not be complete. This can be unsettling to researchers who are used to using an array of record sources in other countries that give a more complete picture of a family. Children may be missing. Marriage dates may not exist, but the marriage may be inferred through the terms "wife of" or "widow of" found in the records.

Estate Records

Irish estate records are among the best sources for documenting the poorer classes in Ireland. Estate records are the private papers of landed families and can detail matters concerning the tenants living on the landlords' estates. These may include records of leases, rents, evictions, emigrations from the estate, as well as estate maps, wills, poll lists, tithe lists, mortgages, tenants' account lists,

tenant squabble descriptions, etc. Estate records are particularly important because the majority of the Irish population before the twentieth century rented or leased property from landlords.

Estate records are especially valuable pre-church registers since they cover all religious and socioeconomic groups. In particular, estate records may be the only source available to trace the poor. This is particularly true for the Catholic peasantry of the early nineteenth century and before. This presentation discusses the usefulness of estate records, how to identify estate owners, and sources for determining the availability of existing estate records.

Few of the poorer classes owned land in Ireland before the twentieth century. Lands were held by an elite few, many were even absentee landlords living elsewhere in the British Isles. However, the estates were managed as any well-run business would be on a day-to-day basis. An overseer, similar to a general manager, of the estate would collect the rents, direct the work, evict tenants, negotiate leases, create maps of the boundaries, and see to all of the daily tasks of the estate. Many of these estates were awarded to the gentry as payment for loyalty to the Crown, in many instances due to military service. Those in the military were often not the eldest sons in their own families and thus not entitled to the estates of their fathers.

The starting point to identify the landowners is the Griffith's Valuation since it is the most complete compilation of land ownership in Ireland. The occupiers are listed in the second column and the landowners are listed in the third column. Once you have identified the names of occupiers that you want to research, scan the same column for the name of the owner. If found, see if the landowner in the third column is another person's name of if it says "in fee." If "in fee" is listed, then that is the owner of the land and not a middle landlord. When you have identified the name of the landlord, go to the "Ireland Estate Records" page in the FamilySearch Research Wiki. Search under the name of the county, then alphabetical by the name of the landlord.

Land records may also be found in the Registry of Deeds, Dublin, established in 1708. FamilySearch has the indexes and images to these deeds online for the years 1708-1929. While approximately ten-percent of the Irish population owned the land, many individuals may be identified in the available deeds. It is important to know the names of the landowners for this search as well.

Probate Records

Ireland's probate records suffered the fate of many of the other national records. The bulk of them were destroyed by fire in 1922. However, the indexes survive and there were numerous copies, abstracts, and transcripts that survived. The surviving indexes are available on FamilySearch in the collection, "Ireland, Diocesan and Prerogative Wills & Administrations Indexes, 1595-1858." For the later time period, see "Ireland Calendar of Wills and Administrations, 1858-1920." Both of these databases will give enough information to search for available transcripts.

The testamentary documents have been digitized by FamilySearch. Go to the Family History Library Catalog entry, "Index to testamentary documents in the Public Record Office, Dublin, 15th-20th century," for records in the Republic of Ireland. For

Northern Ireland, go to, "Card index to wills in the several collections held at the Public Record Office, Belfast, 1536-1920."

Wills are the most informative of the probate documents since they were likely to name heirs, give relationships, occupations, places of residence, ownership of property and various details relating to the disposition of a personal estate. There were several types of wills, holograph, nuncupative etc., a good description of these is found in *Wills and Their Whereabouts* by Anthony J. Camp, 1974. The Prerogative wills were transcribed into Will Books after they were deposited in the Public Record Office.

Administrations were records of probate filed when the deceased left no will. These often mention only the names of persons administering the estate and some reference to the approximate date of death may be derived. The relationship may not always be easy to recognize.

Newspapers

Ireland's newspapers are a treasure trove of information spanning several centuries and illuminating fascinating information on the spectrum of the social classes. Granted, much of the material relates to the people at the higher end of the social scale, but whatever becomes newsworthy can generate information on the family of interest. Do not discount their value just because the subjects of your study may have been poor. The digitized collections of newspapers are easy to search with the indexes created by optical character recognition (OCR). Good collections are available on the *Findmypast* and *British Newspaper Archives* websites. See additional links on the FamilySearch Wiki article, "Ireland Newspapers."

Records of the Poor

The Irish Poor Law was established as a result of the *Poor Relief Act* (1) 1838. The Act was modeled after the English and Welsh Act of 1834. The Act placed the responsibility upon the Church of Ireland parishes. The result of this act had a significant impact on the jurisdictions of Ireland. It set forth the establishment of 130 Poor Law Unions. The boundaries had no relation to the county or parish boundaries and often crossed either or both. The Unions were organized around the Market towns in each county, usually near the center of the union. The Poor Law Unions were later divided into 2,049 Electoral Divisions. In 1848, the number of Poor Law Unions was increased to 163 with 3,438 Electoral Divisions. All of the Poor Law Unions created records to manage the affairs and disposition of the poor.

Compiled Genealogical Collections

With the destruction of many precious original documents in the Public Record Office in 1922, (now known as the National Archives) the genealogical collections accumulated prior to that date became vitally important. Collecting them into the Public Record Offices in Dublin and Belfast and the Genealogical Office, Dublin became a major area of focus.

The creators of these facilities pleaded with the public at large and with noted historians and genealogists to bequeath their transcripts, notes, correspondence and official copies of documents to their various facilities. Many of these collections resemble our notes today. They are often handwritten on scraps of paper and have little or no organization. Others are well-organized typed transcripts with indexes.

Lists of Names – Census Substitutes

Numerous name lists were compiled to manage government, church, and private business throughout Ireland. The origin of these name lists establishes who is listed and why they were listed. It is always important to determine the factors which led to the creation of the list. This will often explain why you will or will not find the person of interest listed. All of the substitutes in the following list are described in detail in the FamilySearch Research Wiki, see "Ireland Census Substitutes."

CENSUS SUBSTITUTES	16TH CENTURY	17TH CENTURY	18TH CENTURY	19TH CENTURY	20TH CENTURY
Subsidy Rolls					
Herald's Visitations					
The "Census" of 1659					
Civil Survey					
Strafford Survey (Connaught)					
Books of Survey and Distribution					
Down Survey					
Freeholders Lists					
Freeman Lists					
Burgess Rolls					
Hearth Money Rolls					
Muster Rolls					
Poll Books					
Religious Census					
Directories					
Spinning Wheel Premium List					
Government Censuses					
Tithe Applotment					
"O'Connell Census"					
Griffith's Valuation					
Valuation Revision Books					
Old Age Pensioners Lists					

Conclusion

Alternative sources to Ireland's church records are often used to expand the information on the families in each community. These sources often require some persistent source research in the listings and catalogs of the various archives and libraries in Ireland. The exciting aspect of research in Ireland is the continual discovery of quality record sources that continue to surface. There is also a wealth of the material going online, most notably on the websites for Findmypast, FamilySearch, and Ancestry.

Peer Review: Good Medicine for Genealogists and Our Profession

2020 Helen F. M. Leary Distinguished Lecture Series
Sponsored by The BCG Education Fund

National Genealogical Society 21 May 2020 Salt Lake City T210
Harold Henderson, CG (librarytraveler@gmail.com)

Enjoy it or not, we all need to give and receive peer review (AKA feedback). Here's how to make it more useful and less scary.

I. Introduction: there are no superheroes here. None of us knows it all and our chances of getting it right are much better when we work together.

II. The big picture: this is an integral part of the profession. Well-done peer review upgrades us all.

III. Where peer review happens: among friends, as well as in informal writing groups, classes, courses (such as the ProGen Study Groups), the publication process, credentialing, published reviews, and writing contests.

IV. Ways of arranging peer review: open, blind, double-blind, triple-blind, and more.

V. What happens when we don't ask for feedback: we continue in the same way and may not improve.

VI. What happens when we do ask: the reviewers may be helpful, obnoxious, wrong, delighted but not specific enough, or better at some aspects than others.

VII. Who we should ask for feedback: top journals, colleagues, and friends. With luck we will find those who can best help.

VIII. Eleven commandments for when we *provide* feedback to others:

1. Consider the revised Golden Rule.
2. Ask thought-provoking questions.
3. Praise what can be praised.
4. Suggest alternatives.
5. Remember clues from life.
6. Be sure we know what we're talking about.
7. Recognize and control tone of voice.
8. Be ready for "teachable moments."
9. Send nothing without sleeping on it first.
10. Think of peer review as a writing exercise.
11. NEVER use the word "you."

IX. Special cases: published reviews.

X. Special cases: what societies can do.

XI. Special cases: journal editors who don't say enough.

XII. The best possible peer review, via Daniel Dennett.

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GENEALOGICAL PEER REVIEW AT A GLANCE

Venue (from least to most stressful)	**Value to the profession**	**The submitter should:**	**The reviewer should:**
Informal (friends, writing groups)	Introduces us to providing useful feedback	Start here, it's the least stressful (I hope!).	Keep it low-stress but say what has to be said.
Educational (ProGen Study Group, informal writers' groups, workshops, some institute courses)	Allows more advanced, systematic, and various critiques; but time can be short	Expect critiques or feedback.	Place feed down where the hogs can reach it.
Submitting articles for publication, or entering writing contests	Raises genealogy publications' quality	Ask for more detail, if reason(s) for rejection are unclear.	Prioritize and focus on the most important points – don't try to overwhelm.
Credentialing processes (confidential)	Maintains genealogy standards	Find several things we didn't understand, or didn't realize we didn't know.	All of the above and below, and then some.
Published reviews, single or comparative; some lectures; colloquium papers	Can provide the greatest value to the greatest number	Take care to avoid inciting unnecessary conflict.	Be familiar with relevant issues, author's goals, and relevant genealogy standards.
(All of the above)	(All of the above)	Do it! -- after we have left our draft alone for a while and then read it "cold."	***NEVER get personal. There is no need to use the word "you" in feedback.***

Portuguese Ancestors? Online Resources, Research Methodology, and Tips for Success

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Objectives: At the end of the class you will be familiar with various online resources and research strategies to help you research Portuguese ancestors. Tips to increase your success will also be provided.

IDENTIFY THE HOMETOWN IN PORTUGUAL

Basic Immigration Resources

- Documents in the home
- Citizenship and/or naturalization papers
- Military records
- Vital Records
- Census
- Passenger lists
- Biographies
- Histories

Portuguese Ethnic Newspapers

- For the U.S.A. University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth has a collection of digitized Portuguese newspapers. There may be similar collections in other countries. https://www.lib.umassd.edu/PAA/portuguese-american-digital-newspaper-collections

Portuguese Societies and Organizations

- Many Portuguese immigrants formed societies, clubs and other organizations after moving to a new country. There may be clues as to origin in their records and among the records of their associates.

Church Records

- Catholic parishes

Passports

- U.S. if returned to Portugal for any reason
- Portuguese, search by point of departure using Tombo.pt

RECORD TYPES AND CONTENT

Births/Baptisms

Birth records are generally infant baptism records. They usually contain the following information:

- Name, birth date, and birthplace of the child
- Parents' names, their place of origin
- Baptism date and place
- Names of godparents
- Names of grandparents

Marriages
Marriage records are good sources for pedigree extension because of the information they provide. The usually contain the following information:

- Names, birthplaces, and occupations of the bride and groom
- Parents' names, their place of origin
- Marriage date and place
- Names of witnesses

Deaths/Burials
Death or burial records are not as helpful as the information provide about the deceased comes from a secondary source and therefore may not be as reliable. The usually contain the following information:

- Name, age, and birthplace of deceased
- Parents' names, if a child.
- Spouse's name, if married
- Death and/or burial date and place

Passports
Passports are found under the jurisdiction of the port of departure. If you know the state or island where your ancestor lived but not the parish, look for passports at the nearest port city. The usually contain the following information:

- Name, birth date, birthplace, civil status, and residence of the person to whom passport was issued
- Physical description
- Names of children, their age and gender
- Names of spouse, their birth date and birthplace
- Date passport was issued

ONLINE RESOURCES

Online parish records and passports

Tombo.pt - Images to Catholic parish records and passports throughout Portugal. You must know the name of the town or parish first. There are no nationwide indexes to pinpoint families. To use the site effectively do the following:

1. Choose the *Distrito*
2. Choose the *Municipio*
3. Choose the *Freguesia*
4. Choose the record type
    - *Batismos – Baptisms*
    - *Casamentos – Marriages*
    - *Óbitos – deaths*

If images are digitized and available online the word for the record type – *batismos*, *casamentos*, or *óbitos*, will be in blue. Click on the record type and year range that corresponds to the record type and person you are researching.

Arquivo da Madeira https://abm.madeira.gov.pt/en/home/
- Indexed baptisms 1860-1911
- Indexed marriages earliest-1911
- Indexed passports beginning about 1872

Grupo de História das Populações http://www.ghp.ics.uminho.pt/genealogias.html
This site has online genealogies extracted from church records and organized by families. It includes some Azorean islands and parishes of Portugal and is searchable by name. To search the database, do the following:

1. To begin your search, you **must know** the parish where your ancestors lived. Click on the name of the parish.
2. Next you will click on the arrow next to the words *Clique aqui para aceder ás Genealogias*.
3. Change the page to English by clicking on the British flag at the top of the page.
4. Begin searching. The recommended method is to search by surname. Click on the radial button next to the word surname and then enter the surname you wish to search.
5. Click on Ok.
6. The results are now in alphabetical order by first name. Click on the name of interest.
7. On the page you will see the name of the person you chose at the top of the page followed by other information about his parents, spouse, and/or children. Each name is a link to more information.
8. If you find family information, you will want to verify its accuracy by comparing it to parish records.

OTHER USEFUL WEBSITES

Atlas Cartografia Histórica http://atlas.fcsh.unl.pt/cartoweb35/atlas.php
- Historical parish maps for Portugal. Useful when you need to do a radial parish search.

Biblioteca Nacional de Portugal http://www.bnportugal.pt/
- Search the collections.
- Only available in Portuguese.

Geneall Portal of Genealogy http://geneall.net/en/
- Genealogies from Portugal and other European families.
- Subscription site with two levels of access. Basic level is free and gives limited access to basic genealogical information. Geneall Plus level provides more detailed and specific information as well as access to other features. Cost: 25 Euros for 6 months.

Genealogy and the Azores Islands http://sites.rootsweb.com/~azrwgw/
- Links to records and indexes.

AIDS FOR READING THE RECORDS

Reading Portuguese Handwritten Records
This is a series of three online lessons found in the FamilySearch Help Center.

Basic Portuguese Paleography
https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/img_auth.php/3/32/Basic-Portuguese-Paleography-1.pdf Download a copy for personal use. Contains sample records, common abbreviations and other helpful resources.

Portuguese Genealogical Word List
Found in the FamilySearch Research Wiki

Script.byu.edu https://script.byu.edu/Pages/home.aspx
Online tutorials, sample records, alphabet charts and much more.

RESEARCH STRATEGIES

Event or record type	Names	Dates	Places
Birth or baptism	Parents or siblings	Birth date (can be estimated) or Birth date of a sibling	Birthplace or Place of residence of parents
Marriage	Bride and groom or Names of their parents	Date of marriage (can be estimated) or Birth date of oldest child	Marriage place or Place of residence or Birth/baptism place of a child
Death or burial	Parents or Spouse or Children	Death date (can be estimated	Death place or Place of residence
Immigration or Emigration	Person and/or Names of parents or spouse	Arrival date or Departure date (these can be estimated)	Place of arrival or Place of departure

Before beginning a search for a record, use the chart in this document to determine if you have enough information to be successful. To use the chart, first choose the event or record type you wish to locate. Do you know the information from the next three columns – Names, Dates, and Places? If not, you may wish to take a step back in your research and locate a record from a previous generation. The information in the Names, Dates, and Places columns is vital because it will help to confirm, when you find a record, that you have found the right record.

For example, if you find a birth record for a Maria Duarte, how will you know if it is your ancestor? If you know the names of her parents and an approximate birth date and place you can confirm it is the correct record, if the information in the record matches closely to your known information.

Important: Always work from the known to the unknown. Don't search for a record if you have no connecting information to confirm you have found the right person.

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The Impact of Bounty Land on Migration

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Military Bounty Land grants came into extensive use in the Federal period, but they were widely employed in the colonial period by colonial governments. There are four periods to be examined: the colonial period, the revolutionary period, the War of 1812 and Indian war bounties. These bounty lands were awarded by colonial governments for either military service or to create a buffer zone between the frontier and civilization in the east and those awarded by state governments for military service during the American Revolution. After the Revolution the federal government would assume the role of provider of bounty land. Since these were colonial and state governments the experience of each is different and depended largely on the availability of land. The later role of the federal government would also depend on the availability of land in the various military districts and scrip acts.

Bounty land is a grant of land from a government as a reward for past or future service to repay them for the risks and hardships that they have endured or will probably endure in the service of the state. Prior to the Revolution colonial and town governments provided land either as an inducement for service or as compensation for service. Land was used largely because it was available in an inexhaustible supply, at least prior to the Revolution. Revolutionary governments used land as a tool for creating support for the Revolution. Everyone knew that promised bounty land would not materialize unless the war was won.

Colonial Land for Military Service

New England

There were significant land grants to soldiers in almost every colonial New England battle, let alone war (you could be enlisted for a really short period and still receive full land grants).

Published accounts in one place are a problem. Most information comes in the original manuscript Massachusetts Bay and Massachusetts records, the Rhode Island State Papers, and Connecticut same.

There were earlier conflicts where land was granted, but not received in a particularly orderly fashion, before King Philip's War.

> "a gratuity of land" Soldiers in King Phillip's War "that if they played the man, took the Fort, & Drove the Enemy out the Narragansett Country, which was their great Seat, that they should have a gratuity of land beside their wages."

They took the fort, but the government did not act on the promised land until 1685 when petitioners from several Essex County towns, as well as Hingham, petitioned for land [Mass Archives 112:398]. Towns of Western Massachusetts, Amherst, N.H., Buxton and Gorham, Maine, Bedford, and Voluntown, Connecticut.

Look in the Archives in each state for land grant petitions, both individual and group.

In New Hampshire, the "Town Charters" volumes of the State Papers (www.library.unh.edu/diglib/bookshelf/NHPapers/series.shtml) indicate which settled were bounty holders.

The town histories of almost every New England town, especially those done c1900 tell how the land was acquired and who the first settlers were….

Virginia

Colonial Land for Military Service

1630 - Governor's Council offered grants of land to persons who settled on the frontier.

1646 - Council issued patents to the fort captains and men for the lands on which outlying forts were built along with the lands surrounding the forts.

1701 - An unsuccessful attempt to garrison the frontier, patents equal to four times the headright was offered to groups of men who would undertake the defense of the frontier.

1763 - Bounty lands were offered as an incentive or reward to men who performed military service during the French and Indian War; however, the area in which the land was available was closed by the Proclamation of 1763, so it was not until 1779, and after, that the bounty was actually awarded.

State Awards following the Revolution

No Bounty Land – Delaware, New Jersey**,** New Hampshire, Rhode Island, or Vermont

Bounty Land States – Connecticut, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania (donation lands), South Carolina, Virginia (includes Illinois Regiment).

Federal Bounty Land after the Revolution

Acts of 9 July 1788, 3 March 1803, 15 April 1806

The Military Districts

Scrip Acts transfer remaining bounty land grants into the public domain.

Federal Bounty Land after the War of 1812

Acts of 24 December 1811, 11 January 1812, 6 May 1812, and 27 Jul 1842

The Virginia Experience

Out of state migration

63% of Virginians, who received bounty land warrants for military service from Virginia in the War of 1812, were still residents of Virginia in 1850.

Generally, of those who moved, one third moved to a contiguous state.

Militia officers less likely to leave the state than enlisted men.

The longer the service of the militiaman the more likely they will move out of state.

Movers out of state had mean property holdings of $732 in 1850 vs. $1,963 for stay at homes.

The most important predictor of interstate migration was how far west the veteran lived in 1815. Westerners were more likely to move than easterners.

Within the State

85% of the War of 1812 veterans moved from their home counties to another Virginia county between 1812 and 1855.

In-state movers generally tended to move south and westward.

Southside Virginia counties receive, while the Northern Neck, Chesapeake counties and Middle Peninsula lose.

Mexican War

Act of 11 February 1847

General Bounty Land Acts (which also covered the Indian Wars prior to 1858)

Post 1790 Acts – 28 September 1850, 22 March 1852

All Wars – 3 March 1855 – 160 acres lifetime entitlement

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TOO MANY MARYS: SOLVING IDENTITY & SAME NAME CONUNDRUMS

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http://theCDGseries.wordpress.com

Who was Mary Coyne?

Genealogy is the study of identity of individuals and their relationships to others. Using documentation and artifacts we carefully assemble the evidence about our family members to resolve the question of "Is this MY ancestor?" At times, the decision is easy to make—almost without thinking. The name is right, the date is right, the location is right, the context is right--and you enter the evidence into your database. But, what if you don't have enough evidence to make the call? What do you do?

The Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS) provides a road map for resolution without providing the answers to your questions. This is not a presentation on the GPS, but understanding its principles can assist us is resolving identity and same name conundrums.

1. Reasonably exhaustive research
2. Informative citations to sources
3. Analysis and correlation
4. Resolution of conflicting evidence
5. Written conclusion[1]

The most common types of identity problems include those that involve:

1. Too little information
2. "Fragments" of information on individuals which require merging
3. Too many individuals of the same name

We'll explore each one individually, but first….

DEFINITIONS

source: a repository for information; may be original, derivative or an authored work

information: all the individual data points within the source; information's credibility depends on the credibility of the informant. Information can be primary, secondary or unknown

evidence: information that answers the research question. Direct evidence answers the question directly; indirect evidence relies on the collective evidence to come to the conclusion. Negative evidence is the lack of evidence that leads one to the conclusion. The latter should not be confused with no evidence or no findings.[2]

[1] Board for Certification of Genealogists, *Genealogical Standards, second edition* (Arlington, VA: Turner Publishing Co., 2019) 1-2.

[2] Thomas W. Jones, *Mastering Genealogical Proof* (Arlington, Virginia, National Genealogical Society, 2011), Chapter 2.

THURSDAY

FAN Club[3]: A term coined by Elizabeth Shown Mills for cluster research. FAN stands for Family/Friends, Associates and Neighbors. By researching the family members, associates (business, church and fraternal organizations) and neighbors we can develop a group of individuals who know our ancestor and who are often relatives.

You can have an original source, with primary information and direct evidence and the data can still be wrong!

I have found that for identity conundrums I must start with FAN Club research, usually by identifying as many family members as possible. This was the technique used with Case Study no. 3 in the presentation. We researched the FAN Club composed of a family of our ancestor of interest.

BACKGROUND

Looking at each of the case studies…

Too Little Information or the "Beam me up, Scotty" ancestor

Sometimes we suspect our individual of interest comes by space ship, interacts with our family and then is "beamed up" by Scotty, the Enterprise engineer. Examples of this phenomenon include commonly named women who marry a person unknown, an immigrant who changes his/her status after immigration, but before the census; or the couple with a gap in the births of the children where we can suppose a child was born but who did not live to be recorded in the next census.

Fragments of information

Related to "too little information," you might have fragments of information, which do not yet tie together. This problem is particularly true for immigrants and for migrants from one state to another where you know the birth date and perhaps even the location where he or she was born or previously resided, but not much else. But, again….should these fragments be merged?

Too many individuals with the same name

Some cultures are known for a limited number of given names and surnames, which result in many people with the same or similar names. How many Mary Coynes were there in Ireland in 1900? How many Lars Larssons are there in Sweden? Even when you know the name and the parish, you might be faced with multiple individuals born the same year with the same name, creating the conundrum of "too many Marys."

STRATEGY

The strategy for resolution of these types only varies by emphasis. I challenge you to take one of your "problem" ancestors and using this strategy, attempt to solve, and if not solve, advance your research of your reluctant ancestor.

1. Start fresh—act like you have never seen this problem before.
2. Clearly state your research question and include all verified facts.
3. Gather together every shred of evidence that you already have that relates to the individual or his/her FAN Club. Look at each piece of evidence with fresh eyes.
4. Write a research report-- document by document, with an informative citation. Summarize what is contained within the source. Transcribe and abstract the document where warranted. If using

[3] Elizabeth Shown Mills. "QuickSheet: The Historical Biographer's Guide to Cluster Research (the FAN Principle)," Baltimore : Genealogical Publishing, Co., 2012).

a census record, record the neighbors of at least 10 families in each direction. Identify whether you need to obtain a record closer to the event.

5. Accumulate FAN Club members as you analyze each document. Place the names in a table with the date of interaction, the citation and the role your ancestor played in that interaction.
6. Start a timeline of your individual of interest.
7. If appropriate, take your timeline and expand it to a table, which includes all the possible candidates that could be your ancestor. Add each of their milestones.
8. Start your Research Plan of the sources you identified in #4 above or ones you have not yet searched that are most likely to yield salient information.
9. Do new surname research, online, based on your research plan.
10. Review Val Greenwood's book (see Bibliography) for a list of types of sources and make sure that you have researched each, as appropriate.
11. Do a locality search in FamilySearch/Wiki at all governmental jurisdictional levels.
12. Do a locality search in FamilySearch/Catalog and see if your locality has record sets that are filmed, but not indexed. Did you know that 77% of the FamilySearch resources are not accessible by conducting a surname search.
13. Do on site research. If you cannot travel, then call and talk to the public librarian, enlist a friend or hire a genealogist in the area.
14. Re-conduct old research. Identify locations where you have had unsuccessful searches. We are smarter now then we were five years ago. I have a courthouse I visit about every five years and I get something new every year!
15. Constantly update your research plan. Record all your findings including your negative searches. Often our searches will trigger some other possible locations to search.
16. Label a section "Summary of Findings" and summarize your findings. You may not have the answer, but you are closer than you were.
17. Repeat.

If you want to see a fuller explanation of this strategy, refer to my blog "Genealogy Certification: A Personal Journey." There are two posts, which go into this concept in greater detail. The first outlines the process noted above and the second uses one of my reluctant ancestors to illustrate how I built my integrated research report. It's messy, but then again, so is our research.

"Strategic Thinking: My Research Plan"
https://genealogycertification.wordpress.com/2017/02/12/strategic-thinking-a-research-plan
"Step-by-Step: My Intractable Problem":
https://genealogycertification.wordpress.com/2017/02/27/step-by-step

You now have a wonderful journal of your work on that particular problem, which includes your problem statement, documentation of what you already have found, what you have found new and your unsuccessful searches. You also have a summary of your findings. With all that, you may still not have an answer. I had a 33-page paper on Friedrich Eiler before I had a final resolution.

Some tips

1. Get out of Ancestry.com. I see too many individuals who get "stuck" in Ancestry. Your research plan should include a mix of online and on-site sources.
2. Do locational searches, where you look in the "collection" for records from a particular location (city, county, state) in both Ancestry and FamilySearch. These will open up resources that are not available using a surname search.

3. Use the FamilySearch Wiki and the National Genealogical Society's States series to give you ideas about where else to look
4. Get off the internet and visit courthouses, registrar's/tax offices, cemeteries, archives, historical societies and repositories. How fun is that!?
5. Identify whether a DNA study would advance the research.
6. Take a class/institute (SLIG, GRIP, and IGHR are good ones.) and/or bounce your ideas off a professional. These institutes are not just for advanced researchers
7. Learn to scroll again—Sometimes there is no "easy button."

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Discusses various ways to analyze and correlate the evidence.

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A good general overview of source types, but a bit dated on technology

Leary, Helen F. M, editor. *North Carolina Research: Genealogy and Local History*. Raleigh: North Carolina Genealogical Society, 1996.
You do not need to have NC ancestors to appreciate the breadth of this book. The author outlines research strategies for various types of sources. A little dated on technology.

Mills, Elizabeth Shown. *Evidence Explained: History Sources from Artifacts to Cyberspace.* Third Edition, revised. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2017.
This classic guide provides templates for citations for genealogical sources.

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National Genealogical Society Quarterly (NGSQ) and other peer reviewed journals as examples.
NGSQ in particular offers many examples of how to solve genealogical problems.

Rising, Marsha Hoffman, *The Family Tree Problem Solver: Tried and True Tactics for Tracing Elusive Ancestors.* N.P.: Family Tree Books, 2011.

Stevenson, Noel. *Genealogical Evidence.* California: Aegean Park Press, 1989.
Provides discussion about the relative merits of one type of source over another.

Who was Mary Coyne?

Mary fit the profile of a typical Irish emigrant: single, young, and female, who immigrated through New York City. Mary was born in 1896, probably 2 May in Middle Clogbrack, Ross Parish, County Galway, Ireland, to the married couple, Michael Coyne and Mary Kerrigan, both born about 1870. Michael's father was Martin Coyne and his mother was probably Mary, birth surname unknown. The six known children of Michael and Mary include Patrick, Mary, John, Nora, Martin and Tom. Only three are known to have emigrated: Patrick, Mary and Nora, also called Honora. It is likely that Martin and Tom died in Ireland before 1949.

In the early 20th century, Mary Coyne immigrated from Ireland leaving her parents and a brother behind, but she better serves as a metaphor for the difficulty of identification of individuals who give us few clues to discover a segment, usually large, of their lives. Every unidentified individual is a genealogical "brick wall." If we identify the type of problem we have, whether it is too little information, fragments or too many of the same named individuals than we have a better chance to develop a research plan that is tailored to the type of problem which will lead to a better outcome—a genealogical "happy dance."

Search | Learn | Teach

Québec to France: Using the PRDH

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Québec, the largest province in Canada geographically, and the second largest in population, is a beautiful area, blessed with many natural resources, and inhabited by friendly people. A wide variety of records have been kept there since the founding of the colony in 1608. These are available to researchers today in a number of formats.

Primary sources, such as original church or civil records, should always be your first choice in genealogical research. Nevertheless, there can be occasions when secondary sources can facilitate or simplify your research. Researching Québecois ancestry is one of those occasions.

There are four principal secondary sources for Québec research: *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles canadiennes depuis la fondation de la colonie jusqu'à nos jours*[1] [Tanguay], *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles du Québec, des origines à 1730*[2] [Jetté], *Dictionnaire national des Canadiens français, 1608-1760*[3] [Red Drouin], and *Répertoire des actes de baptême, mariage, sépulture et des recensements du Québec ancien*[4] [PRDH]. We will compare and contrast them below.

Tanguay
Cyprien Tanguay, a Roman Catholic priest, compiled the Québec parish records, as well as those of families who migrated to the Illinois Country (now the Midwestern United States) into family groups. His lineages begin in the early 1800s and go back to the founding of New France. Starting with an individual, it is possible to trace his/her forebears back through the seven volumes, to an ancestral city, town, or village in France.

For its time, Tanguay's work was a remarkable accomplishment. Inevitably, there are errors. An opus of this magnitude almost guarantees them. One must be aware of their possibility. But to focus on them obscures the main point, that the information is mostly correct. Tanguay is like a dancing bear. We should not be concerned that the bear misses an occasional step, but rather amazed that it dances at all.

The Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec digitized Tanguay's volumes on their website.[5] In addition, J. Arthur Leboef published corrections and additions to Tanguay's work in 1957.[6]

Jetté
René Jetté, a history teacher and indexer published his volume in 1983. It had been over 100 years since Tanguay's work. In the intervening years, researchers had discovered numerous

errors and found additional information. Although he relied primarily on church records, Jetté also consulted other sources. The latest records in Jetté come from 1730 and go back to 1608.

In the pages preceding the actual records, Jetté includes a section on the sources he used and information about how to access them.[7] The original sources will almost certainly contanin additional information.

Jetté updated and made corrections to his original work in a booklet published in1996. These can be found online at Dictionnaire généalogique de nos origines [Genealogical dictionary of our origins].[8]

Red Drouin
In 1899, Joseph Drouin funded the Drouin Institute. Originally, the institute created family trees for individuals. Gabriel Drouin, the founder's son, began a program of microfilming Quebec's vital records in the late 1930s. These vital records are copies of church records sent to the courthouses to function as civil records.

Over time, the institute expanded its microfilming to cover other French-settled areas of North America. In 1950 they published the volumes known as the Red Drouin [because the books are bound in red]. The first two volumes consist of marriage records sorted by the groom's surname. A third volume contains short biographies and facsimile copies of the signature (or mark) of the individual. Some of them also include drawings of what the person may have looked like.

The original microfilms have been digitized on Ancestry.com as the Drouin Collection.[9]

PRDH
Consisting of forty-seven volumes, the PRDH is the most ambitious attempt to compile genealogies of the early families of Québec. The records are organized by parish, then by act, and then chronologically. There is an index following each parish's records, but because the authors used the spelling of the names they found in the original, the index can be a bit daunting to use. The first seven volumes cover the time from the founding of the colony until 1699. The remaining volumes run from 1700 to 1765.

In keeping with the desire to account for all of the historic residents of Québec, the volumes include information from census, marriage contracts and hospital records to supplement the information found in the parish registers. In addition, the compilers included not just the names of the individual subjects of the records, but also other people involved such as parents, godparents, and sometimes even more extended family members.

The Drouin Institute collaborated with the PRDH to make the series digitally available.[10] The site requires a subscription to access the records, but the index is searchable at no charge and can be used as an index to the Catholic Parish records of Québec.

Additional Sources
The beautiful Ile d' Orléans is located in the St. Lawrence River a short distance downstream from Québec City. Due to the fertility of the land, and the proximity to the city, the Ile d' Orléans attracted settlers early in the days of New France. From there, people moved far and wide across the province. Because of this strategic history, records from the island are of supreme importance to researchers. *Genealogy of the Families of the Isle of Orléans*[11] is an extraction of the records from the seven parishes on the island.

The King's Daughters[12] and *Kings Daughters and Founding Mothers: The Fillles du Roi, 1663-1673*[13] feature biographies of women whom King Louis XVI encouraged to emigrate to the colony. The king provided dowry for the women if they were willing to go to New France to become wives to the male colonists. The plan was successful, and these women became the ancestral matriarchs of the Québecois.

Our French-Canadian Ancestors (*Nos Ancêtres*),[14] a thirty-volume set of books goes into detail on the lives and families of the colonists. These compilations can be a valuable aid to the researcher because they can fill in details about an ancestor's life that could only otherwise be found by years of archival research.

Using the PRDH

Although the PRDH contains more information about individuals than the other secondary, using it can be challenging. At forty-seven volumes it is significantly more cumbersome to use that the other sources. Additionally, as previously mentioned, its indexing preserves all of the spelling inconsistencies of the original documents. Two possible approaches suggest themselves:

1. Begin with Tanguay and Jetté to develop four generation charts of your ancestry beginning with your most recent Québec ancestor. Use the Red Drouin to help fill in any gaps. Then, because you already have the names and locations, it should be relatively easy to trace the same people through the PRDH.
2. Find your most recent Québec ancestor's baptism in the PRDH. This will provide the names of their parents. Look for any the baptisms of any siblings. Then look for the parents' marriage, and then the parents' deaths. Repeat the process looking for the parents' baptisms, siblings, and their parents' marriages and deaths. Continue until the beginning of the records for the family.

Either approach will work and yield good results.

When you have completed your work with the secondary sources, it will be time to look at the actual records. As good as the PRDH is, looking at the original documents will be the final step to verify there are no mistakes before moving on. Some of these records may be difficult to read and understand. History & Genealogy at St. Louis County Library has an online document "How to Decipher Catholic Church Records Written in French"[15] for guidance in interpreting the records

Moving into Research in France

Most of our Québec ancestors left France long before the French Revolution and the advent of civil registrations of births, marriages, and deaths. This means that any records for them will be in the parish registers of the churches in France. These are preserved in the Departmental Archives.

Fortunately, for twenty-first century researchers the Departmental Archives in France digitized their records and made them available online. To find the records, start with the name of the town in France and make a Google search on the name. Typically one of the first items in the search results will be a Wikipedia listing. This will provide the name of the Department. Then make another Google search for "Departmental Archives of [Department Name].

The website for the archives will be written in French. If the quality of your French language skills is not up to navigating it, copy the URL into Google Translate and you will get a link for an English translation of the website. There are two potential issues with this. First, Google Translate translates everything, even proper nouns. This can sometimes make the text a little

difficult to decipher. Secondly, depending on how the original site was coded, the links in the translation may or may not work. If the latter is the case, find the link in the English version, then click on it on the original page and than translate the new page.

Another potential challenge might be the recorded name of the town in France. Québec priests probably would not know the names and proper spelling of every community in France. Instead they wrote what they heard or what they though they heard. Sometimes Google will suggest alternatives when you search. Other times you might have to be creative to find the actual name of the place.

Conclusions

Genealogical research in Québec offers those who peruse it the opportunity to explore back through hundreds of years of history and many generations of their family. The print secondary sources provide ready access to the original documents and can often reveal a hometown in France.

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St. Louis County Library
History & Genealogy
at St. Louis County Library

What's New at Ancestry®

Crista Cowan, Ancestry Corporate Genealogist

Ancestry has developed some new and exciting tools and features to help you discover your ancestors and learn more about them. Ancestry also publishes an average of two million records to the site every day. In this session, we will look at these new tools and records. We will show you how to best use them to make new discoveries. We will share different methods currently being used by professional genealogists for connecting this information to your family tree. We will wrap up with tips for helping you develop a process that works for you.

Ancestry has more than 20 billion records from more than 80 million countries, more than 100 million family trees, and more than 16 million people DNA tested.

New Records

Ancestry published more than 1.8 billion records to the site in 2019 alone.

- Find all records in the Ancestry Card Catalog under the SEARCH menu.
  - Sort by "Date Added" to see what is new.
  - "New" tag remains on the database for 90 days.

- Major new collections include:
  - Yearbooks
  - Newspapers Obituaries Index
  - Church of England, Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials
  - Norway Census
  - World War I and World War II Military Records
  - Germany, Births, Marriages, and Deaths
  - Denmark Church Records
  - Arolsen Archives partnership

New Tools

- Hints evaluation
- New user profile page and message center
- AncestryDNA Match Groups and ThruLines

Tips and Tricks

- PERSONAL PROFILE: Add a photo and brief bio to encourage others to interact with you.
- SEARCH: Formulate specific research questions. Make a list of records where you will likely find answers to that question. Use the Card Catalog to see if Ancestry has those records. Search the specific database using the "less is more" methodology.
- DNA MATCH GROUPS: Create a system based on your research goals and follow it consistently.

Want more from Crista? Find past episodes of her weekly internet show, The Barefoot Genealogist, on the Ancestry YouTube channel at http://ancstry.me/TBGVids. Click SUBSCRIBE on that channel to receive notification each time a new video is uploaded.

You can also follow Crista on Twitter and Instagram @CristaCowan.

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Open up a world of possibilities for your research by learning to use the FamilySearch Catalog and Research Wiki. Discover records, research helps and more.

The Value of Locality Research

Roadblocks in genealogy are often of the researcher's making – failing to understand the locality of a research subject. By studying the location and learning the records available in a regions, a brick wall can be scaled. Two valuable tools available at FamilySearch should be explored when researching any locality: the FamilySearch Research Wiki and Catalog

The FamilySearch Research Wiki

The FamilySearch Research Wiki offers help for researching localities worldwide with methodology for each locality, research tools, and links to record collections. The wiki is a free, online genealogical guide created by FamilySearch. It includes guidance to assist genealogists of all expertise and offers over 91,000 articles.

By definition, the Wiki is a collaborative effort by many individuals and groups. Content can be submitted via the "FamilySearch Wiki: Content Submission Form," linked to on the left sidebar. Simply fill out the provided form and a volunteer will review the submission and if appropriate add it to the wiki. With the internet ever changing, this is an opportunity for all researchers to submit updated links to societies or libraries, new online databases, or resources found in a repository. Any inaccurate historical or geographical information can also be corrected. To request permission to edit a Wiki page directly, fill out the appropriate form.

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A society, archive or other organization may want to adopt a page. For specific instructions, see https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Help:Adopt-a-page.

Tips for Searching the FamilySearch Research Wiki

- The Wiki is designed to provide resources for research. Use it to search places and topics not people.
- Use keywords, not phrases. For example try "California Probate Records," not "how do I locate probate records for California?"
- Search by multiple jurisdictions: country, state, county/province, city. Each level of jurisdiction will have different information on that page.
- Start with broad localities such as a country or state, then click through to smaller ones such as a county or city.
- Use the FamilySearch Research Wiki to find information on:
    - History and geography of a locality.
        - Timelines for major events may be listed.
        - Published histories for the location with a link to the Family History Library Catalog entry will be included.
        - Links to maps and gazetteers with historical place names can serve to pinpoint the specific area of research for an ancestor.
    - Record availability
        - A records table for all United State counties will give the beginning date for basic records such as land, probate, census, etc.
        - For international research, the Wiki will guide the researcher to the appropriate page for information on the records.
    - Links to online databases
        - Each international page and state page for "United States Genealogy" includes a link to a page for online records. For that state.
        - Separated by record type, this will include listings for a variety of websites. If the website is subscription-based a ($) will be listed after the title.

Why Use the FamilySearch Catalog?

- Billions of records, many digitized and available online for free
- Numerous Family History Centers worldwide provide access to records not available from home
- Learn about possible records in any locality to further research and break through brick walls

Types of Searches

- **Place** – use this search to locate all of the records for a specific locality.

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  - U.S. searches: enter United States, then name of state, county, or city; don't use "county" in the search.
  - Alternately, enter the county or city and select from the options that appear.
  - Other countries: enter the name of the country in English, then the state, province, and town name in the country's language.
  - For the British Isles, search with and without "shire" for complete results.
  - Alternately, enter the city or town name and select from the options that appear.
  - Tip #1: Spell place names correctly, the catalog will not recognize incorrect place names.
  - Tip #2: Search for records at each jurisdictional level: country, state, county, and town.
  - Tip #3: Use the "Places within" feature on the results page to see other jurisdictions such as state, county, or city/township.
- **Surnames**– use this search to find histories, biographies, or genealogies that mention a specific surname; the search will also find the surname used in a title.
  - Enter several variants of the name for the best results.
  - Combine the surname search with another search such as place or keywords if the surname is common.
- **Title** – find specific titles of books, journals, microfilm, maps.
  - Enter words in the title, can be out of order or missing words.
  - Similar to a keyword search, but the search terms must be in the title.
- **Author** – locate all titles attributed to individual authors.
  - Enter first name and surname for best results.
  - Can enter just a surname or first name if needed – will have more results.
  - Authors can be listed in multiple ways, complete names or just initials.
- **Subjects** – uses the Library of Congress subject headings.
  - Use for broad searches: Native Americans, Civil War, Quakers.
  - Think of known ancestor information such as religion, nationality, language.
- **Keywords** – will search all catalog entries containing the search terms: authors, titles, subjects, film notes, etc.
  - Enter search terms then filter by year, category, or language to reduce the number of results.
  - Tip: Use the keyword search for finding family histories for a common surname.
- **Call Number** – use if you already have the call number to locate specific information for publication such as the author, title, date and place published.
  - Helpful to quickly locate the catalog entry for a specific book, journal, or other publication.
  - Tip: if searching locally at the Family History Library, jot down the call # for each book searched. At home use the catalog to quickly locate the book and create a full source citation.

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- **Film/Fiches Number** – use this if you have the microfilm number from an indexed record to locate the original image.
- **Book Search** – to find all books or periodicals that have been digitized by FamilySearch, click "Books" under "Search" on the FamilySearch home page.
    - Search by author, title, or key word such as a surname or place.
    - Some publications are copyrighted and can only be viewed at the Family History Library or at a Family History Center. Keep a list of the publications to view when at one of these locations.

Tips for Better Research Using the FamilySearch Catalog

- **Locate and look at the original image**: Many indexed records on FamilySearch do not have the image attached. To find the original microfilm follow these steps:
    - Find the FHL microfilm number in the source citation.
    - Copy and paste this number into the Film/Fiches category on the FamilySearch Catalog.
    - From the results page, click on the camera icon to view the digitized microfilm.
    - View the first image in the microfilm to see the physical source.
    - Create a source citation for the image: who created the source, what is the source, when was the source created, where in the microfilm is the source (image number), where in the world is the source (location of physical source).
    - Use the indexed date to locate the record in the digitized microfilm. Skip ahead in the film by entering specific image numbers.
- **Use the catalog to find new sources to search**
    - When researching in any location, do a place search to see what records are available.
    - Browse the titles looking for information that will help your research progress.
    - Pay attention to histories, gazetteers, maps, and other books or microfilm that give context to the location.
    - Books that are only available at the Family History Library can often be viewed at other libraries. Click "view this catalog record in WorldCat for other possible copy locations" to see if it is at a library nearby. Use interlibrary loan at your local library to order a copy.
- **View WorldCat** from the home page of the catalog to search books, DVDs, CDs, and articles.
    - Search collections and services of more than 10,000 libraries worldwide.
- **View Archive Grid** from the home page of the catalog to find archives and libraries worldwide
    - Zoom in or out on the world map.
    - Search by keyword to find possible unique collections for your surname or locality.

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THE NEW DEAL: PUTTING YOUR ANCESTORS TO WORK

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INTRODUCTION:

Out of the various New Deal programs of the 1930's came an abundance of historical records used by genealogists today. The New Deal came in response to the great depression focusing on the "3 Rs" of *Relief, Recovery, and Reform.*

Genealogists today can use the many documents within the various programs to record the personal experiences of their ancestors who lived through the Great Depression and sought help from the Federal Government.

OPF AND OMPF FILES:

Otherwise known at the Official Personnel Files (OPF's) for civilian Government employees and Official Military Personnel Files (OMPF's) for members of the United States Military. The archival holdings of civilian Official Personnel Folders (OPF) include records created by Federal agencies during the period covering 1850-1951.

National Archives & Records Administration
1 Archive Drive
St. Louis, MO 63138

Archival OPFs and OMPF's are subject to restrictions and the NARA fee schedule that authorizes the collection of money for copies of archival records. For genealogists requesting OMPF Files please make note of the Fire of July 12, 1973 in St. Louis, MO destroyed or damaged nearly 16-18 Million military files. See the NPRC at https://www.archives.gov/personnel-records-center/civilian-non-archival and military at https://www.archives.gov/files/sf180-request-pertaining-to-military-records-exp-april2018-1.pdf by using Standard Form #180 online. Do not send payment until notified by the Archives that a record has been located.

OPF or OMPF of 5 pages or less: $25 flat fee
OPF or OMPF of 6 pages more: $75 flat fee

There is no fee to request and review an archival record in the Archival Research Room. Should you wish to view the record in person in St. Louis an appointment is recommended.

FEDERAL CENSUS:

One of the primary groups of records that genealogists use come from the United States Census. During the New Deal era in both the 1930 and 1940 Census details were records about the economic situation of our ancestors and their families.

Questions about economics were asked to enumerated individuals in both Federal Census returns. Varied between the years

RELIEF

Immediate Action Taken to Halt the Economic Deterioration.

- Emergency Banking Act, 1933
- Works Progress Administration, 1933
- Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933

EMERGENCY BANKING ACT, 1933

Act passed by the United States Congress in 1933 in an attempt to stabilize the banking system. set out to rebuild confidence in the nation's banking system by declaring a 4 day banking holiday shutting down the banking system, including the Federal Reserve. The legislation was passed on March 9, 1933.

WORK PROJECT/PROGRESS ADM:

Organized as a Federal Agency on July 1, 1939; It included a couple of predecessor agencies; that included both the Civil Works Administration CWA, 1933-34 and Federal Emergency Relief Administration FERA, 1933-1938.

The original name in 1939 at the time of organization was the Works Progress Administration and then it was changed to the Works Projects Administration or simply the WPA. One of their largest projects was called the Historical Records Survey (HRS).

- HABS-Called Historic American Buildings Survey
- HAER-Called Historic American Engineering Record
- HALS-Called Historic American Landscapes Survey

Some records are located at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC. Through a cooperative effort with the National Park Service and the private sector;

These records include maps, drawings, property and surveys of historical properties throughout the entire United States.. Between the years of 1936 and 1943, many unemployed persons visited courthouses, research archives and facilities, historical societies and libraries to analyze and compile inventories of local records, manuscript collections, newspaper and church and cemetery archival details.

The project was never fully completed, and approximately 2,000 inventories were printed. The records are located in RG69 at https://www.archives.gov/findingaid/stat/discovery/69 at National Archives.

CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS:

The CCC was organized in April of 1933, under authorization of Congress in an Act dated March 21, 1933, under the original title Emergency Conservation Work" (ECW). The Director was a man named Robert Fechner who was a close personal friend of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. It provided employment to unmarried men between the ages of 18-25 years. Later expanded to ages 17 to 28 after several years.

The chemistry of the members of the CCC:

- CCC Enrollees called "Juniors"
- Veterans-WWI Bonus Army Men
- Local Experienced Men (Called LEM's)
- Forestry Workers-Gov't Employees
- Military Personnel-Officers and Enlisted

Requirements to join the CCC:

- Age-Between 18-25 initially, later 17-28 years old
- Marital Status-Unmarried; Exception to LEM'S and "Bonus Army" men.
- Employment Status-Must be unemployed
- Citizenship-United States Citizen (Non Alien)
- Physical-Active with no incapacitating diseases

CCC records are located in RG35 online aid https://www.archives.gov/findingaid/stat/discovery/35 Other record groups that are helpful include RG407 (Part of the AGO) https://www.archives.gov/findingaid/stat/discovery/407 and in RG163 of the Selective Service.

RECOVERY:

Aimed at "*Pump-Priming*" and temporary programs to restart the flow of consumer demand. Four target Federal programs:

- National Recovery Admin, 1933
- Federal Housing Administration, 1933
- Farm Security Administration, 1933
- Tennessee Valley Authority, 1933

NATIONAL RECOVERY ADMIN:

Established as an Independent Agency on June 16, 1933 by the U.S. Congress. Known as the NRA. The primary function was to promote economic recovery. Their motto was "*We Do Our Part* often displayed in windows

Formally abolished on January 1, 1936 and succeeded by Department of Labor with their records mainly in both RG9 & RG135. https://www.archives.gov/findingaid/stat/discovery/9 , and the Public Works Admin online https://www.archives.gov/findingaid/stat/discovery/135

FEDERAL HOUSING ADMIN:

An Independent agency created on June 27, 1934 and located in RG31 at the Archives. https://www.archives.gov/findingaid/stat/discovery/31 with most in College Park, MD.

FARM SECURITY ADMINISTRATION:

The Farmers Home Administration was part of the Department of Agriculture by an Act dated August 14, 1946. It succeeded the Farm Security Administration (FSA) established in 1937 from the Resettlement Administration

The records of the FHA is found in RG96 at https://www.archives.gov/findingaid/stat/discovery/96 at located at the National Archives and includes records of farm ownership case files covering 1935-1946 that cover multiple states in 3 geographic archival regions.

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY:

On May 18, 1933, President Roosevelt signed the Tennessee Valley Authority Act, as part of the flurry of legislation with records located in RG142 located at the National Archives. https://www.archives.gov/findingaid/stat/discovery/142

REFORM:

These were *permanent programs to Avoid Another Depression and insure against having another economic disaster.* Three Federal programs covered "Reform".

- Social Security Act, 1935
- Fair Labor Standards Act, 1938
- Soil Conservation Act

SOCIAL SECURITY ACT:

This Act was passed on August 14, 1935 and was a social welfare legislative act that was created with the placement of the Social Security System in the United States. By signing this act President Roosevelt became the first to advocate Federal assistance for the elderly. The SSA provides an application process to obtain copies of the original Social Security number called the SS-5 form.

On the form required from the Social Security System, to be filled by the applicant a number of key pieces of genealogical information are included:

- First, middle and last name of Applicant
- Current Mailing Address
- Name and Address of Present Employer
- Age at last birthday
- Date of birth
- Place of birth (including city, county and state)
- Father's full name
- Mother's full maiden name
- Race or Color
- Date Signed and Signature of Applicant

The SS-5 forms can be ordered online from the . https://secure.ssa.gov/apps9/eFOIA-FEWeb/internet/main.jsp

FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT:

It Established laws governing minimum wage, overtime pay, recordkeeping, and youth employment standards-all on wages.

SOIL CONSERVATION ACT:

Established by law on February 29, 1936 that allowed the government to pay farmers to reduce production so as to conserve soil and prevent erosion. Located in RG114 at https://www.archives.gov/findingaid/stat/discovery/114 which is part of the National Archives. Included are records from the CCC and other Federal Agencies.

NEW DEALS COMES TO END:

Public opinion would turn toward another crisis globally with the threat of war in Europe; which in turn dominated the interests of the United States having the New Deal programs slowly disappear with war now imminent in Europe.

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NOTES:

Records for Researching Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons)

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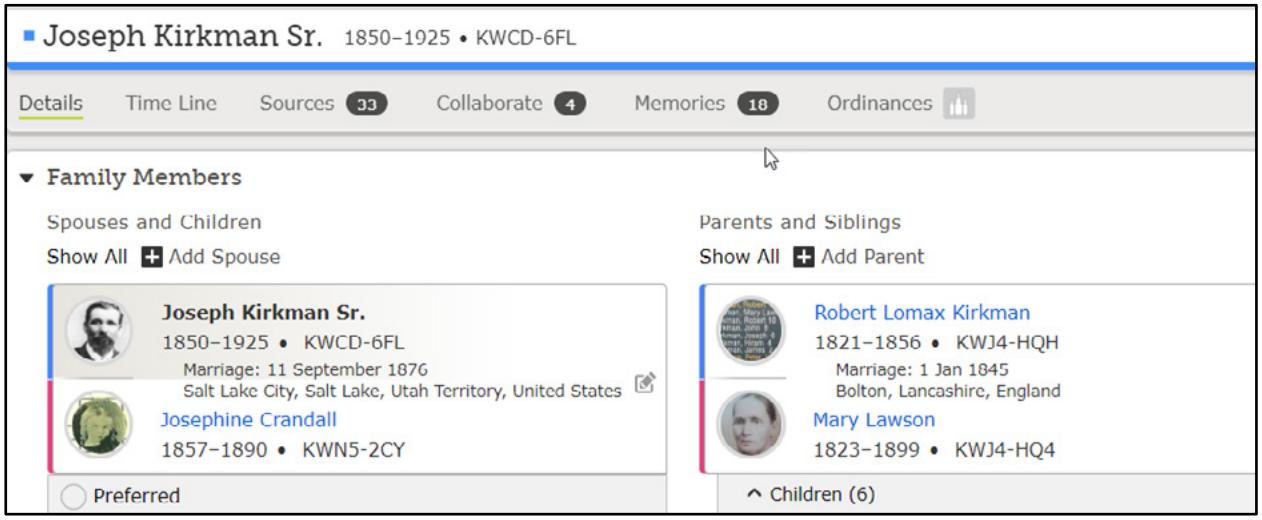
It is possible to discover details of the lives of members if the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints through a wide variety of records preserved by the Church, including baptismal records, membership records, migration and immigration databases, missionary records and journals, and pioneer histories.

This session will feature histories of some members of the Church which will demonstrate the value of these church records. These stories will highlight the lives of ordinary members of the Church discovered through research in the records available online and in Salt Lake City.

Begin with FamilySearch

The best place to start researching LDS ancestors is in the Family Tree on FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/tree/). The Family Tree is a shared tree linking families together and includes a wealth of documents, stories and photos on individuals. Family Tree is a crowd-sourced tree with many contributors so it is important to verify the information. An individual's page may include details on their parents, children, vital events, and personal history. Members of the Church can see the "ordinance" tab in Family Tree with details on the date and place of baptisms, marriages, and other temple ordinances for their ancestors.



THURSDAY

Church Membership Records

Each congregation of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints kept membership records. These records generally include birth dates and places, baptism dates, and names of parents. Some early records may not survive, but those that do can be accessed through the Church History Library catalog at https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/ , or the microfilmed records can be searched in the FamilySearch catalog at https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog .

In the FamilySearch catalog enter the place your ancestor lived including the city, county, state and/or country. Select "Church Records" from the list of records. There may be records for several different religions listed so look for "Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints" as the author. You may find "Record of Members," or "Annual Genealogical Reports" from 1907-1948.

Early Church Information File (1.5 million entries)

https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2078505

The Early Church Information File is a digitized card index of over 1,200 sources that provide information about church members and their neighbors in various locations. This index includes Church members beginning in the 1830s and each card lists the source of the entry and includes marriage records, census entries, and published works.

Church History Library

Early Mormon Missionary Database (1820-1930)

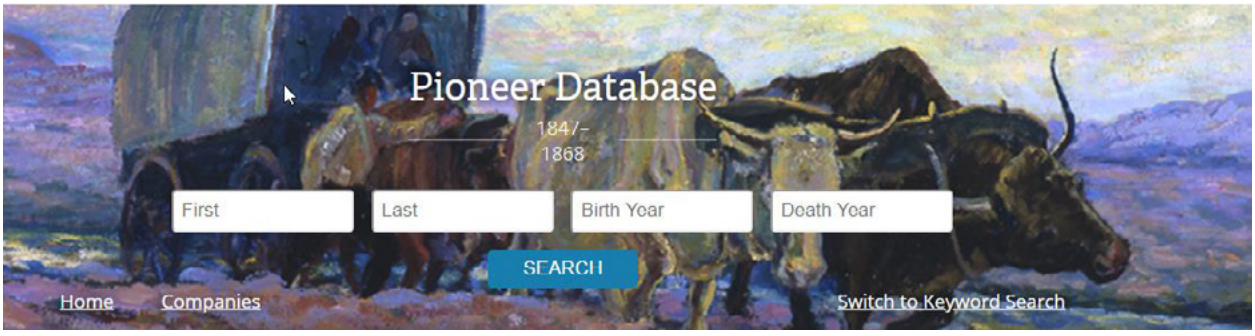
https://history.churchofjesuschrist.org/missionary/?lang=eng

From 1830 to 1930 almost 40,000 men and women served as missionaries for the Church in 36 countries. This database was created from the original missionary ledgers which contain biographical data such as the missionary's name, birth date, birthplace, parents' names, baptism date, the names of those who baptized them, residence at the time of their call, their mission assignment, date they were set apart, and their priesthood office.

The Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel Database (1847-1869)

https://history.churchofjesuschrist.org/overlandtravel/?lang=eng

This database lists the members of each of the pioneer wagon and handcart companies that migrated to Utah. It can be searched by name and each individual's page contains basic biographical information (name, gender, birth date, death date, age at immigration, etc.), name of the pioneer company, and references to additional sources. These pages may also contain a photograph, and a link to the person's page in Family Tree on FamilySearch.org.



This symbol may appear in the top right corner of an individual's page. If so, it provides a link to the website *Saints By Sea* website with digital images of the ship passenger list.

The page for each traveling company includes the departure and arrival dates, whether it was a wagon or a handcart company, and the names of the known company members. It may also include a company narrative and links to records, newspaper articles, and transcriptions of letters and diaries written by company members.

Saints By Sea

In the mid-1800s agents for the Church would contract a ship to transport a whole company of immigrants from England or another country to the United States. These passenger lists are private records and the originals are held by the Church History Library. The website https://saintsbysea.lib.byu.edu/ provides an index to these passenger records, lists of the passengers each ship, and digital images of each page of the passenger list. There may also be a hotlink to "Read about the voyage" which provides transcriptions of diaries, letters, autobiographies, journals and other first-person accounts of the journey.

Manuscript Collection

The Church History Library has a large manuscript collection that contains materials on both Church history topics and individual members. This collection includes **individual letters, diaries, photographs, journals, and oral histories of members**, as well as ward, stake, mission, and area histories. To see what the collection contains for an individual or congregation search the catalog at https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/ by name, location, or key word. Most of these manuscripts are in original form but the Church History Library has begun digitizing some of the records and individuals can request an item be considered for digitization.

Patriarchal Blessings

Church members can request a copy of your own patriarchal blessing if they have received one, and the patriarchal blessing of deceased direct-line ancestors by filling out the online form at https://pb.churchofjesuschrist.org/pbrequest/?lang=eng#/#top .

Family History Library

Church Census Records

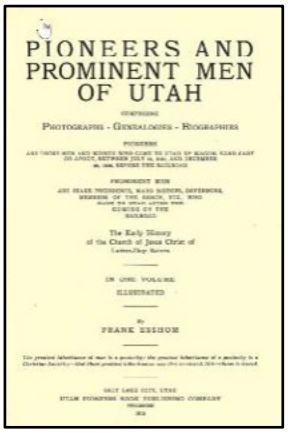
The Church took its own censuses to track membership in 1914 and every five years from 1920 to 1960 (except 1945). These census records are arranged alphabetically by the surname of the head of the household and are digitized by FamilySearch, but can only be accessed at a Family History Center. For details on the censuses and access, see the FamilySearch catalog entry at https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/126146?availability=Family%20History%20Library or the article in the FamilySearch Wiki at https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Census_Records_of_The_Church_of_Jesus_Christ_of_Latter-day_Saints .

Marriage Records

The Church kept marriage records for those who married in the temple. Copies of the temple records are held in the Special Collections of the Family History Library and access is restricted to members of the Church who hold a current temple recommend. The Western State Marriage Index contains information on marriages for many Church members who resided in the Intermountain West. This index was created from original county marriage licenses and contains over 700,000 entries. See https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1854302 or https://abish.byui.edu/specialCollections/westernStates/search.cfm .

Daughters of the Utah Pioneers

The Daughters of the Utah Pioneers maintains a collection of personal histories of individuals who migrated to Utah or were born in Utah before the railroad in May 1869. This collection includes 42,000 pioneer histories and can be accessed online at http://isdup.org/dyn_page.php?pageID=15 . The histories, written by descendants of the pioneers, average three to ten pages and the index can be accessed online at http://www.isdup.org/pioneer_index.php and copies of the histories can be ordered for $.25 per page.


PIONEERS AND PROMINENT MEN OF UTAH

The book *Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah* by Frank Esshom (Salt Lake City, Utah: Utah Pioneer Book Publishing Company, 1912) contains photos and short sketches of many of the early Mormon Pioneers in Utah. There is a copy available on Internet Archive at https://archive.org/details/pioneersprominen00esshrich/page/n6 and the photos and sketches are also available at FamilySearch https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2202712 .

Military and Vital Records

Military Records

There were several military units predominantly comprised of members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints including the Nauvoo Legion, a unit of the Illinois militia in 1840, and the Mormon Battalion, a unit formed during the War of 1812. Further information on these and other military units can be found at https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Latter-day_Saint_Military_Records .

Burial Records

The Church did not keep specific burial records for members, but those who died in Utah may be included in the Utah Cemetery and Burials Database at https://utahdcc.secure.force.com/burials/ . The Utah State Archives has digitized the state death certificates from 1905 to 1968 which can be accessed through the index at https://archives.utah.gov/research/indexes/20842.htm . Information on death records in Utah prior to 1905 can be found at https://archives.utah.gov/research/guides/death.htm .

Deceased Church Member Records (1941-1988)

This collection contains membership records of deceased Church members and includes information on their birth, marriage, and death. The records are not available digitally, but can be viewed on 466 roles of microfilm at the Church History Library. See https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/record?id=a74f1ba8-974e-4082-adb8-f52de9c8a509&view=summary.

Additional Resources

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"Latter-day Saint Online Genealogy Records" article, FamilySearch Wiki, (https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Latter-day_Saint_Online_Genealogy_Records).

Southerners in the Northern Midwest

Peggy Clemens Lauritzen, AG, FOGS MissPeggy55@gmail.com

"The North Woods were originally inhabited and today by Chippewa Indians, known here as "the only tribe that defeated the Sioux in battle"; were explored by 18th-century French voyageurs who left behind their names and place names, like Dussault and Paquette and the lakes Vieux Desert and Big Bateau, and were later settled by Finns, Germans, Czechs, Poles and, oddly enough, Kentucky Scots-Irish-English." David Binder, New York Times Archive, Aug 7,1983.

What images come into your mind when you think of the South – particularly Kentuckians?

- Coal miners
- Moonshine stills
- The Kentucky Derby
- Tobacco fields
- Bluegrass music

Who do you think of?

- Abraham Lincoln
- Daniel Boone
- Colonel Sanders
- Jefferson Davis
- Loretta Lynn
- George Clooney

Most southern research, especially Kentucky, will begin in Virginia

- Your best friend: The FamilySearch Research Wiki: https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main_Page
- Kentucky was part of Virginia until statehood on 1 Jun 1792.
    - Do a search for the map: State Land Claims and Cessions to the Federal Government, 1782-1802
- After 125 years since Jamestown, most were still living east of the Blue Ridge Mountains near the tidewater areas.
    - English had tobacco plantations.
    - Worked by indentured servants and slaves.
- Movement from the Philadelphia area began to move somewhat southwest, the headed down the Shenandoah Valley.
    - Germans and Quakers often traveled together down the eastern side of the Valley.

    - "Friendly Germans" meant they may have aligned themselves with Quaker beliefs, but did not convert.
    - Scots-Irish traveled down the west side of the Valley.
        - Closer to the Kentucky/Tennessee area.
- Religion mattered. Always look for religious traditions in family clues.
    - England: Anglicans and Baptists
    - Germans: Lutherans and Protestants
    - Scots-Irish: Presbyterians
        - Sometimes held in homes, Calvinistic
        - Doctrine of free will
        - Great Awakening led to revivals and Circuit Riders
- Look for your families in every census they would have appeared in, beginning with 1940.

Facebook friends told me of their families' migration to Wisconsin:

- The Ison family from Elliott County, Kentucky moved to Wisconsin, and are still there to this day. My Messers from Carter County went to Michigan and worked in logging for a period of time. Some came back home.
- My wife is from a little town in Wisconsin named White Lake. Her mother was proud of being a "Kentuck", born in Ault, Elliot County, Kentucky. Her grandfather ended up working for the railroad.
- My great uncles, the McMillions, moved from Carter County, Kentucky to Crandon. One of them owned two hotels.
- It was all about work. My Gilliam/Gillum grandparents moved there, and my mother was born at Siding One in 1911. Her birth was never registered.
- My grandfather Millard Lee Lowe moved from Olive Hill, Carter County, Kentucky to Polar, Wisconsin and worked the logging camps. He would climb to the top of the trees and cut the tops off.
- If I recall the history correctly, eastern Kentucky was known for logging and timber in the late 19th century, but it was drying up by the early 20th century. Maybe some of these people moved to follow the logging industry if their livelihood in Kentucky was declining.
- The mid to late 1800's was the peak period for the small iron furnaces that dotted the countryside of Eastern Kentucky. Just prior to the turn of the century, the large open pit mines in northern Wisconsin and Minnesota had pretty much put the small furnaces in Eastern Kentucky out of business. To fire those small local furnaces, coke was required. Many men in Eastern Kentucky were supplementing their meager farm income by cutting trees to be "burned" in an oxygen free environment to make the needed coke. With the small local furnaces going out of business, those men took their timbering talents elsewhere. Many went to Michigan like several of my relatives, but others went to Wisconsin, and some even went to the Pacific Northwest.

- I think the only impetus was that the Ky lumber industry was winding down, and so the big northern lumber companies came to our part of Kentucky recruiting for labor. They took whole train loads, and had family camps.
- I've read that by the early 1900's most of the mature timber in the eastern KY and southwestern WV and Virginia had already been cut. So there were a lot of experienced timber men in the region out of work. They probably followed that line of work to other regions.
- My Grandparents moved to Crandon Wisconsin in 1913. Grandpa had some breathing problems and the Dr told him the air was better for him up north.
- Word got out that money grows on trees in Wi.(meaning you cut trees and get paid) My grandfather, James Roe, sold his land on Sinking and chartered a train. Roe, Elliott, Cline, Porter were some of the families, they brought cows and oxen.
- My grandpa and his brothers moved to Wisconsin to work in the cranberry bogs. He told me how withered his feet always were.

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"Comings and Goings: Migration Routes of Your Ancestors": http://www.lfpl.org/genealogy_comings-and-goings.pdf

Dominant Forces in Western Life: http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/TURNER/chapter8.html

FamilySearch Wiki: https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main_Page

History of Kentucky: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Kentucky

Kentucky State History Timeline, 1900-1910: https://www.uky.edu/Libraries/NDNP/kytimeline.html

"Kentucky to Wisconsin": http://www.elliottcountyhistoricalsociety.org/kentucky-to-wisconsin

"Life in the North Woods: Hillbillies and Hyperbole Amid the Red Pines": https://www.nytimes.com/1983/08/07/us/life-in-the-north-woods-hillbillies-and-hyperbole-amid-the-red-pines.html

"Logging; The Industry That Changed the State": https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS409

"Northern Choices: Rural Forest County in the 1920's, Part II": https://www.jstor.org

"The Great White Migration: The Southernization of America": https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=5386

"The Movement of American Settlers into Wisconsin and Minnesota": http://penelope.uchicago.edu/Thayer/E/Gazetteer/Places/America/United_States/Iowa/_Texts/journals/IaJHP/17/3/American_Settlers_into_Wisconsin_and_Minnesota*.html

US Migration Trails and Roads: https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/US_Migration_Trails_and_Roads

Ohana, ʻĀiga, Fāmili, Whānau, Fēti'i: A Beginner's Guide to Polynesian Family History

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Class Description:

Learn how to get started on Polynesian genealogy research. Students will understand how to gather genealogical information from their family members and research available record collections in America and in the Pacific.

Overview:

Polynesian culture is heavily based in oral traditions. Everything from myths and stories to histories and genealogies, were passed on from generation to generation through the spoken word. As Polynesian family history is developing, more and more individuals want to learn how to find, examine, and record their own oral histories. This poster presentation will show how to begin the basics in researching and preserving Polynesian oral histories and traditions.

The issue Polynesians and other indigenous cultures face in their genealogy research is the lack of recorded oral histories and lack of understanding and emphasis on oral societies. What is to be done about this? Researching what written and recorded documents are available for Polynesians is the first step. The next is to prevent this issue from reoccurring for future generations.

Researching by Polynesian Nations: (Information will be posted on slides)

- Hawaii
- Samoa / American Samoa
- Tonga
- French Polynesia
- New Zealand
- Cook Islands
    - *Remaining Polynesian nations that will not be discussed in this presentation include Easter Island, Niue, Norfolk Island, Pitcairn Islands, Tokelau, Tuvalu, Wallis and Futuna, Rotuma.*

How to Begin Researching Polynesian Oral Histories:

To being with research, there are a few things that need to be done first.

- *Decide who you are going to research*
    - It is important to make a conscious decision of who you are researching before beginning actual research.

    - Once a purpose is established, focus on accomplishing this purpose and nothing else. In other words, choose to not get distracted.
- *Understand naming patterns*
    - Surnames are a modern phenomenon in Polynesian culture. Before European contact, surnames did not exist, rather, individuals had names that were several ideas or words.
    - Heavy foreign influence encouraged Polynesians to begin taking surnames upon themselves and their families
    - Other characteristics of name patterns include:
        - Name changes over time
        - Names do not necessarily indicate gender
        - Hints of events of the time of an individual's birth can indicate when and where they were born
- *Know their history*
    - If you understand Polynesian history, you will understand their culture, language, and as a result, their Polynesian family history.

Notable Oral History Collections and Repositories

The *Cole-Jensen Polynesian Oral Genealogy Collection* is the largest extensive oral history project of Polynesians. The collection includes histories from 1931-1960 of members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints throughout the Pacific islands. There are over 700 oral histories, including:

- Over 112,000 names of individuals with dates, relationships, and locations of events
- 500+ Tongan interviews, 50 Samoan interviews
- A few African and Native American oral interviews

The collection is compiled of family group sheets, which were originally kept in binders and have been microfilmed. Actual open reel-to-reel films are stored permanently in the Granite Mountain Records Vault in Utah. Microfilms of the collection are located on Level B1 of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. The images have been digitized but are unindexed. Microfilm numbers are 1358001-1358009.

The records are organized by island group rather than ancestral. For example, if a Tongan ancestor is being researched, but they lived in Hawaii when they were interviewed, their interview would be indexed under the HAWAII Binder/Microfilm.

The *Kenneth Baldridge Oral History Collection* at Brigham Young University of Hawaii includes transcripts of more than 400 oral interviews collected between 1971 and 2004. The interviews were conducted mainly in the Oahu-Koolau region. The students of BYUH conducted the oral histories under the direction of Kenneth Baldridge through the Hawaii Public History course. Their main focus was on the history of Laie and the history of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Oceania and the Pacific Islands.

Unfortunately, the collection is currently down for maintenance. Information of this collection, including the paraphrased summary above, can be found at https://lib.byu.edu/collections/kenneth-baldridge-oral-history-collection/

The *Church History Library* of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints collects oral histories from all over the world! Their focus is mainly to preserve the histories and events of the Church and its members.

When researching the oral histories stored at the Church History Library, it is important to search based off of areas. These areas include the Pacific Area, which includes Polynesia (excluding Hawaii), Micronesia, Melanesia, etc. Hawaii is located under the Pacific Northwest Region. Collection types to research under include oral histories (OH), audio visual (AV), manuscripts (MS), local records (LR), and church records (CR).

It is important when using the CHL catalog to search under "ARCHIVE" and not library. Type in "Samoa oral history" or some other Polynesian race into the search bar to find oral histories to research and observe. Some are transcribed, but the majority are not and do require permission from archivists to listen to the actual oral history recording.

The *Center for Oral History* at the University of Hawaii was established in 1976 by the Hawaii State Legislature as part of the Social Science Research Institute in the College of Social Sciences at UH Manoa. The center contains books, articles, podcasts, videos all focused on oral histories. It is a great research center for training of individuals and groups on oral history research.

The organization of records is based off of the following categories: communities, ethnic groups, government, historical events, individual lives, and occupations. Transcriptions, photos, descriptions and indexes are included.

These collections and repositories are great resources for genealogical research. They are mainly gathered by the Church of Jesus Christ, which makes it difficult for non-members to do research on their families. As shown above, there are not too many resources for Polynesian oral histories. This can change and needs to be changed now in order for Polynesian cultures and societies to thrive in the future.

Conducting Oral Histories

There are four steps in conducting an oral history interview.

1. Prepare
    - Create a purpose for your interview. Examples include:
        i. Obtaining genealogical information
        ii. Recording stories about your family
        iii. Saving a culture and language
    - Choose the person or people you would like to interview.
    - Ask the individual or persons for permission to interview them either through oral recording or audio visual.
    - Set up a reasonable time, time limit, and place to meet.
        i. Make sure that you meet in a quiet, undistracted place!
    - Create a list of questions you would like to ask in the interview.
        i. Understand that it is very likely the questions you prepared for the interview are not the questions that end up being discussed.

   ii. Send the list of questions to your guest(s) so that they are prepared. Give them about two days in advanced to view and think of the answers to your questions.

2. Use the proper tools for your interview
   - Microphone apps on smart phones are ok to use, but one great app in particular called StoryCorps is the best.
      i. StoryCorps was designed specifically for conducting oral histories!
      ii. They provide a free-app and member sign up.
      iii. Oral histories can be saved in the Library of Congress
3. Perform the Interview
   - Make sure you are relaxed and that your guest is comfortable.
   - Speak clearly and slow enough for the guest to understand.
4. Process
   - Once the interview is complete, save it onto a hard drive/flash drive with organized and labeled folders.
   - Transcribe the interview
      i. Listen to the oral interview and type verbatim
   - Put all genealogical information onto pedigree charts, family group sheets, etc.
5. Give Thanks
   - Give back to your guest by providing them with a copy of the oral interview and transcription. This will show them that you cared enough about their time and energy for your research.

Other Tips for Oral History Research:

1. General Gap is roughly around 30 years
2. Compare dates in OH with written records from credible sources
3. Understand the history of an ancestor's/living family member's life in order to understand what they share and describe in their OH

Notes:

1. Elwin W. Jensen, *Tiki, Our Forefather: A Look at Polynesian-Pacific Genealogy* (Salt Lake City: Jensen, 1976).
2. William A. Cole and Elwin W. Jensen, comps., *Israel in the Pacific: A Genealogical Text for Polynesia* (Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society, 1961).

Exodusters: The Exodus of Freedmen to Kansas After the Civil War

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The freedpeople's struggle was against what they saw as actual or effective reenslavement.
—Nell Irvin Painter

Between 1865 and 1880, an estimated 40,000 formerly enslaved people migrated from the southern United States to Kansas in search of land, opportunity, and the ability to live as free people. About half these people migrated during the height of the "Great Exodus" era in the 1870s. The Homestead Act of 1862 offered 160 acres of land to settlers who were willing to live on and improve their tracts for five years. The ability to own their own land was a strong inducement for these freedmen to migrate.

Reconstruction in the South ended in 1877, and the difficult post-war situation for African Americans worsened. Poverty, oppression, and political exclusion prompted many to leave. Migrants to Kansas came from Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, and Tennessee.[1]

Why Kansas?

Many frontier areas were open to settlement in the years after the Civil War, but Kansas had some attractions. It was easier to get to by boat and train than places farther north or west. Kansas was also the home of John Brown and other abolitionists who had fought to keep slavery out of the state and to abolish it in the nation. At an Old Settlers' Meeting in Lawrence, Kansas, in September of 1879, pioneer John Ritchie said this

> Every Kansas man knows, or ought to know, that the rough-hewn, western men and boys who went in on their instincts as to what was right and wrong, as to what was square and fair in squatters' rights, took a full hand in all that was done in beating down the pro-slavery power on the soil of Kansas.[2]

Kansas also had a small population of African American residents, and after the Civil War the all-Black 10th Cavalry Regiment was organized at Fort Leavenworth.

[1] Nell Irvin Painter, *Exodusters: Black Migration to Kansas after Reconstruction*. New York: Norton, 1985.
[2] Rachel Franklin Weekley, *"A Strong Pull, a Long Pull, and a Pull Altogether": Topeka's Contribution to the Campaign for School Desegregation* (National Park Service, 1999), 8. http://www.npshistory.com/publications/brvb/hrs.pdf

"Pap" Singleton

A number of individuals organized groups of African Americans to move from the South to Kansas to form communities, notably Benjamin "Pap" Singleton from Tennessee. After the war, Singleton attempted to buy land for African Americans in Tennessee. Failing to find land at a fair price, he seized on migration as the way for former slaves to become landowners. He formed the Edgefield Real Estate and Homestead Association, which recruited freedmen to the Singleton Colony in Dunlap, Kansas.

Ho for Kansas!

Brethren, Friends, & Fellow Citizens:
I feel thankful to inform you that the
REAL ESTATE
AND
Homestead Association,
Will Leave Here the
15th of April, 1878,
In pursuit of Homes in the Southwestern Lands of America, at Transportation Rates, cheaper than ever was known before.
For full information inquire of
Benj. Singleton, better known as old Pap,
NO. 5 NORTH FRONT STREET.
Beware of Speculators and Adventurers, as it is a dangerous thing to fall in their hands.
Nashville, Tenn., March 18, 1878.

One of the many posters calling on southern blacks to leave for Kansas.

Nicodemus

An example of an integrated community was Nicodemus, Kansas, founded in 1877. The town was planned by a white man, W.R. Hill, and the Reverend W. H. Smith, a black man. Together they formed the Nicodemus Town Company. By 1880 452 African Americans lived there, out of a population of 500. Nicodemus declined after 1888, when the railroad bypassed it, and the Great Depression, a series of droughts, and the Dust Bowl reduced the town to a population of 76 in 1935. By 1950 the population was 16. It is now a National Historic Site. [3]

Reception

As with any large movement of refugee populations, the arrival of thousands of formerly enslaved people was a cause for concern on the part of the local authorities. While their welcome wasn't universal, this excerpt from a Topeka newspaper about a meeting held on the subject in Lawrence is telling:

> Resolved, The we regard the exodus of the colored people of the South as the legitimate result of the injustice practiced upon them, and since so many of these people reach Kansas in poverty and suffering we should be untrue to our history, or to the common dictates of humanity, if we did not extend to them a cordial welcome, and so far as we are able to do so, relieve their distress, and aid them to find homes on the free soil of Kansas.[4]

Beyond the Exodus

Pioneer life was hard for everyone who looked for opportunity on the frontier. As with other groups, some of the Exodusters gave up and went home. Others moved farther north and west

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[3] "Nicodemus: A Black Pioneer Town," *Legends of America*. https://www.legendsofamerica.com/ks-nicodemus/
"Action of Other Cities on the 'Exodus' Question." *Wyandotte Gazette*, 25 April 1879. https://www.kansasmemory.org/item/210632

[4] "Action of Other Cities on the 'Exodus' Question." *Wyandotte Gazette*, 25 April 1879. https://www.kansasmemory.org/item/210632

into Colorado and even on to Canada. But many stayed in Kansas, building a life for themselves and their families.

Resources (Hyperlinked in the digital version)

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What If? Learning About DNA Through Case Studies

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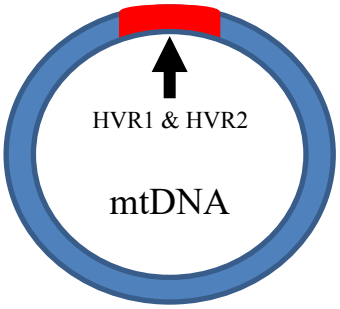
NOTE: we will examine several different DNA case studies in this session, including the use of mtDNA, Y-DNA, autosomal DNA, and X-DNA. Since these case studies involve many diagrams and facts, the information won't fit within the syllabus limitations. Accordingly, I will provide a link during the talk where you can download a complete syllabus with this additional information. For your benefit and very basic background information, here is some basic information about mtDNA, Y-DNA, and autosomal DNA in this syllabus.

Introduction to mtDNA



Only your mother gave mtDNA to you; your father's mtDNA was not passed down to the next generation. While male children will inherit their mother's mtDNA, they will not pass it down to their own children. This unique feature of mtDNA allows it to be used for tracing matrilineage, the inheritance of mtDNA from mother to child.

Using mtDNA Test Results

The results of an mtDNA test can be used to determine the test-taker's mtDNA *haplogroup* and ancient origins, to determine whether two people are maternally related, and if so, to estimate very roughly the amount of time since two individuals shared a most recent common ancestor (MRCA).

1. Learn About Your Ancient Ancestry

The results of mtDNA testing provide a haplogroup determination. A *haplogroup* is a group of related mtDNA results which share a common ancestor in a common place (usually several thousands of years ago). Haplogroups are named by letters of the alphabet, and people in the same haplogroup will have the same, or very similar, list of mutations.

2. Find Your mtDNA Cousins

If you test at Family Tree DNA, you will receive a list of people in the database that are close matches with your mtDNA sequence. These individuals are your genetic cousins and related to you through your maternal line. Some may match exactly, while others might be different from you by one or two mutations. Generally, the more mutations you share in common, the more closely related you are. However, because mtDNA mutates so slowly, you could be related very recently or several thousand years ago.

If you are interested in identifying your common ancestor, you should contact your closest matches and ask them if they are interested in sharing information with you. If they are, you can review their family tree to determine whether their maternal line shares any names or locations in common with your maternal line. Sometimes your matches will list their most distant maternal ancestor, which you might be able to use to 'reverse engineer' their maternal line if they aren't interested in sharing information.

Introduction to Y-DNA

The Y chromosome is only found in males, who have one Y-chromosome (from his father) and one X-chromosome (from his mother). This XY pair is one of the 23 pairs of human chromosomes.

A. Inheritance Patterns of Y-DNA

The Y chromosome has a unique inheritance pattern, just like mtDNA. It is passed down from father to son without change. Over long periods of time the chromosome begins to accumulate mutations that are typically silent and have no impact on the carrier. These mutations, however, are useful for genealogical purposes – they can be used to analyze the relationships between populations and individuals.

B. Using Y-DNA Test Results

The results of Y-DNA test can be used to determine a person's Y-DNA *haplogroup* and ancient origins, to determine whether two people are paternally related, and if so, estimate the amount of time in which two individuals shared a most recent common ancestor (MRCA) on their direct paternal lines.

1. Ancient Ancestry

A Y-DNA *haplogroup* is a group of related Y-DNA profiles that share a common ancestor in a common place (usually several thousands of years ago). Y-DNA haplogroups are named by letters of the alphabet, and people in the same haplogroup will have the same, or very similar, list of mutations.

2. Find Y-DNA Cousins

You will receive with your test a list of people in the database that are close matches with your Y-DNA sequence. These individuals are your genetic cousins and related to you through your paternal line, either closely or distantly. Some may match exactly, while others might be different from you by a handful of mutations. The more mutations you share in common, the more closely related you are.

Introduction to Autosomal DNA

Autosomal DNA is the 22 pairs of non-sex chromosomes found within the nucleus of every cell. The 22 autosomes, or autosomal DNA chromosomes, are numbered approximately in relation to their sizes, with autosome 1 being the largest and autosome 22 being the smallest. The following

figure follows the inheritance of autosomal DNA through four generations of a family, from eight great-grandparents to their great-grandchild John:

1. Finding and Classifying Your Genetic Matches

Each of the testing companies return a list of genetic matches, which are all people in their database that share DNA with you above a certain threshold. The threshold used for matching is important; if the threshold is set too low you'll match everyone in the database. If the threshold is too high, you'll miss too many real matches.

Each company tries hard to find a suitable threshold, but it is important to keep in mind that all of the companies will provide matches that are "false positives" (matches who are not related to you in a genealogically relevant timeframe). This is just one reason that it is important to **concentrate on your best matches first**. Your "best matches" are those who share the most DNA with you.

The more segments you share with another person, and the larger those segments are, the closer your genealogical relationship with that person is. We inherit entire chromosomes from each parent, which are a collage of segments from our grandparents' chromosomes, which in turn are a collage of even smaller segments from our great-grandparents, and so on.

Your "Secret Weapons" for Solving Mysteries:

There are some secret weapons you can use to learn about unknown new matches, including Shared Matching and Tree Building discussed below. Although not the only mechanisms to learn about matches, they are both extremely powerful!

1. Shared Matching

Shared Matches (also called "In Common With" matching) are potentially **the most powerful tool** for analyzing the results of DNA testing, yet they are underutilized and misunderstood. Together we will look at some of the ways to take advantage of these tools to work with our matches and break through brick walls.

Every major atDNA testing company (23andMe, AncestryDNA, Family Tree DNA, and MyHeritage) and the third-party tool GEDmatch offers a shared matching tool. Armed with shared matching and a few known cousins, you can almost instantly create **hypotheses** about how matches shared with the known cousins are related. This is also a recursive process, so you can create large genetic networks of clustered relatives.

Using Genetic Networks

A genetic network, whether Shared Matching or Shared Segments (or both!), helps the genealogist form a group of people that provide HINTS to a shared ancestor or ancestral couple. The theory is essentially this: ***it is reasonable to hypothesize (but NOT to conclude) that people in a Shared Match Cluster or a Shared Segment Cluster share the same common ancestor. Thus, if we can find the ancestral couple we share with one or more members of the cluster, we can hypothesize how we're related to the other members of the cluster!***

The steps for utilizing a genetic network are relatively straightforward:

- **STEP 1**: Identify a Shared Match or Shared Segment Cluster
- **STEP 2**: Review the trees of the individuals in the cluster (if any);
- **STEP 3**: Identify one or more ancestors shared in common between your tree and the tree(s) of one or more individuals in the cluster. If there are no identified ancestors shared in common, review the trees for surnames and/or locations you recognize;
- **STEP 4**: Formulate a hypothesis that you are related to the other members of the cluster via the same identified one or more ancestors; and
- **STEP 5**: Pursue the hypothesis by gathering new evidence (build trees, contact matches, test other relatives, etc.).

2. Tree Building (Including "Research" Trees)

It is **ESSENTIAL** to build trees for your genetic matches, if you want to identify who they are and how they are related to you. If you can discover enough information about a match, often just a name or the name of a single ancestor, you can often build a tree for that match.

You can build a tree online, in your genealogy software, or however you prefer to build trees. Be sure to keep the tree private so that you don't spread misinformation or disrupt a match's tree. One type of tree built for genetic matches is the "Research" tree. A Research tree is a HINT generator (JUST LIKE ANY OTHER FAMILY TREE is a hint generator!) which is built without meeting accepted genealogical guidelines or standards. It is only to generate hypotheses about relationships, to fish for clues, and is NEVER used as standalone evidence. Let me repeat that to be clear:

Additional Quick & Dirty Tree Building Resources

- Bettinger, Blaine. Are You Doing Everything to Identify Your Matches? *The Genetic Genealogist*, 11 March 2017 (https://thegeneticgenealogist.com/2017/03/11/are-you-doing-everything-to-identify-your-matches/).
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Was Your Irish Immigrant Pushed or Pulled to America?

David E. Rencher, AG®, CG®, FUGA, FIGRS — © All rights reserved.
Echoes of Our Ancestors – National Genealogical Society Conference
Salt Lake City, Utah – 20-23 May 2020

Introduction

Eventually, you reach the point where the record sources pointing to the next generation seem to end. When you reach this point, it is a good idea to "circle the wagons." Take the time to evaluate the records you have and see if you have overlooked important clues. When trying to extend a line overseas, you may want to ask yourself these questions:

- Have all of the relevant home sources and family traditions been exhausted?
- Have all of the documents been thoroughly examined, reexamined and understood?
- Did I collect the names of witnesses, neighbors and others with whom my ancestor/s may have interacted?
- Did I establish the relationships of witnesses, neighbors and others?
- Did I research the families of the witnesses and neighbors to determine *their* place of origin?
- Do I understand what pulled or pushed them to the area in which they were living?

Regardless of where your research is done in the United States, I highly recommend that you read: Albright, Lee and Helen F. M. Leary, "Designing Research Strategies" in *North Carolina Research, Genealogy and Local History*. Helen F. M. Leary, editor. Raleigh: North Carolina Genealogical Society, 1996. This chapter focuses on how to effectively use and analyze common record sources and the mistakes often made by researchers.

The Search

Systematically examine and re-examine all of the relevant record sources for your ancestral family. This includes all known family members. Be sure to include all spelling variants and reexamine record sources as new variants are identified (i.e. Wrencher, Renshaw, Rancher, Rincher, Reucher, etc. for the surname Rencher). Remember that phonetically, *all* vowels are interchangeable.

Re-interview key family members for additional details about the family. Ask specifically about artifacts, family traditions and stories. Look for clues among interactions between families, especially witnesses, neighbors, others on the same ship manifest, adjacent land owners, and godparents. Examine name lists for additional clues and identify potential associates for whom adequate information is not known.

Witnesses, Neighbors and Associates

Years of researching Irish families in the America's have proven on many occasions that the immigrants did not come alone. Certainly there are some instances where only one family member emigrated. However, there are many examples of families that emigrated a few at a time spread over months or years.

Often, money was earned from labors here and sent back to Ireland to send the next family member to North America. Thus, it becomes a major strategy to solving many Irish immigrant problems that everything about the interaction the immigrant has with family and friends must be uncovered. The commonness of some Irish surnames will sometimes

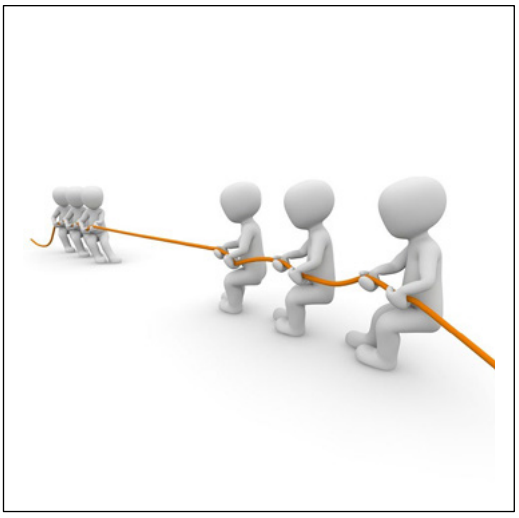
make the problem appear overwhelming. There are techniques however that will illuminate the interaction of family members. For example, witnesses to key events such as marriages, land purchases, and the signing of probate records. Where are family members living in large cities, what churches are they attending, what other names are contained in family burial plots? The answers to all of these and similar questions will continue to piece together, reconstitute, and illuminate the family as it was in previous generations.

Factors that Pushed or Pulled Emigrants

To solve an emigration problem, the factors that either pushed them from the homeland or pulled them to the new home must be understood.

Pushes to Emigrate:

- Religious oppression
- Penal Laws
- Depressed Economy
- Agrarian Culture – seasonality of work
- Famine or disease
- Laws of primogenitor
- Military service or desertion
- Convicted felons or crimes committed
- Political unrest; 1798 Rebellion
- Safety
- Solutions to problems for:
    - Landlords and the landed estates
    - Poor Law Unions
    - Orphanages



Pulling Someone to Emigrate

- Family members, associates, neighbors
- Minister in the new country
- Land for purchase or land grants
- Military service as a means to obtain land grants
- Employment
    - Railroad
    - Canal building
    - Mining
- Gold rush – quick wealth
- Promise of a better quality of life
- Religious freedom or new religion
- Adventure – the frontier
- Marriage proposal
- Parents emigrated – children come too

Tracing Descendants

Many of the answers needed in tracing Irish emigration problems are to be found in the papers, stories, or artifacts of living descendants. For Irish research, descendant research is a major strategy and an important methodology for identifying the clues and information needed to solve the identity of the native county or parish.

MIGRATION

There are some well–established migration patterns in the United States and Canada. Placing an individual in the historical circumstances of the period may give clues to where they migrated. The gold rush, free public lands, land granted by pension, chain migration of family members may all influence migration patterns.

DEPOSITED MANUSCRIPTS

A set of records especially important to descendant research is the deposited manuscripts of individuals and families. Bibliographies of these records are generally available for most record repositories. However, many of these are to be found in University Libraries rather than county libraries or county court houses. Specifically check all known University collections in the areas where the family lived and areas where descendants migrated. Be sure to focus on any descendants who were alumni of colleges and universities. Their records and family papers were solicited by these institutions. Often these records leave a trail. Follow the trail by searching the repositories where other individuals lived that appear in the correspondence.

Record Sources

First, there are sources in every community where the immigrant lived that all have the potential to provide the vital piece of information needed. The following sources are the more common used in this process:

1) **Naturalization records** – Especially useful for listing a place of origin is the Declaration of Intent to become a naturalized citizen. There is an index to the naturalization records in the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in Washington D.C. This index, "U.S. Naturalization Records Indexes, 1791-1992," is on Ancestry. If a name of interest is found in the index, the record will need to be ordered from NARA. There is also an extensive set of original naturalization records on FamilySearch. See the collection listing to identify the state of interest.
2) **Land records** – In some instances, the first land record of an immigrant will list the previous place of residence. If this is out of the country, it will give the place they came from in their native country. FamilySearch has an excellent collection of land records which are being digitized. Go to the Family History Library Catalog.
3) **PROBATE RECORDS** –FamilySearch has a good collection of probate records. They should be accessed like the land records above.
4) **CHURCH RECORDS** – Many congregations received new members upon the recommendation of another minister or congregation. Certificates of members in good standing may be filed with the other records of the Church.
5) **TOMBSTONE INSCRIPTIONS** – Names of family members may be listed far from where the immigrant may be interred. Other family tombstones may record the information you need, but will be undiscovered until you reconstruct the family.
6) **VITAL RECORDS** – Useful source of information especially in the later years (i.e. after 1900). Be sure to identify the informant of the information and determine what this person was likely to know.
7) **NEWSPAPERS** –Look for indexes and centennial issues listing biographies on early residents. www.genealogybank.com ; www.chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/ ; www.newspaperarchive.com and www.newspaper.com have excellent collections.
8) **MILITARY RECORDS** –To locate a regiment, look for family pictures in uniform, memorabilia, service records and family histories. www.fold3.com has the best U.S. collection of military records online.

9) **FAMILY RECORDS** – Through the years, families gather and preserve information. However, as the generations get further removed from the immigrant, the clues are lost. Trace the descendants of the oldest female lines first.
10) ARTIFACTS – Is the answer to your emigration problem in Grandma's attic?
11) RAILROAD RETIREMENT RECORDS – Historically a major employer for the Irish, both during construction and operation. They have been moved from the NARA Regional Archive in Chicago, Illinois to the NARA Regional Archive in Atlanta, Georgia. For information on them, see https://www.archives.gov/atlanta/public/railroad-retirement-board-records.html .
12) SCHOOL RECORDS – A number of the Irish became notable figures in the history of the America's. School records can become a source of biographical information.
13) PASSPORT RECORDS – Many of the Irish returned to Ireland at some point during their lives. When they did, they may have applied for a passport with excellent information on their place of origin. www.ancestry.com has "U.S. Passport Applications, 1795-1925."
14) FUNERAL HOME RECORDS – An often overlooked source in American research, funeral homes have a variety of content based on the needs of the business owner. Many are still in local custody. For a nationwide directory, see www.usafuneralhomesonline.com/ .
15) ORPHAN RECORDS – There were thousands of orphans sent from Ireland to North America. These family lines can be some of the most challenging, yet the most rewarding when solved.
16) PUBLISHED HISTORIES – Particularly good for biographical material throughout the east and mid-west. These histories are often written by a family member with first-hand knowledge of the immigrant. See the FamilySearch online book collection of over 325,000 volumes at www.familysearch.org

Conclusion
In many instances, it wasn't just one factor that caused an individual or family to emigrate. It is very likely that it was a combination of factors that built up over time, but it may have been one particular factor that ultimately was the trigger. Perhaps it was an advertisement for land or work, perhaps it was a letter from a relative or friend. Whatever the ultimate cause, placing it in the historical context of the circumstances of the time may well lead to additional clues to determine the time, route, and destination.

Analysis of Evidence and Sources
Researchers rarely agree on the method of analysis of any particular research problem. This is mainly due to their individual experiences and their ensuing beliefs about those experiences. While there is general agreement on what constitutes solid research fundamentals and documentation, the intangible art of assembling all of ones experiences into solving an immigrant problem is difficult to describe.

In forming a hypothesis of what the evidence reveals, do not discount the evidence disagrees with the hypothesis. All discrepancies need to be adequately resolved. Evaluate all of the evidence and determine what "fact" is and what "hearsay" is. As you compile the *facts*, ages will vary, localities will disagree, and older descendants may have more information than the descendants of younger children.

Mining, Logging, and Fishing: Early Work in the Pacific NW

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Natural resources were abundant in 19th century when Europeans migrated to the Pacific NW. Learn more about the work in mines, forests and waters of the Northwest and how your ancestors were involved in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Outline

I. Native People in the Pacific North West
   a. Who was here when Europeans arrived?
   b. Treaties of 1850-60s
   c. Reservations

II. Early Non-Native settlement
   a. Who came and when– European, African-American, Asian and Pacific Islanders
   b. Where did they settle – coastal and inland differences?
   c. Women in the mines and forests and canneries

III. Natural Resources
   a. Metals and coal
   b. Lumber
   c. Fish

I. Coal Mining
   a. Locations
   b. Partnership with railroads
   c. Accidents
   d. Unionization of workers

II. Metal mining
   a. Laws
   b. Location - mining regions – finding gold
   c. Types of Gold mining – placer and lode mining
   d. Types of jobs
   e. Chines miners

f. Collateral businesses (merchants)

III. Logging
   a. Laws
   b. Location/regions
   c. Types of jobs
   d. Safety
   e. Large companies

IV. Fishing
   a. Laws, treaties
   b. Types of jobs
   c. Who worked
   d. Collateral businesses

V. Types of jobs
   a. Unionized work
   b. Self-employment
   c. Small work teams
   d. Collateral businesses

VI. Finding records
   a. Mining claims
   b. Fishing and logging rights
   c. Land
   d. Company records
   e. Federal and territorial records
   f. Newspapers

Resources

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Mennonite Research

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INTRODUCTION:

This lecture is aimed at helping researchers identify and locate their Mennonite ancestor on both sides of the Atlantic. Why are these ancestors difficult to find and appear to hide from us in many of the records we are accustomed to researching? Firstly, these were people accustomed to persecution, and as such did NOT maintain church registers that would incriminate themselves to authorities. This practice never changed. Therefore, we cannot use the wonderfully detailed church records of colonial Pennsylvania that are often utilized in German Lutheran and Reformed research. Secondly, these were SWISS who spoke German, or descendants of Swiss origin. They spoke a Germanic dialect and they were integrated well amongst the Germans in the Palatinate in the 17th century, in Pennsylvania in the 18th century, and in Ohio in the 19th century, but their records will be found in Switzerland. Because they spoke German and lived amongst other German speakers, they are often lumped erroneously into the "Germans to America". Research techniques in Europe therefore are different from those employed by German researchers.

HISTORY:

There are many books written on Anabaptist history, and there are many theories as to their origins. One general date accepted to be the beginning of the Anabaptist movement is 21 January 1525, when Conrad Grebel, Felix Manz and George Blaurock baptized each other in Zurich – a practice considered heresy by the Catholic Church. The seven articles of the Schleitheim Confession of 24 February 1527 delineated the beliefs of the Swiss Mennonites. The term Mennonite was actually used much later, referring to Menno Simons, a Dutch Catholic who renounced the church in January 1536 to become the leader of the Dutch Anabaptist movement. The Dutch gained religious freedom much earlier and helped their Swiss brethren.

For the benefit of this lecture, we will discuss Anabaptism as it applies to Switzerland, and the migrations out of Switzerland. This group encompasses the bulk of our ancestors with Mennonite roots. During the 16th century the largest population growth of Anabaptist occurred in the Emmental valley in Bern.

IMMIGRATION: FIRST WAVE:

I like to refer to two basic "waves' of immigration of Mennonites to the United States. The first is cleverly "disguised" in the general German migration to Pennsylvania in the 18th century.

Many of the Mennonites that came to Pennsylvania in this first migratory wave spent a generation or more in the Palatinate or Alsace. Intense persecution in Bern caused several to migrate in the 17th century, with the exodus of 1671 being the height, with an estimated 700 people leaving. The Dutch brethren were instrumental in granting aid to these migrants. These were the families that made up the bulk of the estimated 3,000 Mennonite immigrants to Pennsylvania between 1717 and 1732.

IMMIGRATION: THE SECOND WAVE:

The Mennonites that remained in Switzerland endured continued persecution from Bernese officials, and many of them migrated to the Bishopric of Basel as early as 1716, with peak migration in 1730. They were tolerated here but with several restrictions. The area is in the Jura Mountains, now a part of Cantons Bern and Jura and in part of France. Overcrowding, famine and disease sparked another large exodus to the United States beginning in 1817. Although migration slowed before the Civil War, it is estimated that 1,200 Mennonites emigrated between 1816 and 1875 leaving the congregations of the Jura severely depleted. The bulk of immigrants settled in Ohio and Indiana, but several of them intermingled easily and married into Pennsylvania families that had migrated generations before.

RECORD AVAILABILITY: UNITED STATES:

Although church records are NOT the foundation for Mennonite research in the United States, they obviously followed the same civil laws as other immigrants. Tax records, Orphan Court records, land records – these are all key Pennsylvania sources for any ancestral search.

Remember that Anabaptist faiths emphasized community support and living. Did your ancestors have "obvious" Mennonite names? If not, did they interact with those who did? Although they did not leave detailed church records, the Mennonite congregations of PA, OH and IN are very well documented.

The Mennonite have a very strong oral tradition. Family ties are strong, and family history is important to them. Look into private manuscript collections or historical societies for records. *Taufschein*, or baptismal certificates, still exist for a great number of Pennsylvania Mennonite families.

Visit <http://www.cyndislist.com/mennonite> to find repositories and publishers with an emphasis on Mennonite research. Many, many family histories have been published on these families and are great starting places for your research.

RECORD AVAILABILITY: SWITZERLAND:

To research in Switzerland, one must understand the meaning of a person's *Heimat*. "… on a set day in 1672, each Bernese must accept the communal citizenship of the parish in which he was living at the moment." This system remains in effect today, meaning that you maintain citizenship in the *Gemeinde* (township) of your paternal ancestors even though you may never have stepped foot there. This is your *Heimat*, and it is where the records of your family would be kept regardless of whether you lived there or not. You must know this to proceed.

In theory, vital records of your family should have been sent to the *Heimat* for registering in the *Bürgerrodel* after 1822. Many families were entered retroactively. It is also important to note that the Swiss Reformed Church was the state church, and it was the registering body of government from the 16th century forward. You will find vital records here (with variability as will be discussed in lecture) if your ancestors resided within its jurisdiction. Only briefly during the Napoleonic era (1792-1814) were civil records maintained in place of church records in some localities.

Luckily the church records of Canon Bern are largely available through the LDS Family History Centers and Family History Library as well as on CD-ROM from Picton Press. The civil records are partly microfilmed by the FHL and are stored in the Archives de l'ancien Évêché de Bâle in Porrentruy, Canton

Jura, Switzerland. Most can also be found on FamilySearch.org, but access is restricted to LDS members only.

Did I not say earlier that Mennonites would not be found in church records? Since the church also served a civil function, many Mennonites chose to have the births of their children recorded while shunning infant baptism. Marriages also were recorded even though performed by Anabaptist ministers. Deaths are frequently recorded. Also, many individuals were *halb-taufers* that is they believed in the tenets of the Mennonite faith, but clung to the Reformed rituals to avoid persecution. Lastly, some infants were forcefully baptized and recorded. There is great variability from *gemeinde* to *gemeinde*. It is irresponsible research not to check.

SOURCE LIST:

ARCHIVE AND LIBRARIES:

- Cyndi's List: Mennonite: https://www.cyndislist.com/mennonite
- Mennonite Church USA Archives, Elkhart, IN: http://mennoniteusa.org/what-we-do/archives/
- Mennonite Historical Library, Goshen, IN: http://www.goshen.edu/mhl
- Lancaster Mennonite Historical Library, Lancaster, PA: http://www.lmhs.org
- Mennonite Heritage Center, Harleyville, PA: http://www.mhep.org
- Illinois Mennonite Historical and Genealogical Society, Metamora, IL: http://www.imhgs.org
- Mennonite Archives of Virginia: http://mennonitearchivesofvirginia.net
- Menno Simons Historical Library, Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, VA: https://emu.edu/library/historical-library/
- Ohio Amish Library at Amish and Mennonite Heritage Center, Berlin, OH: https://ohioamishlibrary.org

PERIODICALS:

- *Pennsylvania Mennonite Heritage* (Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, Lancaster, PA)
- *Mennonite Family History* (Masthof Press, Morgantown, PA)
- *Mennonite Quarterly Review* (Index, 1926-2000: https://www.goshen.edu/mqr/search.php)
- *Mennonite Historical Bulletin (1940-2012)*
- *Mennonitica Helvetica:* https://mennonitica.ch/mennonitica-helvetica/

OBITUARIES:

- *Herald of Truth* (1864-1908), *Gospel Witness* (1905-1908), *Gospel Herald* (1908-1998), *The Mennonite* (1998-present): http://www.mcusa-archives.org/MennObits/index.html
- *The Gospel Banner* (1878-1969): Missionary Church Archives, Bethel College, Mishawaka, IN: http://www.bethelcollege.edu/library/archives/mcarchives/

ONLINE DATABASES AND RESOURCES:

- Swiss Anabaptist Genealogical Association: http://www.saga-omii.org
- GRANDMA: https://www.grandmaonline.org/gmolstore/pc/Overview-d1.htm
- MennoTree: http://www.mennotree.com
- FamilySearch: http://www.familysearch.org (some Swiss records have restrictions)
- Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online (GAMEO): https://gameo.org
- Church books of Canton Bern, Switzerland: www.be.ch/kirchenbuecher

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Using Whole Family Research to Prove a Relationship

Board for Certification of Genealogists(R) Skillbuilding Lecture

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Researching siblings or collateral relatives can often provide the indirect evidence needed when direct-line research leads to dead ends or wrong answers.

We learn a lot about people through their associates and researchers often explore friends and neighbors as they attempt to track the migratory path of their ancestors in order to locate earlier ancestors. Research of this type can often prove effective. But what we sometimes fail to consider is that tracking people forward can also often answer questions, prove relationships, and even help us backtrack a migration pathway.

When standard resources like census, vital statistics, and probate records fail to provide the information needed, researchers, who limit their search to a direct line approach are often stymied. Expanding the search to the whole family can, in many cases, supply the information needed to solve the problem. Not only does it provide answers to unanswered questions, but it often adds rich detail to the family story when we learn, for example, that not only did our ancestor serve but his father and his other six brothers also served in the war. Expanding one's

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research to the whole family also expands the number of sources of information and thus the likelihood of locating the right answer AND it can reduce the chance that two cousin Johns are confused.

The following are some of the ideas and resources that will be explored. The examples briefly described here will be expanded in the lecture and will include discussions of why specific paths were followed or information sources selected.

In each and every case cited the solution was a product of whole family research. Researching the direct line did not lead to the answer. Whole family research did. Whole family research like any research is a process, one that we know we should do but in an effort to quickly move on we often skimp or skip entirely. Making such a choice is rarely wise. Not only do we miss the additional depth that such research can add to a family history, we can also either miss the answer or even come up with the wrong answer.

- Researchers have frequently used 1850 and later census records to track the migration of families. However, these rarely include more than the state of birth. Following siblings to the publication of a biography in a mug book and even further to their death and the consequent death certificate and/or obituary frequently leads to more detailed information including not only places of birth, but the maiden name of the mother as well. A maiden name that can sometimes come as a surprise as we shall discover.

- Not all birth, marriage, and death records are equal. One sibling's birth may be recorded by the father, another by the mother, or a maternal uncle or grandparent. Relationships of the person reporting the event are often noted. The amount and type of information gathered changes from state to state and time period to time period. Always, always, always look for all of these records for each sibling.

- Newspaper accounts in the hometown or in social columns may provide clues to former residences. Be sure to check for in-laws of siblings who appear to have married before the family moved.

- Siblings' military records, especially pensions, often contain details not available elsewhere including places of birth. Martha Miller's application for a pension included the information that in addition to her husband her seven sons served in the Civil War. Her husband's place of birth ca 1799 and that of six of her children (born ca 1827–1840) was listed as Pennsylvania in the 1850 census. The pension of the son being followed listed only Pennsylvania as his place of birth. However, three of his brother's pension files listed the county of their birth allowing the family to be traced to a specific area of

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Pennsylvania.

- Second and third marriages of siblings and the often expanded information in the marriage license can sometimes provide the place of birth and even the maiden name of the mother.

- Such tracking should include not only blood relatives, but those acquired by marriage as well. Consider a burned-record county research problem where the answer was found when a man named his brother-in-law the executor of his will. Other research showed that the testator had only one sibling who had died without issue and his wife had only one full sister who was not the wife of the named brother-in-law. A complicated half-sibling relationship provided the answer. The connection supplied by the brother-in-law answered a seemingly unanswerable question.

- Or consider the case of the disappearing (and presumed dead) ancestors. Both the man and his wife are found in the 1850 census but not in 1860. The father sold his real property to various children in the mid-1850s. The wife did not sign the deed. Both were presumed dead. However, tracking the eldest son to Missouri located the father and a rejected pension file that provided clues to the identity of his grandparents.

- A thirty-year-old case for debt brought by a son in his county of birth some two hundred miles from his father's place of death provided the information necessary to prove the family connection.

- Correctly applying the law to questions of inheritance can add or subtract from a family tree. In order to determine whether the family as described is complete it is often necessary to track the assets of a family to determine their final allocation. This can lead to one of my favorite conclusions. When a court suit named all of the children and their places of residence of a man who left his estate to be sold and equally divided among "all my [unnamed] children."

- Military records are not always just about the individual who served. Pension files often contain affidavits of witnesses who attest to service, residence, relationships, or events and in the process place themselves in a particular place at a particular time and on occasion indicate a relationship as well.

- We all know the story. Daddy dies intestate without property before 1850 and most of the children are old enough to be on their own. This requires a generational approach

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beginning with the originating ancestor in the area and tracking each sibling forward (one–two–perhaps three generations) carefully assigning family groups and firmly linking them with documented evidence to their particular line. Hopefully you're left with only one unidentified group that could neatly fit into a single family. But where's the proof? As luck would have it, there isn't proof for them all, but church records do provide proof of one connection. However, it's not the one you want. It's her sister. Perseverance counts. The sister dies, years later her husband's death provides the connecting link.

- Burned record counties make research difficult and it is easy to assume that if the records weren't missing the facts that prove our conclusions would be there. However, missing records do not relieve us from demanding the same level of proof nor excuse our failure to carefully evaluate what remains. Examining the whole family is still an essential part of the research objective.

  John Withers, born before 6 Oct 1633 likely in England, married Anne before 19 April 1660. Based on proximity and interactions he had a postulated brother William*1*. John patented, bought, and sold a number of tracts of land. He died testate between 29 Aug 1698 when he wrote his will leaving his daughter Sarah a life estate in 532 acres and 8 Sept 1699 when his second wife Frances was described as his widow. After the death of Sarah the land was to go "to his cousin William Withers, and the heirs male of his body, and for default of such issue, to Mr. Thomas Withers, of Lancaster, in Great Britain, and his heir male. According to a court suit said William Withers, died in this colony, soon after the said testator John Withers, without issue male having never married. Unfortunately no William Withers who fits this profile has been identified. The closest match is the son of the elder William*1* (assumed brother of John). William[1] Withers died before 6 Dec 1699 and likely much earlier, leaving a son William[2] who would have been John's nephew (aka cousin). William[2] was married before 6 Dec 1699 when he and his wife Mary sold other land his father had purchased. William[2] died testate between 8 May and 11 Aug 1703 naming his wife Mary and a son John[2], who was deceased by 14 Mar 1718/9 without issue when Francis Cofer, who had married William's widow, was issued a grant for the 520 acres since the title had escheated (no heirs survived). Numerous individuals have claimed without documentation that a James Withers (1680/1–1746) who lived in the same area was the second son of John*2*. They ignore both the fact that the men had different associates and in-laws and that the court case adjudicating the ownership of the land made no mention of him.

Remember not taking the time to study the whole family may mean spending more time spinning your wheels.

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Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Dutch Migration Patterns

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Mary Risseeuw is a genealogist, historian, writer and lecturer. She has researched 19th & 20th century Dutch immigration to Wisconsin for 30 years. She has lectured throughout the Midwest and the Netherlands. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Association for the Advancement of Dutch American Studies. She also organized and hosted the Dutch in Wisconsin Conference in 2008; the first Dutch studies conference to focus solely on Dutch immigration to Wisconsin.

Migration is one of the great forces of history. When people move in large numbers they sometimes rearrange not only their own lives but changes occur in the places they leave and the places they move to. Not only has the United States long attracted people from other nations, it also claims high rates of internal migration. The Dutch were not dissimilar to other ethnic groups in their method for establishing communities. This session will examine the economic and personal push and pull that influenced the migration of Dutch immigrants from New York to Washington that can provide new insight into tracing your migrating Dutch family.

1. Arrival and Destination

   1.1 What was typical? Did the port of entry influence the final destination?
   1.2 Variations on the travel plan and why. The decade of arrival was influenced by the travel options available at the time: the Erie Canal, steamships and the railroad

2. Wisconsin, Michigan and Iowa

   2.1 Migration within each state: How land prices and job availability influenced the establishment of new communities
   2.2 The start of the push West: Dutch land agents and entrepreneurs

THURSDAY

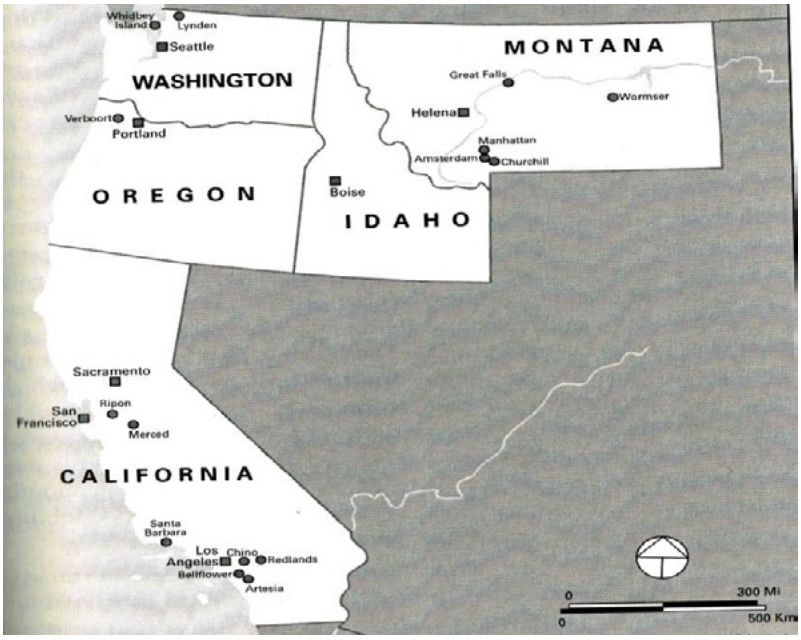
3. Illinois, Minnesota, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Kansas

3.1 Who would want to go there?:
Was cheap land enough to lure and keep them? How did churches affect this migration?

3.2. Establishment of new communities:
Were there more hardships in the west than the first generation immigrant experienced?

3.3 Did the settlements survive or thrive?

Some were influenced to migrate by the Gold Rush in California; others by the gold strikes in the Black Hills of South Dakota in 1876. Crop failures in Minnesota and rising land prices throughout the Midwest forced others to move on. Railroads made new land in the west more easily accessible. Some outmigration from the cities was created by church denominations planting new churches. There was also migration within states as land prices in the original settlements became more than a new generation could handle.



4. New settlements in Washington, California and Montana

4.1 Connections to original immigrant communities:
Was there a larger disconnection in CA settlements after 1920?

4.2 How vast distances between families in the U.S. affected their relationships. Did families even know of the others existence?

Hollanders saw pictures of a vast and fertile Montana in advertisements and letters. It proved to be quite inaccurate. The climate, ever-threatening drought, and far too many dry years were a huge disappointment. Each year more and more settlers moved on to new places. Crops failures in the Dakotas and Montana drove many families into Washington State. In took some enterprising Midwest Dutchmen to see the potential in the fertile land and better climate conditions. A settler's letter to his family was published in September of 1899 in *De Volksvriend*. He wrote about this time: "That everybody may take note it is better here on Whidbey Island than in Dakota, I will state that I would not like to return to that country [Dakota] because we do not have to struggle [on Whidbey Island] with disease among our hogs, with drought, storm or blasting heat." Almost 60 years after the colonies were established in Michigan, Iowa and Wisconsin, a new *kolonie* was built in the Pacific Northwest from the ground up.

5. How to trace your wandering ancestor on their migration journey.

5.1 Sources for tracing their journey.

* Biographical works
* Bible records
* Census records
* Church records
* Compiled genealogies and family histories
* Court records
* Gravestone inscriptions and cemetery records
* Land and property records (land grants, deeds, bounty lands)
* Local histories (town, county, regional)
* Military service and pension records
* Mortality schedules: 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880
* Naturalization and citizenship records
* Newspapers (obituaries, marriage notices, local news, etc.)
* Passport applications
* Passenger lists and immigration records
* Periodicals (genealogy and historical society periodicals and newsletters)
* Probate records (wills, probate case files)
* Tax lists
* Vital records (birth, marriage and death)
* Voting registers

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Claims
A Potpourri of Genealogical Information

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"Congress shall make no law …abridging the freedom… to petition the Government for redress of grievances." - Constitution of the United States, Amendment 1

What is a claim? A demand or request for something considered one's due

Private Claims.

https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1995/spring/private-claims-1.html#page-header

Three types:

Refund cases – remove the individual's obligations to repay money the government has paid in error.

Waiver cases – set aside statutory provisions the restrict benefits or impose other limitations

Tort claims – payment for injury or damages done through wrongful acts

Where are claims found?

Published Indexes to Claims before Congress

https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1995/spring/private-claims-2.html

The U.S. Serial Set

House of Representatives Private Claims Indexes are on Ancestry.com (Volume 1 onlyl goes to 1850) all on Hathi Trust Digital Library.

Senate Private Claims Indexes on Hathi Trust Digital Library

US Court of Claims {RG 123)

The Court of Claims was a federal court that heard claims against the United States government. It was established in 1855, renamed in 1948 to the United States Court of Claims (67 Stat. 226), and abolished in 1982 – Wikipedia

M1104 – Eastern Cherokee Applications of the U.S. Court of Claims, 348 rolls
M2007 - U.S. Court of Claims Docket Cards for Congressional Case Files

Southern Claims Commission

From 1871 to 1880. this commission allowed Union sympathizers who had lived in southern states during the Civil War to apply for reimbursements for property losses due to U.S. Army actions during the war. Approved claims are RG 217, Entry 732, all on Fold3.com and Ancestrly.com.

Allowed
Disallowed
Barred

Records of the Accounting Officers (RG 217)

Sometimes they are buried in other records, like the claims for injuries suffered while employed in the Life-Saving Service are in RG 217, Entry 332, Letters sent by the Miscellaneous Division.

Second Auditor

Pay and Bounty Division

Claims for pay, bounty, effect and other moneys due soldiers or their estates for military service before the Civil War.

Entry 426 – Digest of Decisions Affecting the work of the Pay and Bounty Division, 1871 -1895

Entry 428 – Register of Claims Settlements (Old, Old Series). 1817 – 1862

Entry 429 – Records Relating to Claims (Old, Old Series), 1832 - 1862

Third Auditor

Claims Division

Third Auditor beginning 1855 and ending in 1894 to settle claims relating to states and individuals relating to the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, Indian wars, and the Civil War. Several entries deal with letters sent and received relating to these claims. Specific entries relate to the Seminole War, Horse claims, Oregon and Washington Indian Wars, Steamboat and other claims.

The Richard Bland Lee Commission

Role authorized under the Act of 9 April 1816 to make payment for claims of soldiers from volunteer military units for the loss of horses, arms and other property damaged or destroyed while in use in the military service during the War of 1812. The act also provided for payment for property taken by the Army or for damage to house or buildings occupied for military purposes.

Entry 624 – Index to the Register of Claims, ca. 1816 – 18
Entry 625 – Register of Claims, 5 vols.
Entry 627 – Settled Claims and Related Records. 22 boxes

Records of the Davis-Holt-Campbell Commission

The Secretary of War appointed to examine military claims in the Department of the West during 1861 – 1862.

Entry 634 – Settled Claims Files, 22 boxes

Records of the Steedman Board of Claims

Established by War Department Special Field Order 329, Department of the Cumberland on 8 Dec 1863 for the citizens of Marion County, Tenn. during the military occupation of the county.

Entry 635 – Transcript of the Proceedings of the Steedman Board of Claims, 1 vol.

Records Relating to Individual Claims

Entry 450 – Disallowed Claims of Sutlers

Entry 451 – Disallowed Claims of Laundresses

Entry 636 – Claim Files Relating to Service in the Revolutionary War, 50 boxes

Entry 637 – Register of Claims for Military Service in the War of 1812, 1 vol.

Entry 638 – Claim Files Relating to Service in the War of 1812, 60 boxes

Entry 639 to Entry 650 all relate to horse claims

Entry 652 – Settled Accounts for Steamboat Claims, 2 vols. and 11 boxes

Records Relating to Indian Affairs

Entry 718 – Settled Indian Claims

Small Claims

Entry 729 – Miscellaneous Pension Accounts and Claims (Small Pension Payments)

State Claims

After each war that a state was involved in it took the opportunity to submit a claim to the federal government. Usually it would take 20 years for an adjudication.

Entry 737 – California Indian Wars
Entry 738 – Claims of Dakota Territory Relating to Indian Wars
Entry 732 – Claims of Georgia Relating to the Revolutionary War and War of 1812
Entry 740 – Claims for the State of Illinois Relating to Indian Wars
Entry 741 – Claims for the State of Maine Relating to the Aroostook War
Entry 742 – Claims of the State of Maryland for the War of 1812
Entry 743 – Claims of the State of Massachusetts for the War of 1812
And more up to
Entry 759 – Claims for Reimbursement of Civil War Expenses, 618 boxes

Other War Claims

Spanish American War

Entry 736 – Miscellaneous Claims, 7 boxes

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From Ohio to Missouri: How the Midwest was Settled

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Why Study Midwest Settlement Patterns?

Many of us had ancestors who went west in the 1800s. Knowing how Midwest states were settled may give important clues to how our ancestors traveled, why they bought land where they did, and what they might have experienced.

Key Factors in Settlement

- Transportation improvements
  - From rivers → trails → roads → canals → railroads
  - States with strong river systems tended to settle earlier
  - The Erie Canal in NY opened the northern tier of the Midwest, creating an easier route west from the Northeast
- Availability of land
  - Cessions of Native American land
  - Federal land surveys / offices
  - Military bounty land
  - Homestead Act of 1862
- Technology improvements
  - Better understanding of how to live and farm on prairies when forests were more familiar
- Desire for a better life / more opportunity
  - As the population grew, young families couldn't always find land in the earlier-settled states—which had experienced rapid population growth and were smaller in land area as well.

Waterways Drove the Earliest Settlements

Major Rivers and Lakes Used for Migration in the United States

Source: "US Migration Rivers and Lakes," FamilySearch *Wiki*, https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/US_Migration_Rivers_and_Lakes: accessed 19 October 2019

THURSDAY

In many Midwest states, the earliest white settlements were next to rivers. From the time of French exploration in the 1600s, water routes were used by explorers and fur traders. Rivers were the first available "highway;" easier to traverse than through dense woods or prairies, plus provided a source of water and food—and shelter in nearby trees.

Examples of early river settlements:

Ohio: Marietta (1788) on the Ohio River. Later, Cincinnati. Settlers went overland to Pittsburgh and traveled down the Ohio River.
Indiana: Vincennes (1732) on the Wabash
Illinois: Along the Illinois River, Fort Crevecoeur, now Peoria (1680). Later, the earliest American settlers crossed into southern Illinois over the Ohio River from Kentucky (around 1800).
Missouri: Along the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers—St. Genevieve (1735), St. Louis (1764), St. Charles (1769).
Iowa: Dubuque (1833) along the Mississippi
Wisconsin: Prairie du Chien (1781), along the Mississippi
Minnesota: Fort Snelling (1819) at the junction of Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers

Proximity to rivers meant that Missouri was settled earlier than states farther east and north—like Michigan and Wisconsin. States along the Ohio River (Ohio, Indiana, Illinois) settled from south to north from the Ohio River, as well as by people coming from the east overland on trails and roads. Steamboats were traversing rivers in the Midwest by the 1820s.

Canals and Lakes Provided Additional Water Routes

Settlement in the northern tier of states (Michigan, Wisconsin, northern Illinois) increased after opening of the Erie Canal in New York in 1825. Settlers could take steamers west from Buffalo through the Great Lakes, and then go overland. Canals within in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois were built in the 1820s-1840s, and provided a way to navigate within a state, and to get goods to market.

Roads and Trails Were Developed Over Time

There are important early trails and roads in every state. Many early roads followed Indian trails and were improved and widened to support wagon traffic. For the Midwest, the *National Road* crossed multiple state lines and was an important migration route. It was extension of the Cumberland Road that ran from Maryland to Wheeling, WV. Authorized in 1820, it ran west through Ohio and Indiana through Illinois. It reached St. Louis in 1838. For other early roads, check the atlases listed in **General Resources** or the **FamilySearch Wiki category** "US Migration Trails and Routes."

Railroads Impacted Travel by the 1850s

Railroads were developed in the 1830s but saw extensive development in the 1840s and 1850s. Rail lines were developed in the eastern Midwest states (OH, MI, IL, IN) earlier than the western ones (MO, IA, MN). For example, even though Missouri was one of the earlier states settled due to extensive rivers, it lagged in rail miles until the 1850s. If your ancestor migrated after 1850, consider that they may have traveled by rail. Early railroad maps are readily available online.

Cessions of Native American Land

The government systematically negotiated treaties and fought wars with Native Americans as white settlement moved westward. One clue to determining the settlement pattern of any given state is to look at when different sections of land were ceded—federal land surveyors and land offices soon followed.

Federal Land Surveys / Offices

The Federal government began surveying land in Ohio shortly after the Northwest Territory was established. After several experiments in Ohio, it settled on the township/section/range system that was used in all the states from Indiana westward. The pattern in which land offices opened generally follows the cessions of Indian land, as well as moving inward from navigable rivers.

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Breaker Boys and Spinner Girls:
Child Labor Laws and their Records

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Introduction: Special labor laws to protect the health and safety of children in the workplace are a modern phenomenon. Understanding the history of these laws and the records that were created under them helps to allow us to trace the work history of these youngest members of our families and to understand their lives as laborers in mills, mines and more.

The Law, Work and Children

Children were expected to work as part of their families' economic units from the founding of the colonies. It was the negative effects of idleness, rather than of labor, that the founders feared. As the American Industrial Revolution began and grew in the years 1820-1870, however, child labor for wages took hold. Industrialization attracted workers and their families from farms and rural areas into urban areas and factory work. In factories and mines, children were often preferred as employees, because owners viewed them as more manageable, cheaper, and less likely to strike. American children worked in large numbers in mines, glass factories, textiles, agriculture, canneries, home industries, and as newsboys, messengers, bootblacks, and peddlers.

In 1870, the first U.S. census to report child labor numbers counted 750,000 workers under the age of 15, not including children who worked for their families in businesses or on farms. By 1910, nearly two million American children under the age of 16 were working – many of them 12 hours or more, six days a week. The vast majority were agricultural workers (some 1.4 million), but more than 10,000 children labored in the clay, glass and

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stone industries; some 17,000 in mining; 20,000 in iron and steel industries; and more than 80,000 in the textile mills.

The first child labor law anywhere in the United States was passed in Connecticut in 1813, when an act encouraged manufacturers to provide basic educational lessons for young workers. In 1836, Massachusetts required children under the age of 15 who worked in manufacturing to spend at least three months a year in school. The same was true of an 1842 law limiting children under 12 to 10-hour work days. But legislation enacted before 1880 generally contained only weak restrictions and little provisions for enforcement. In the late 1800s, however, social pressure against child labor became more organized and, by 1899, 44 states and territories had a child labor law of some type. Twenty-four states had minimum age limits for manufacturing employment by 1900, with age limits around 14 years in the Northeast and Upper Midwest, and no minimums at all in most of the South. By 1908, most states had some system in place for working papers for younger employees. Nineteen states required documentary proof of age; 16 states accepted an affidavit of a parent or guardian, unsupported by other evidence; 13 states and the District of Columbia required no proof of age at all. By 1910 17 states enacted minimum age laws and others increased age minimums.

The National Child Labor Committee

Widely divergent protections and lack of controls in many states led to the founding of the National Child Labor Committee just after the turn of the century. In 1908, the NCLC employed Lewis Wickes Hine as a photographer of child labor practices. His photographs galvanized a movement towards child labor legislation that culminated with the passage of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Lewis W. Hine, Bibb Mill No. 1, Macon, Georgia, 19 January 1909.
Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, National Child Labor Committee Collection
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The Federal Response

The federal response to Hine's work and the galvanized attitudes of Americans in general towards the employment of children came first in the passage of the Federal Child Labor Law, signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson on 1 September 1916. ["An Act To prevent interstate commerce in the products of child labor, and for other purposes," 39 Stat. 675 (1916).] That statute was promptly challenged in federal court and in 1918, the United States Supreme Court struck it down. *Hammer v. Dagenhart*, 247 U.S. 251, 276 (1918).

Congress responded by passing the Child Labor Tax Law of 1919, but the Supreme Court held this too was unconstitutional. It was not until the New Deal that federal limitations on child labor first became law. Work codes under the National Industrial Recovery Act limited child labor; the Public Contracts Act of 1936 set minimum ages for employment at firms supplying goods under contracts with the federal government; the Beet Sugar Act in 1937 set age limits for sugar beets and cane farming; and finally the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 set minimum working ages in and out of school hours.

Work Records of Children

Four main types of records may exist to document the work history of children in our families:

- **Employment records:** Check online and local sources for actual work records. Many major companies involved in mining, the railroads and more maintained detailed employment records accessible through digitization projects or in person at company archives. Some work-related records have been digitized, such as the collection on *Ancestry* of Pennsylvania coal employment records.
- **Work permits / school certificates:** Check online as well for records of proof of age to work. Connecticut's records are called school age certificates and records from 1904-1911 are on *Ancestry*. Records from Alabama have been digitized and are available on *FamilySearch*. Be sure to correlate the ages reported by parents in these proof-of-age documents with census records to see the number of instances where a parent misrepresented the child's age so that the child could begin working.
- **Census records:** Occupations of children as well as adults were to be recorded on the United States census but be careful to read the directions for limits on what was recorded. As of 1880, the occupation of every person 10 years old or older was to be reported. Census records should also be examined as to whether a child of school age was enumerated as having attended school within the prior year.
- **School attendance records:** School attendance registers and school truancy reports may be used together with census and work permit records to put a child's work history into more context.

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RESOURCES FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

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URLs verified as of 28 January 2020

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Parishes, Priests, and Signs of the Sacred: Catholic Church Records

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INTRODUCTION

Roman Catholic Church records focus on seven sacraments. These seven sacraments are received throughout a Catholic's life.

Before the Protestant Reformation, very few sacramental records were kept by parishes. The records that were recorded were usually for the nobility. In 1563, the Council of Trent (referred to as the Roman Catholic Counter-Reformation), decreed that a record had to be kept of all baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and burials. It also defined the doctrine of infant baptism (Canon 535). This decree was clarified in1614, requiring that parish registers be kept for baptisms, confirmations, marriages, deaths, burials, and a list of parishioners.

Catholic Church records can hold a treasure-trove of information for genealogists. They are especially important before civil records exist. The records are private and access varies by location.

Note: This presentation covers the Latin or Roman Catholic Church. It does not address the Eastern Orthodox Catholic Church.

> In November 1215, the Fourth Council of the Lateran required publication of banns to prevent secret marriages. The requirement was abolished in 1983.

> Canon Law is the legal code or rules of the Catholic Church. These rules had been accumulating since the early days of the Church but were not arranged into a systematic code until 1917. It was the first official comprehensive arrangement of Canon Law in history.

CHURCH STRUCTURE

Vatican: World headquarters for the Catholic Church.
Diocese: Regional divisions that have geographic boundaries.
Parish: Local divisions that have geographic boundaries.

SACRAMENTAL RECORDS

Sacramental records (with the exception of Holy Orders) are kept at the parish level. Many sacramental

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records before 1900 are written in Latin. Others are written in a combination of Latin and the mother language of the parish priest and parishioners.

Baptism is the rite of admittance into the Catholic faith, usually performed on infants. Information normally included: full name, name of father, name of mother (frequently includes maiden name), date of baptism, date of birth, godparent names (usually a relative or very close friend), and name of priest who performed the ceremony. These records are written by hand in registers or preprinted forms. They were almost always preserved.

Reconciliation (Confession) is the confession of sins. First Reconciliation is usually recorded and is normally received by children age seven or eight years of age. Information normally included: date and priest's name. These were not always preserved. Often a list of names only, it documents when and where a person or family lived.

Communion is the rite in which bread and wine are consecrated and received as the body and blood of Christ. A person's First Communion is recorded and usually received by children age seven or eight. Information normally included: name, date and priest's name. These were not always preserved. Often a list of names only, it documents when and where a person or family lived.

Confirmation is the rite that admits a person to full church membership. Usually done around age twelve to seventeen. Information normally included: date, baptismal name, confirmation name, sponsor, and the bishop who performed the ceremony. These were usually preserved. Often a list of names only, it documents when and where a person or family lived.

Matrimony is defined as the union between a man and a woman and traditionally performed at the bride's church. Information normally included: date, full name of bride with maiden name, full name of groom, names of witnesses, and name of priest who performed the ceremony. Additional information that may be found is residence, date and place of birth for bride and groom, father and mother of the bride, and father and mother of the groom. These records are written by hand in registers or preprinted forms. They were almost always preserved.

A **dispensation** is a relaxation of ecclesiastical law in a particular case. [Canon 85]

Holy Orders is the ceremony when a man is accepted into the priesthood. The records are housed at the diocesan offices or the religious orders headquarters.

Last Anointing or Extreme Unction is today called the Anointing of the Sick. It is a ritual anointing of the seriously ill. The sacrament is not usually in a separate register but may be noted in the Death/Interment records.

Death/Interment records are usually kept in a register. Information normally included: name of deceased, date of burial, date of death, age at death, cause of death, place of burial, and name of priest. These were not always preserved.

LOCATING SACRAMENTAL RECORDS

Records are kept at the parish where the event took place. If the record is older than 75 years or if the

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parish no longer exists, the records may be on microfilm at the diocesan offices. Some microfilmed records are available at libraries and archives. Also, some records have been digitized and posted online.

- ✓ If the parish name is not known, look for clues in other records to determine the parish. Also consider the history of the diocese (changing borders of the diocese and the parishes within the diocese) and ethnic origins.
- ✓ *The Official Catholic Directory* can be used to locate parishes, priests, and other Catholic institutions. First published in 1817 and yearly thereafter, *The Official Catholic Directory* may be found at many libraries and diocesan archives.
- ✓ Access policies and fees are set by each diocese or parish. It is advisable to write or call the diocese or parish for information before visiting or requesting records

SELECTED RECORDS AVAILABLE ONLINE

♦ American Ancestors by New England Historic Genealogical Society, short tutorial on database and images "Massachusetts: Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston Records, 1789-1920, https://catholicrecords.americanancestors.org/.

♦ Ancestry.com, Catholic Collections, see Card Catalog and search on "Catholic."

♦ Catholic Heritage Archive, www.catholicheritagearchive.com/, free indexes to Archdiocese of Baltimore, New York, and Philadelphia. Index search is free but subscription to FindMyPast needed to view the records.

♦ FamilySearch, for a list of Catholic resources, go to Catalog, enter "Catholic" in the Subject box.

♦ FindMyPast, "The Catholic Heritage Archive," databases and images, records from England, Ireland, Scotland, US (Baltimore, Chicago, Cincinnati, New York, Philadelphia, and Toledo).

♦ MyHeritage, "Church Records," Some Catholic records, www.myheritage.com/research/category-10020/church-records?sac=1.

♦ Irish Catholic Records- National Library of Ireland, Catholic Parish Registers at the NLI, https://registers.nli.ie/.

♦ Irish Genealogy.ie,, indexes to Church Records https://churchrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/.

♦ Province of Maryland Collection at Georgetown University, Undergraduate Library. Archdiocese of Baltimore filming of many. Archdiocese of Washington for two churches, St. Mary's in Laurel & St. Peter's in Waldorf. Diocese of Delaware (Eastern Shore) filmed all records over 72 years old.

♦ Archdiocese of New Orleans, https://archives.arch-no.org/sfpc.

OTHER RECORDS USED FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

Cemetery, Diocesan newspapers, orphanage records, school records, deceased priest files, nun files, parish histories, and diocesan histories.

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SELECTED INTERNET SITES:

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Catholic Encyclopedia–www.newadvent.org/cathen/.
Catholic History–www.catholichistory.net/.
Catholic Parishes Online–www.parishesonline.com.
Code of Canon Law–www.vatican.va/archive/ENG1104/_INDEX.HTM.
European Roots Genealogy: Most Common Latin Words in Records– https://european-roots.com/latin_words_c_r.htm.
FamilySearch Latin Genealogical Word List– www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Latin_Genealogical_Word_List.
Local Catholic Church & Family History Genealogical Research Guide– http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~localcatholic/history/Index.htm.
Vatican: The Holy See–www.vatican.va/phome_en.htm.

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You Can't Speak It? You Can Read It!

Tools for Foreign Language Documents

FamilySearch International
Daniel R. Jones, MS, AG®

With a little help, you can read foreign language documents!

LOCATING DOCUMENTS ON FAMILYSEARCH.ORG

Most indexes on FamilySearch.org come from FamilySearch Historical Collections.

When the index entry is linked to a document, click on the **camera** icon and find the entry.

When the index entry is **not** linked to a document:

1. Click on the entry to view all information from the index.
2. Look for the GS Film number.
3. In FamilySearch, click on **Search**, then click on **Catalog**.
4. From the catalog screen, click on **Film/Fiche Number**, then enter the film number.
5. In some catalog entries, there may be multiple film numbers. Click on the **camera** icon next to the correct film number. If there is not a camera icon, the film has not yet been digitized. FamilySearch is currently working to digitize their microfilm collection.
6. Use the catalog entry to identify the item number (if applicable). Then search for the document. In most cases, records are organized by record type (i.e. baptisms), then chronologically. Use the catalog entry to identify the order in which the records are organized.

READING DOCUMENTS: RESOURCES

Genealogical Word Lists

- Lists key words found in documents, as well as an alphabetized list of pertinent words. Remember, not all possible words are in the lists.
- Found at FamilySearch Wiki (go to FamilySearch.org, click on **Search**, then click on **Research Wiki**). In the search box, type in the name of the country. Then in the right column under "Background," click on the word list in the needed language.
- You can do a word search through the document – hold down the **Control** key and hit **F**. Then type in the word (either in English or in the other language) to identify the word.

"How to" Guides

- Step-by-step guides for using websites, genealogical resources, specific record types, and reading foreign-language records and handwriting.
- "How to" Guides are available for reading birth, marriage, and death records in several languages.
- Most Guides contain an **Instruction** (the "How to"), an **Activity** (practicing the "How to"), and an **Answer Key** (confirmation you know how to use the resource).
- Found at FamilySearch Wiki (go to FamilySearch.org, click on **Search**, then click on **Research Wiki**). In the search box, type in **How to Guides**. Select the continent, then the country of interest.

Reading the document

1. Identify names

2. Identify dates – find the month first, then the day and year. Remember, the date may be written out. Dates give a sort of "answer key" to how letters were written in the document

3. Identify action verbs (born, married, died) and relationship words (son, mother, husband)

4. Identify places
   - For finding town names, use:
     - Gazetteers (dictionary of place names)
     - Online maps such as Google maps
     - Wikipedia articles - look for **province-level** jurisdiction in the **same** language as the document. To change the language from English, look on the left side of the webpage until you find the heading **Languages**. You will need to know the name of the language in the language – for example, French would be listed as *Français*. Click on the language to get to the article in the language.
     - Look for a list of all locations within the province
     - Use Google Chrome to translate the webpage into English. Right-click on the page, and select **Translate to English**.

FAMILYSEARCH RESEARCH COMMUNITIES

1. Go to http://community.familysearch.org. Be sure to click on agree until you get to the main page.
2. Click on **Groups.**
3. Type in your country name in the search box. Then join the group.
4. Post your document or question in the group, or answer others' questions if you feel confident.

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Bricks Without Straw? Careful Collection of Weak Evidence Builds the Case of Leven Green

Board for Certification of Genealogists® Skillbuilding Lecture

Patricia Lee Hobbs, CG®
https://quotidiangenealogy.com, plhgenealogy@gmail.com

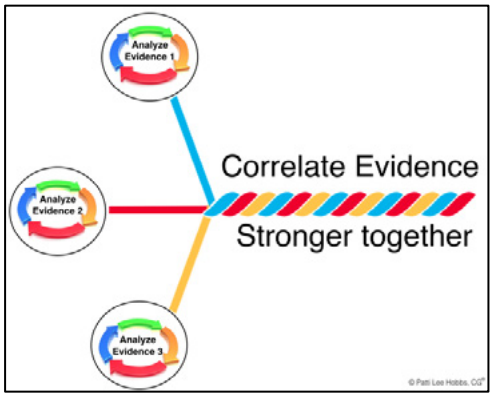
What makes evidence weak?

Evidence is composed of gathered information deemed pertinent to answering a research question. The strength of the evidence depends on a variety of factors related to the source of the information. The source itself may be viewed in its original form and thus no adulteration weakens the evidence gathered from it. Sources arising from transcribing, abstracting, or extracting original records ("derivative") may add, subtract, or modify details making them less reliable. An author writing a narrative, not only may make errors in conveying information, he also is subject to bias in deciding what to include and how he interprets information.

> Strengthen weak evidence by obtaining originals.

Integrated with determining how the source itself affects its reliability is understanding the informants: who provided the information? Is the informant known? Did she know the information first-hand? Did the informant have a reason to lie or to be hazy on the details whether through time elapsed since the event, misunderstanding, or misinformation?

> Evidence is weighted based on the credibility of the informant. Information from a second-hand or unknown informant is usually weaker than information from a first-hand informant.



Accurate conclusions to research questions require analyzing each piece of evidence to evaluate soundness based on source type and information quality. Then the evidence is combined or correlated to draw conclusions. Consistency among sources arising from different origins ("independent sources") greatly strengthens the credibility of the information. This collecting of individually weak evidence can—in combination—result in a strong conclusion.[1] The case of Leven Green and his children demonstrates this principle.

[1] For greater detail and explanation see Thomas W. Jones, *Mastering Genealogical Proof* (Arlington, Va.: National Genealogical Society, 2013), especially chapters 2 and 5. Also Elizabeth Shown Mills, "Fundamentals of Evidence Analysis," *Evidence Explained*, 3rd edition (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 2015).

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The case of Leven Green

A lot is known about Leven Green. His life and migration can be documented from numerous original sources with reliable informants. He was born in 1792 in Guilford County, North Carolina, to a Revolutionary War patriot from Maryland. His family lived for a short time in north central Tennessee before moving to Christian County, Kentucky, where they lived for about five years around 1807. The Greens moved to Madison County, Illinois, where Leven lived when joining in the War of 1812 effort before marrying Mary Stewart, "the belle of the settlement," in St. Louis in 1813. By this time, he was a Methodist, circuit-riding minister. He was living in Schuyler County, Illinois, by 1825. By 1835 the family had moved back to Missouri, and Leven Green was enumerated in the 1840, 1850, and 1860 censuses in Taney and Texas counties, Missouri.

The problem is not the life of Leven Green, but his relationship as father to his children. *Everyone* knows who his children are, but quality proof is not readily evident. He is said to have died in 1861, but there are no death records, no extant newspapers, no probate record. He had obtained land but had sold it to a George Green before his death.

Evidences for the children of Leven and Mary (Stewart) Green

These are just some examples of the strongest evidence pieces.

1850 census

"Elvin" Green was enumerated in the 1850 Texas County, Missouri census. Four children are listed in the household.

Weaknesses: informant unknown, incorrect information, relationships not given in the 1850 census

The Turnbo manuscripts

Silas Turnbo wrote these narratives in the 1890s and the first decade of the 1900s. They are most accessible through transcriptions on the website of the Springfield-Greene County Library District. Leven T. Green is featured in some of these vignettes. One explicitly states that Leven Green had sons George, Jesse, Phillip, Pleasant Tom, and Ben. They are folksy and intended to convey the Ozarks culture to readers. Does this mean they are not accurate?

Weaknesses: derivative (transcription), elapsed time since events, accuracy, informant. Some of these are only perceived weaknesses which can be mitigated by collecting and analyzing details about and from the source.

Civil War pension files

Pension files show that George Green, Philip McK Green, and Learner Green were witnesses and wrote affidavits on behalf of the others. They claimed knowing and living near each other for decades–virtual lifetimes. George's son wrote an affidavit and mentioned his Uncle P. M. Green.

Weakness: although original records with first-hand information; with the one exception, relationships are not stated.

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Death certificates and obituaries of Leven and Mary's children.

Only Philip McKinley and Learner Green lived long enough for death certificates to be recorded. One was apparently not filed for Philip. Learner's father is named only "Green" with no mother named at all. The obituary of "Leonard" Ramey Green who died first, does name his brother Phillip M. Green and states that there were eight brothers.

Weakness: contains errors, unknown informant, no direct ties to parents

The family birth list

Around 1981 a photocopy of a document purporting to be handwritten in 1854 by Philip McKinley Green came into the hands of Green researchers. A woman found the document in an old family chest. The document is magnificent with birth dates of the parents and their children. But the photocopy is poor quality and difficult to read.

Weaknesses: poor quality photocopy and authenticity of the original

Collecting the evidence

The family birth list by itself may be of questionable origin. But its validity is established by consistency with the other collected evidence. The birth years are consistent their ages. The highlighted children were not seen in the documents shown but can be shown in other records to have associations. Philip McK. Green's signature in pension file affidavits matches the handwriting in the family birth list.

1850 Census	Turnbo	Death Certficate/Obit	Pension Assn	Family List
				Leven Green (1792)
				Mary Green (1798)
				Martha (1814)
				James (1816)
	George		George S.	George S (1818)
	Jesse			Leven J (1820)
				John W (1822)
	Phillip	Phillip, 29 Aug 1828	Phillip McK	Philip MCK (1828)
	Pleasant Thomas			Pleasant (1825)
				Mary P (1825)
Benj. F, age 19	Ben			Benjamin F (1828)
Alla Stuart, age 17				Alley S (1833)
Turner R, age 14		Learner, Aug 1833/1834	Learner R	Lerner R (1835)
Sara L Adeline, age 11				Sarah A (1839)

DNA evidence

We can add DNA to our collection of evidence to strengthen a conclusion about relationships. ThruLines™ on *Ancestry* is the easiest way to find all who claim descent from a common ancestor AND share DNA. Patti has fifty-five matches with descendants of Leven and Mary (Stewart) Green

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through eight siblings of her ancestor Learner. Carol (Patti's sister) shares DNA with sixty matches through all ten siblings who had children.

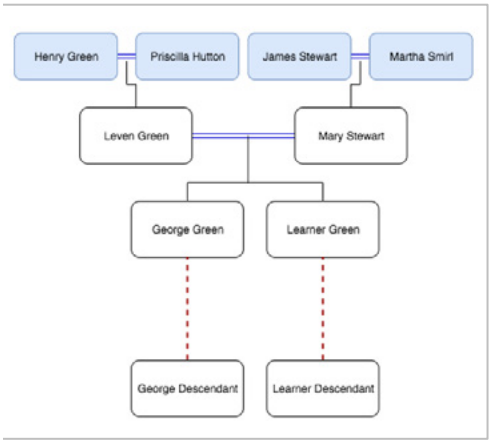
DNA reconstruction

More details and updated information can be found in an extended document found here: https://quotidiangenealogy.com/files/levenmarygreenDNA

Process

1. Obtain shared segment information from testing company websites or *GEDmatch* (https:gedmatch.com).
2. Paste shared segments into *DNA Painter* (https://dnapainter.com) for compilation.
3. Enter lineage of each matching test taker into genealogy software.

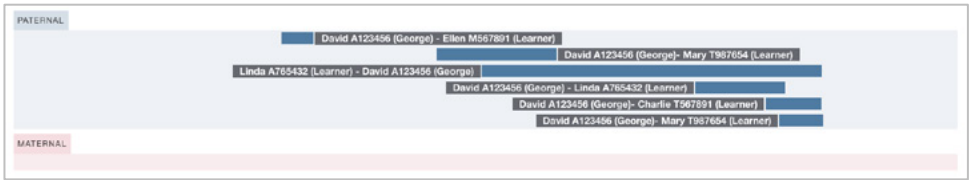
Each testing company (other than *Ancestry*) provides means for determining shared DNA segment information. That information can then be "painted" into *DNA Painter*. The usual use for *DNA Painter* is to paint the matching segment location of each match for one person onto the chromosome images. For reconstructing ancestral DNA, set up an ancestor project. The segments shared by descendants in different children lines are identified.



The DNA two descendant lines share must come from the parents of the common ancestor (if there are no other shared ancestral lines). That shared segment can be "painted" into *DNA Painter*.

The paternal or maternal sides onto which to paint are from the perspective of the profile person. When showing segments shared by pairs of descendants it does not matter which side of the test taker's family the shared DNA comes from (because it's several generations back and can be different for each). Choose either paternal or maternal to paint all shared matches.

These segments, arbitrarily painted onto the paternal chromosome, show how four Learner R. descendants (Ellen, Mary, Linda, and Charlie) match a George descendant (David).



Use a consistent, informative format which includes the name of the child of Leven and Mary; such as

> GEDmatch form: Patti Hobbs T789236 (Learner) – David Smith A5123456 (George)
> FTDNA form: Patti (Learner) – Thomas (John William) FTDNA

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Isaac A. (Rein) Rhine,
b. 1815 Hüttenbach, Bayern (Bavaria)
d. 1886 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Portrait by Aton Hohenstein, ca. 1859
Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock

From Bourbon to Blue Jeans:

Bavarian Jews and Their Influence on American Culture

National Genealogical Society 2020 Family History Conference

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Expedition Genealogy

expedition.gen@gmail.com

Between the years of 1820 and 1880, the United States experienced an influx of nearly 300,000 Jews, 100,000 of whom were German-speaking. Although difficult to determine the numbers from each region, Bavarian Jews faced barriers to remaining in their homeland.

Waves of Jewish immigration to the United States beginning prior to 1900:

- Sephardic. Originally from the Iberian Peninsula, they were expelled from Spain in 1492 and Portugal in 1496. Immigration to the U.S. began about 1654 from Brazil. Settlement was initially in colonial port cities such as Newport, R.I., New Amsterdam (New York), Charleston, S.C., and Savannah, GA. Sephardic Jewish influences dominated Judaism through the American Revolution period.

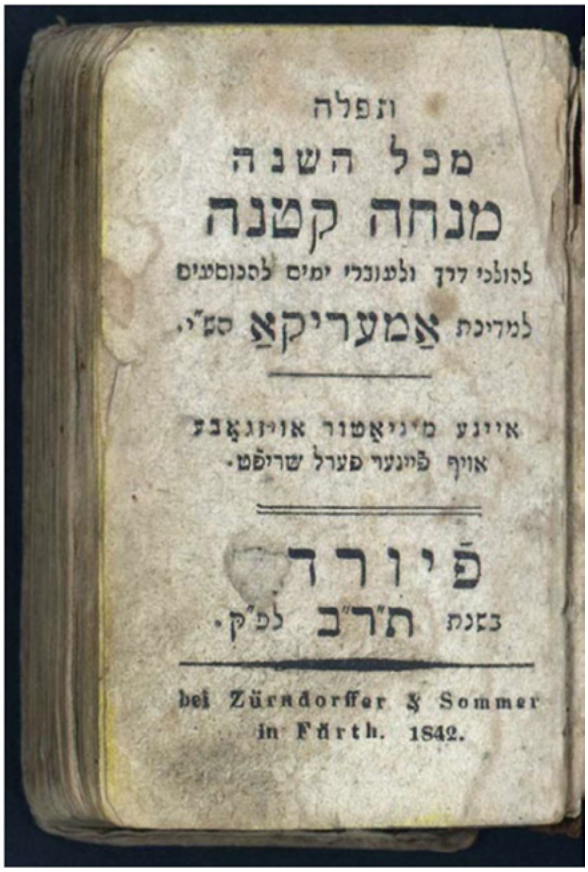
- Bavarian, German-speaking
    - First wave, after 1813. "Religionsedict" of 1809 identified Jews as a religion. Bavarian Edict of 1813 with "Matrikel-Gesetz" (registration law) restricted residency locations and establishments of new households. "The path to the wedding canopy led over the coffin of one who had already been registered."
    - Second wave, after 1848. "Märzrevolution"

- Eastern European, 1880 and beyond. Precipitated by overpopulation, poverty and restrictive legislation, 2 million Jews immigrated between 1880 and 1924. Russia, Austria-Hungary, and Romania were strongly represented. They settled primarily in major east coast cities: New York, Philadelphia, Boston, and Baltimore.

Ports of egress from Europe and entry into the United States:

- Departure ports: Le Havre, Antwerp, Rotterdam (from Bavaria and other southern provinces), Bremen (primarily from Posen province), and Hamburg.
- Arrival ports: New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans, and Galveston.

Areas of settlement: New York, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Albany, Cleveland, Louisville, Minneapolis, St. Louis, New Orleans, and San Francisco. Small towns also had favorable economic opportunities.



This miniature daily prayer book was printed in Germany in 1842, "especially for travelers by sea to the nation of America." It is the first of three editions of this tiny prayer book published between 1840 and 1860--a period when Jews from German lands immigrated to this country in the tens-of-thousands. Between 1840 and 1860 the Jewish population of this country ballooned from 15,000 to 150,000. Political unrest and economic hardship were primary motivating factors for this migration.

Tefilah mi-kol hashnah: Minhah Ketanah [Prayers of the Entire Year: Minor Offering]. Fürth: Zurndorffer & Sommer, 1842. Hebraic Section, Library of Congress:

http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/haventohome/haven-century.html#obj0

THURSDAY

Benevolent Societies

Influenced by Protestant organizations, Bavarian Jews throughout the country established hospitals, Sunday Schools, newspapers, and charitable organizations. Some more notable ones include:

- Hebrew Benevolent Society (of Los Angeles) chartered in 1854 and the first charitable organization in L.A. when the population was 1600 served Jews and non-Jews: "those who have not." Today operates as the Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles.
- Eureka Benevolent Society, San Francisco. Established by August Helbing (b. Munich) in 1850, today operates as Jewish Family and Children's Service Agency.
- Hebrew Ladies' Benevolent Society (1872) begun by Frances Wisebart Jacobs. She was instrumental in the founding of Charitable Organization Society, later known as the United Way, and a tuberculosis sanatorium, eventually becoming the National Jewish Hospital.
- First Hebrew Association (1859) and Ladies Benevolent Society (1874), Portland, Oregon.

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Further Reading:

Books:

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Hertz, Deborah. *How Jews Became Germans*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Hertzberg, Arthur. *The Jews in America, Four Centuries of an Uneasy Encounter: A History*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1989.

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American Jewish Historical Society http://www.ajhs.org/
Goldring Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life https://www.isjl.org/
Jewish Encyclopedia http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/
Jewish Gen https://www.jewishgen.org/new/
Jewish Museum of the West http://www.jmaw.org/

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Always Exploring: Italian Migration and Movement

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"Our people have to emigrate. It is a matter of too much boundless life and too much space."
Pascal D'Angelo, *Son of Italy*

Countries with highest Italian diaspora -

- Argentina
- Australia
- Brazil
- Canada
- United States of America
- Uruguay

Primary ports of departure - Genoa, Naples, Palermo
Primary ports of entry for Italians to US - New York, Boston, Philadelphia, New Orleans

United States
Italian Emigration and Immigration-FamilySearch Wiki
https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Italy_Emigration_and_Immigration

Library of Congress- Basic overview of Italian Immigration to the United States
https://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/presentationsandactivities/presentations/immigration/italian.html

University of Minnesota- Immigration History Research Center
https://cla.umn.edu/ihrc

Heinz History Center – Italian American Selected Bibliography
https://www.heinzhistorycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Bibliography-Italian-American.pdf

Heinz History Center – Italian American Program
https://www.heinzhistorycenter.org/collections/italian-american-program

Western Reserve Historical Society – Italian American Archives
https://www.wrhs.org/research/library/significant-collections/italian-american/

Alien Registration and Naturalization
http://www.uscis.gov/genealogy
http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flmgs/crumbs/ALIEN_registration_records.pdf
http://segreta.org/

Migration of Italians to Other [Countries

General
Italian Migration Movements, 1876 to 1926 by A. Ratti (1931):
http://www.nber.org/chapters/c5116.pdf

Centro AltreItalie - http://www.altreitalie.org/Tools/Find_Your_Roots/Find_Your_Roots.kl

Argentina
Ancestros Italianos

- http://www.ancestrositalianos.com/
- http://ancestrositalianos.blogspot.com/

Apellidos Italianos

- Argentina - http://www.apellidositalianos.com.ar/inmigracion/entradas-a-argentina.html
- Uruguay - http://www.apellidositalianos.com.ar/inmigracion/entradas-a-uruguay.html
- Brazil - http://www.apellidositalianos.com.ar/inmigracion/entradas-a-brasil.html

Australia
FamilySearch Passenger Lists - https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/location/1927080?region=Australia
National Archives of Australia (Immigration and Citizenship) - https://www.naa.gov.au/explore-collection/search-people/researching-your-family
The Italian Historical Society – COASIT - http://coasit.com.au/IHS/index.html
Italian Origins Blog - http://www.originsitaly.com/italian-genealogy-research-in-australia-part-1/

Brazil
InfoEscola.com - http://www.infoescola.com/historia/colonizacao-italiana-no-sul-do-brasil/ and https://www.infoescola.com/geografia/imigracao-italiana-no-brasil/
Imigrantes Italianos - http://www.imigrantesitalianos.com.br/
Arquivo Nacional – Entrada de Estrangeiros - http://www.arquivonacional.gov.br/br/?option=com_content&view=article&id=17
State Archive of Espírito Santo - http://imigrantes.es.gov.br/ and https://ape.es.gov.br/registro-de-entrada-de-imigrante
State Archive of São Paulo - http://www.arquivoestado.sp.gov.br/site/acervo/memoria_do_imigrante
Brazil, São Paulo, Immigration Cards, 1902-1980 - https://familysearch.org/search/collection/2140223
Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, Immigration Cards, 1900-1956 - https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1932363

Canada
Italian Genealogy & Heraldry Society of Canada - http://ighsc.org/
Italian Canadian Links - http://anitaliancanadianlife.ca/community-links/
Canada Passenger Lists, 1881-1922 - https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1823240

Uruguay
Uruguay Passenger Lists, 1888-1980 - https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2691993

Books and Articles

General Genealogy/Immigration

Colletta, John Philip, *They Came in Ships: a Guide to Finding Your Immigrant Ancestor's Arrival Record 3*rd rev. ed., Salt Lake City: Ancestry Publishing, 2002

Luebking, Sandra H. and Loretto Dennis Szucs, eds. "Immigration: Finding your Immigrant Origins." Chapter 13 in *The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy* 3rd rev. ed., Salt Lake City: Ancestry Publishing, 2007.

Szucs, Loretto Dennis. *They Became Americans: Finding Naturalization Records and Ethnic Origins.* Salt Lake City: Ancestry Publishing, 1998.

Italian Immigration/Migration (very brief)

Adams, Suzanne Russo. *Finding Your Italian Ancestors: A Beginner's Guide.* Provo: UT: Ancestry Publishing, 2009. (See Bibliography of books about Italians by US State)

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Cannato, Vincent J. *American Passage: The History of Ellis Island.* New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2009.

Outside the US

Aliano, David. *Brazil Through Italian Eyes: The Debate Over Immigration to Sao Paolo in the 1920's.* New York City, July-December 2005.

Araujo and Isetta. *Los italianos en el Uruguay.* Barcelona: Escardo y Araujo, 1920.

Bailey, Samuel L. *Immigrants in the Land of Promise: Italians in Buenos Aires and New York City, 1870-1914.* Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press, 1999.

Goebel, Michael. "Gauchos, Gringos and Gallegos: the Assimilation of Italian and Spanish Immigrants in the Making of Modern Uruguay 1880-1930." *Past and Present*, August 2010: 191-229.

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Sergi, Jorge. *Historia de los italianos en la Argentina*. Buenos Aires, 1940.

Conflict Management:
Evaluating Evidence of Identity

Emily H. Garber
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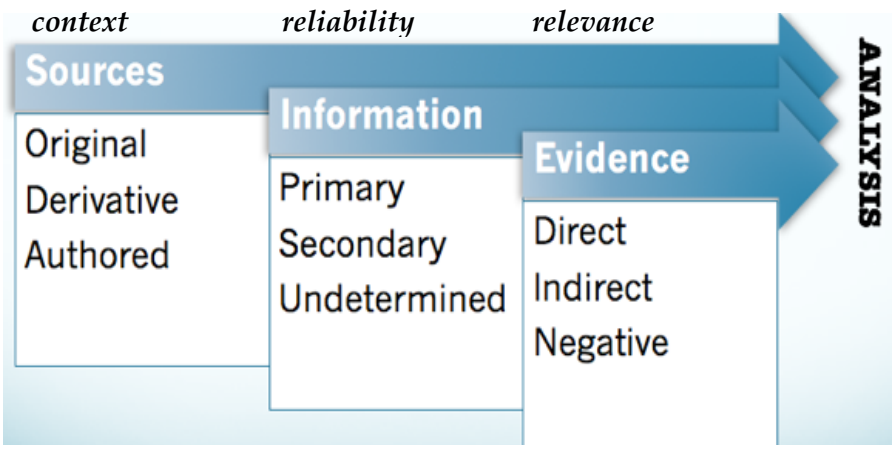
Abstract: Genealogy research helps document our families, determine identities of our forgotten or unknown relatives, and reconstruct relationships. But the records we seek do not always cooperate. Records may be wrong. Records may lie.

After the excitement of our early research it may become more difficult to locate our quarry. Identifying relatives in records may require understanding how, why, and under what circumstances particular records were created. How did our relatives interact with record-generating entities? We may have to creatively out-smart incorrect information in records by corroborating or clarifying with information from other sources. It can get complicated.

This talk will address research challenges presented in a case study in U.S. records and explain procedures for gathering records, evaluating information, and analyzing evidence of our relatives' lives.

Genealogical research



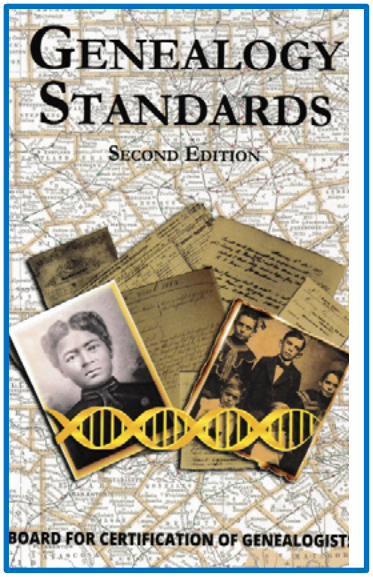
When we research, we locate *sources* (records) that contain *information* that may be brought to bear on our research questions. The information we identify as relevant to our research questions is considered *evidence*. Frequently, when we compare evidence, we find conflicts that do not allow for easy answers to our research questions. If we are to reach credible conclusions, we must be able to analyze and evaluate sources and information and resolve lack of agreement among our evidence. Analysis and correlation and evidence conflict resolution are two critical elements ensuring that our conclusions are credible.[1]

[1] Board for Certification of Genealogists [BCG], *Genealogy Standards,* Second Edition (Washington, DC: Board for Certification of Genealogists, 2019), p. 2.
Also, see BCG's website at http://www.bcgcertification.org/

The quality of assembled *evidence* is best understood with regard to the context of the creation of the sources we use and the reliability of the information they contain. The evidence, itself, is evaluated for its relevance to the research question.

Definitions

Board for Certification of Genealogist's *Genealogy Standards* provides a glossary of relevant terms (pp. 71-90).



Correlation

"A process of comparing and contrasting genealogical information and evidence to reveal conflicts, parallels, and patterns."

Compatible evidence

"Evidence items that agree even if differing in detail…; the opposite of conflicting evidence." [e.g., Hersch Leib Schaffer, who'd never left Poland, may have been identified in his children's U.S.A records as Harry or Louis.]

Conflicting evidence

"Evidence items that could not all be correct…; the opposite of compatible evidence." [e.g., Hersch Leib Schaffer could not have been born in both Vienna and Kiev].

Resolution

Identify "…likely correct and likely incorrect evidence…" and provide rationale for doing so.

Important Concepts

Learn to recognize conflicts:

- Do you have a conflict?
- Is it significant?

Citing one's sources (including identifying record origins) helps evaluate quality of sources and information. [BCG Standard 5, pp. 7-8]

Exhaustive/thorough research includes consulting all potentially relevant sources and collecting all information relevant to one's research question. [BCG Standard 17, pp. 14-15 and Standard 19, p. 16]

Seek independently-created sources in analysis and correlation. Identify related information. [BCG Standard 46, p. 27]

Create a timeline of events to make sure you:

- understand the flow of events
- haven't missed any critical resource

Resolving conflicts/inconsistencies

Provide rationale for setting aside evidence items supporting one side.[2] Any or a combination of the following reasons may be adopted.

- Lack of corroboration. Only one source or evidence item supports one side and multiple independent sources or evidence supports the other.
- Quality of evidence. More error-prone sources provide evidence in support of one side. Better quality sources (closer to the original event) support the other side.
- Explanation. Narrative outlining why information/evidence differs among sources. Justification for discounting evidence on one side and supporting evidence on the other.

Background info on selected sources

United States census

"Census Instructions," United States Census Bureau <https://www.census.gov/history/www/through_the_decades/census_instructions/>

United States passenger manifests

Sack-Pikus, Sallyann Amdur. "Just How Were Passenger Manifests Created?" *Avotaynu* 25:1:7-12. Spring 2009.

United States World War I Draft Registration Cards

Newman, John J. *Uncle, We Are Ready!: Registering America's Men, 1917-1918*. (North Salt Lake, Utah: Heritage Quest, 2001).

General guides

[Always read database summaries provided by sponsoring websites (*Ancestry*, *FamilySearch*, *MyHeritage*, etc.)]

Einholz, Alice. *Red Book: America State, County, and Town Sources*, 3rd Edition, 2004; online, *Ancestry* (https://wiki.rootsweb.com/wiki/index.php/Red_Book:_American_State,_County,_and_Town_Sources).

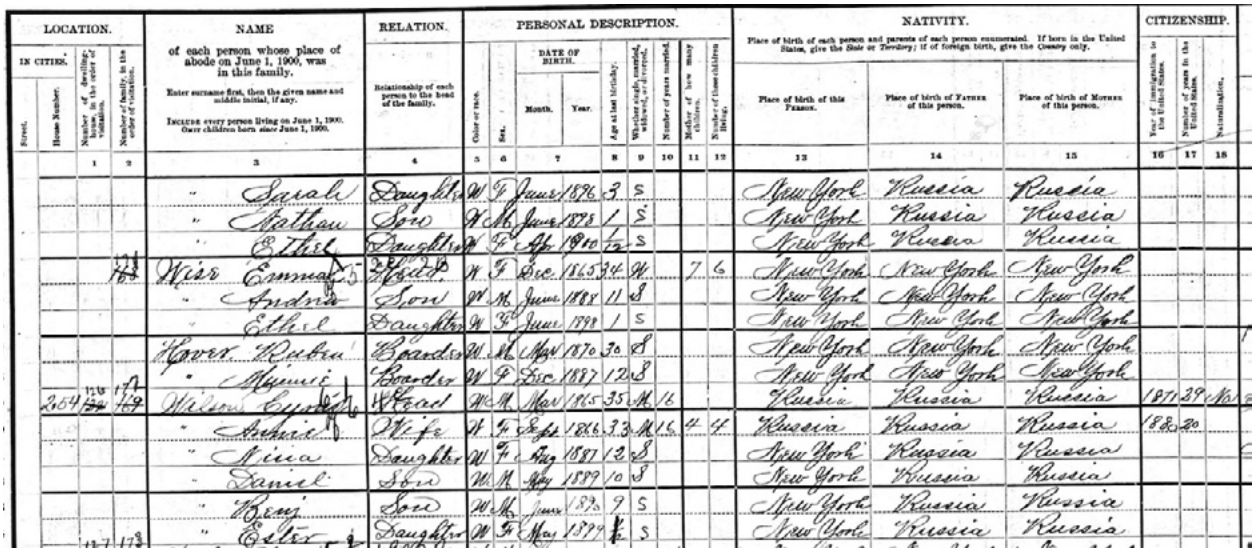
Loretto Dennis Szucs and Sandra Hargreaves Leubking. *The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy*, 3rd Edition (Provo, Utah: Ancestry, 2006).

Val D. Greenwood. *Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy*, 4th Edition (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2017).

[2] BCG Standard 48, p. 28.
Thomas W. Jones, *Mastering Genealogical Proof* (Arlington, Virginia: National Genealogical Society, 2013), pp. 74-75.

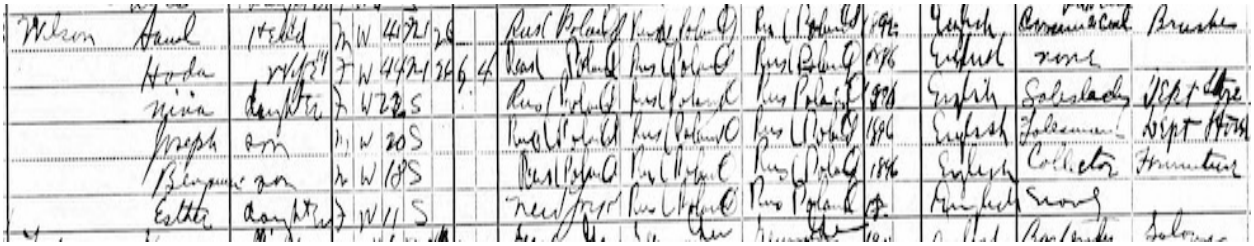
1900 U.S. Census, Hudson, Columbia County, NY, enumeration district 19, sheet 8A, dwelling 126, family 177, Cyrus and Annie Wilson family.

254 Diamond Street, Hudson, Columbia County, NY



1910 U.S. Census, Manhattan, New York Co., NY, enumeration district 48, sheet 19A, dwelling 40, family 403, Saul and Hoda Wilson family.

1408 Fifth Avenue, NY, NY



Cutting Edge DNA—What's So Big About Big Y DNA Testing?

Skip Duett UpstateNYRoots.com skip.duett.dna@gmail.com

The Big Y-700 test is FTDNA's entry into Next Generation Sequencing (NGS). Traditionally used for deep haplogroup analysis, we are now gaining traction in using Big Y data within the genealogical timeframe through the development of family clades. Perhaps you have considered upgrading to Big Y or perhaps you already have upgraded and have your results and have little idea what they mean or what to do with them. The learning curve for Big Y is steep and textual documentation is almost non-existent. This is an introduction into Big Y testing covering the basic concepts and their practical application in this emerging field of advanced Y-DNA testing.

Intended Audience: Intermediate to Advanced Users already familiar with traditional Y-STR testing.

Objectives

- Understand the difference between SNP and STR testing
- Understand how to evaluate haplogroups
- Have a basic understanding of how to evaluate your Big Y results
- Understand the concept of family clades
- Understand some of the pros and cons of Big Y testing
- Understand how Big Y testing can provide genealogically relevant data

What is Big Y?

- SNPs vs. STRs (Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) vs. Sanger)
- SNP Discovery test – looking for mutations at 14.8 million base pair locations

Uses

- Traditional use of Big Y data – Deep Ancestry
- Emerging application of Big Y data – extraction of genealogically relevant data
    - Extending the Y-Tree
    - Creating Family Clades/Sub-Clades
    - Allows us to more effectively work brick walls from both sides

Haplogroups

- Understanding haplogroups is critical to properly using Big Y data
- Complex tree structure
- Nomenclature for designating SNPs
- Branch points can be single or multi-SNP blocks
- Comparing estimated & Actual haplogroups
- Terminal Haplogroup

FTDNA Big Y User Interface

- Block Tree
- Matches/Results
    - Named Variants
    - Private Variants
    - Matching
    - Browser– Get the Chrome Browser extension called "BAMSAway" at the Chrome Store
- Y-STR Results

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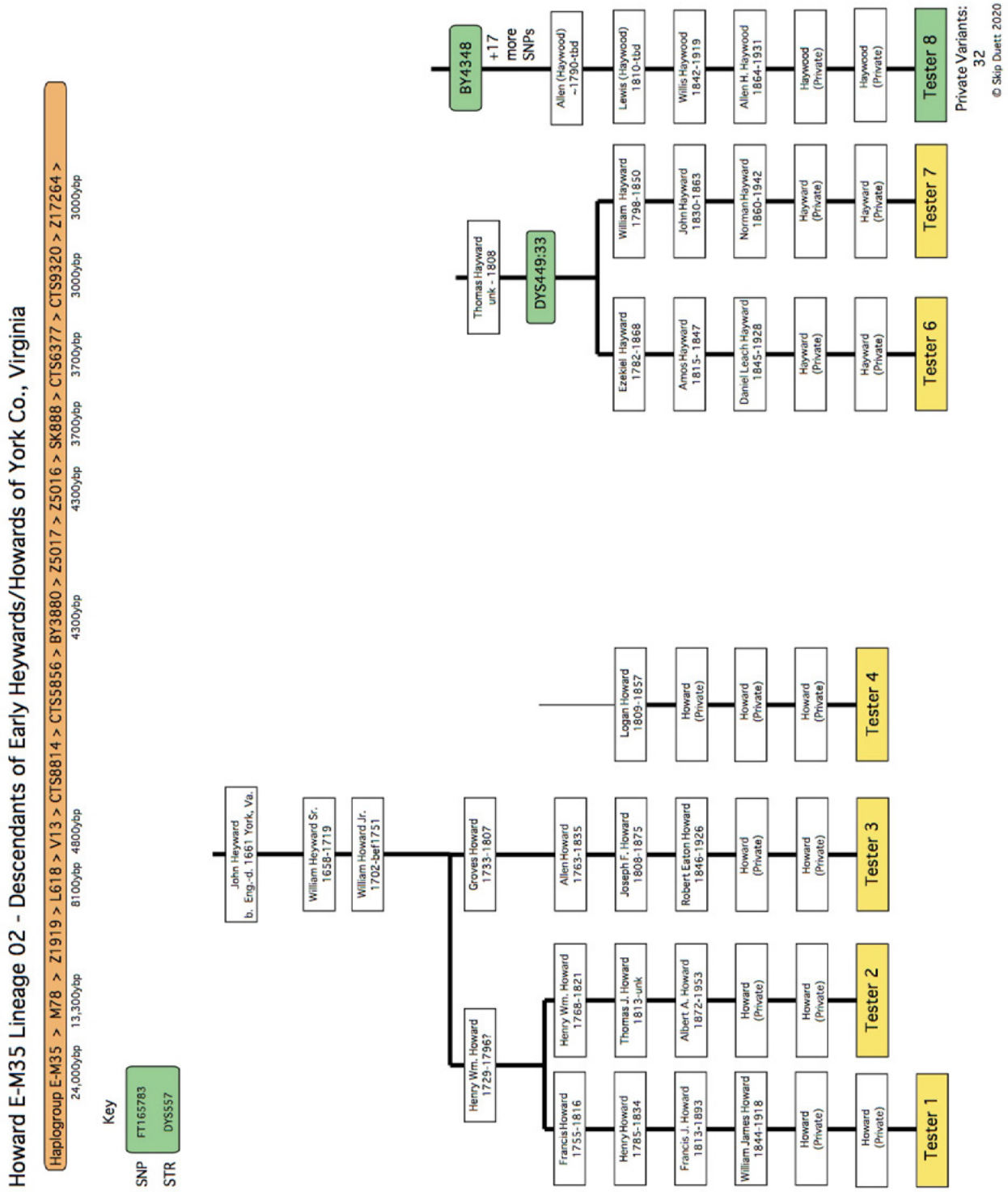

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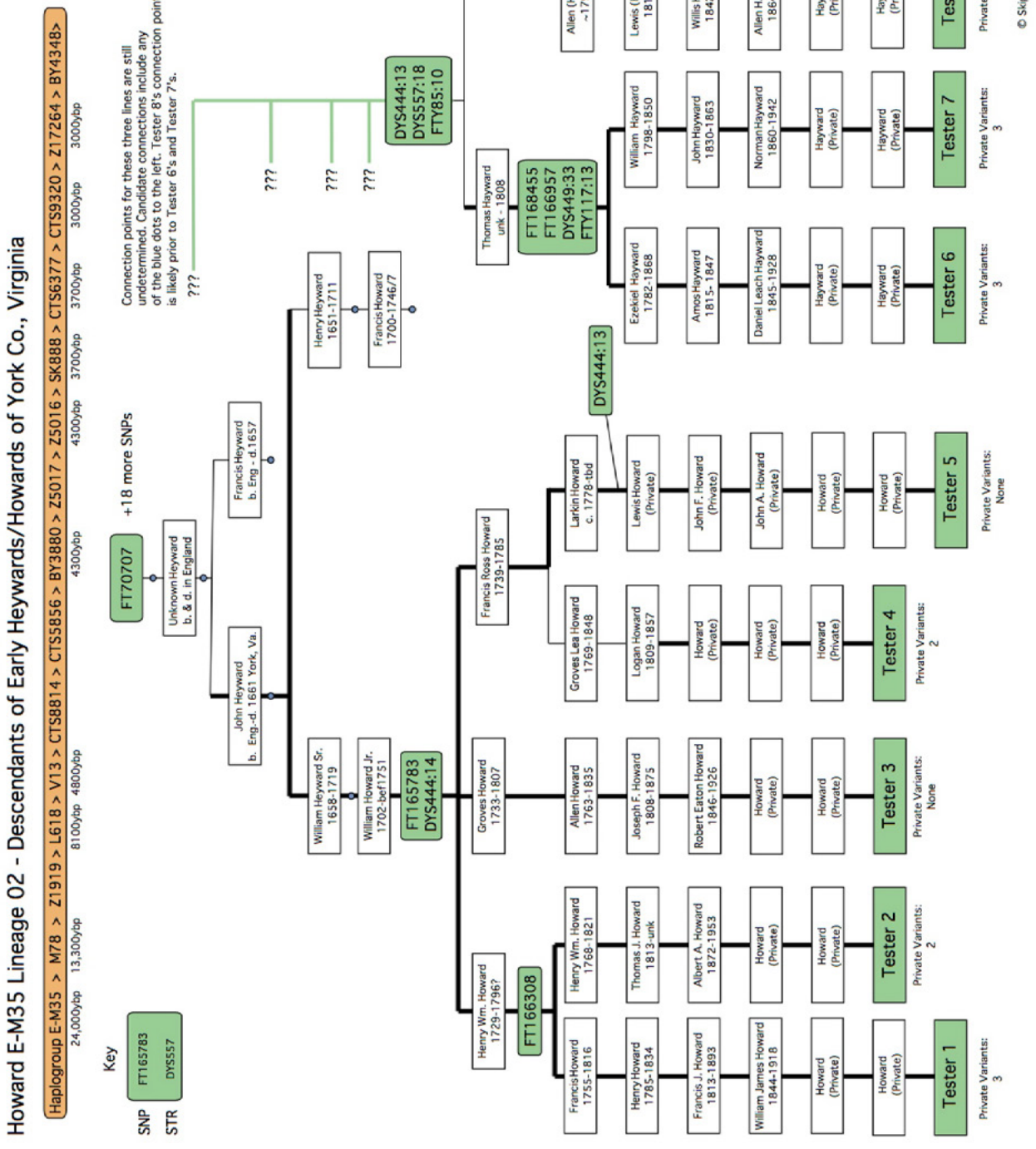

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Understanding Your Matches

- Limits – no more than 30 mismatches
- No calls & the mismatch list
- Initial results – results when first posted are usually preliminary
- Refinements – FTDNA will manually review them over the next month or two and this usually results in refinements (changes) that move you further down the tree.
- Estimating TMRCAs
    - About 82 years/mutation for Big Y-700. (144 years/mutation for Big Y-500)
    - Confidence interval is HUGE and severely limits the usefulness of the estimate!
- Those extra 589+ STRs

Building Family Clades

- SNPs provide a "unique" path
- Coupled with STRs, can provide solid evidence of genealogical relationship
- Cannot provide proof by themselves

Pros

- More definitive than STR testing alone
- Can discover new SNPs
- Can extend the Y-Tree
- Might point beyond your brick wall (saving you time & money)
- Might rule in or out specific immigrant branches (saving you time & money)

Cons

- Expensive (but the price has recently been significantly reduced)
- Small (but growing) matching pool

Genealogical Usefulness

- Best used as part of a targeted test plan for specific goals
- Sorting out various branches for a specific family
- Allows you to definitively rule out (or in some cases rule in) connections to established lines
- Sorting out multiple families of the same surname in a geographic area
- Works best with deep lines with multiple branches because:
    - Often the result of single immigrant progenitor
    - Takes time for mutations to occur
    - Multiple branches often mean multiple mutation paths
- Helps if one or more branches have a solid paper trail to anchor to.

References

- Jim Owston's chapter in *Advanced Genetic Genealogy: Techniques and Case Studies,* Debbie Parker Wayne, editor (Cushing, Texas: Wayne Research, 2019)
- Facebook Group — FTDNA Big Y * YSEQ * YFULL * FGC - NGS Discussion Forum
    - https://www.facebook.com/groups/257810104756408/
    - I do not recommend the other Big Y FB group
- Jim Owston's *Owston/Ouston One-Name Study* — https://owston.wordpress.com
- Video series by David Vance on YouTube
    - DNA Concepts for Genealogy Y-DNA: Part 1: https://youtu.be/RqSN1A44lYU
    - DNA Concepts for Genealogy Y-DNA: Part 2: https://youtu.be/mhBYXD7Xufl
    - DNA Concepts for Genealogy Y-DNA: Part 3: https://youtu.be/03hRXVg9i1k
    - SAPP–Mapping Big Y Matches: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8a2iie0L_c

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I've Been Working on the Railroad…Records

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(All website addresses were current as of 01/26/2020)

Basic Timeline of Railroad History

- 1825 – First railroad, the Stockton Darlington Railroad, launched in Darlington, England
- 1826 – First American railroad (horse-drawn) opens in Massachusetts
- 1829 – First steam locomotive in America
- 1830 – First American steam engine
- 1856 – First railroad bridge over the Mississippi River
- 1869 – First Transcontinental Railroad completed in North America, successfully bridging the Pacific and the Central United States.
- 1888 – First electric tram system opened in Richmond, Virginia
- 1934 – Diesel locomotive fist appears in the U.S.
- 1960's – U.S. finalizes transition from steam engines to diesel-electric power engines
- 1961 – Missouri Pacific becomes one of the earliest adopters of computer technology
- 1971 – Amtrak begins intercity rail passenger service
- 1996 – The Interstate Commerce Commission is replaced by the Surface Transportation Board

Resources

Online

- **Ancestry** (https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/catalog/?keyword=railroad): Various railroad collections
- **Cyndi's List** (www.cyndislist.com): Various railroad resources
- **JSTOR** (http://www.jstor.org): Historic publications
- **National Railway Historical Society** (http://nrhs.com/)
- **Association of American Railroads** (https://www.aar.org/)
- **Kansas Department of Transportation: History of Kansas Railroads** (https://www.ksdot.org/bureaus/burRail/rail/railroads/history.asp)
- **David Rumsey Map Collection** (www.davidrumsey.com): Railroad maps
- **National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections** (http://beta.worldcat.org/archivegrid/)
- **Locations of Railroad Genealogical Materials by Jim Sponholz** (http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~sponholz/genealogy/railroad.html)
- **The Railway Surgery Historical Center** (http://railwaysurgery.org/)
- **Railway & Locomotive Historical Society, Inc.** (http://rlhs.org/Reference/research.shtml): directory of railroad history research locations

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Repositories (libraries, museums, archives, etc.)

- **California State Railroad Museum Foundation** (https://www.californiarailroad.museum/): Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway; Southern Pacific Railroad; Michigan Central Railroad; Western Pacific
- **Hub City Heritage Corporation Railway Museum** (http://www.cgwoelwein.org/): Chicago Great Western Railway
- **A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum** (https://aprpullmanportermuseum.org/national-registry/): Pullman Company
- **Weber State University, Stewart Library Special Collections** (https://archivesspace.weber.edu/repositories/3): Union Pacific; Southern Pacific; Ogden Union Railway & Depot Company; Bamberger Railroad
- **Library of Congress** (https://www.loc.gov/collections/railroad-maps-1828-to-1900/?c=150&st=list): Railroad maps from 1828-1900
- **Newberry Library (**http://www.newberry.org/railroad-archives): Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad; Illinois Central Railroad; Pullman Company
- **Virginia Tech** (https://spec.lib.vt.edu/collections/): emphasis on Virginia and southern railroads **note: the historic records of Norfolk South Corporation were housed at Virginia Tech until 2008; in 2008 they were returned to the company*
- **Milwaukee Public Library, Central Branch** (http://content.mpl.org/cdm4/browse.php?CISOROOT=/MilwRoad): Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Pacific Railroad
- **The University of Missouri-St. Louis, John W. Barriger III National Railroad Library** (http://www.umsl.edu/barriger/bmore/hscollect/hscollect.htm): Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Pacific Railroad
- **The University of Utah, J. Willard Marriott Digital Library** (https://collections.lib.utah.edu/browse/topic/railroads): Denver & Rio Grande; large collection of photographs (over 30,000)
- **Denver Public Library** (https://digital.denverlibrary.org/digital/, search for "railroad"): Colorado and Southern Railway
- **Colorado Railroad Museum Library** (http://coloradorailroadmuseum.org/library/): Colorado and Southern Railway; Union Pacific Railroad
- **Upper Peninsula Digitization Center Collections** (http://updigit.uproc.lib.mi.us/cdm/search): Duluth, South Shore, and Atlantic Railway
- **Kheel Center for Labor-Management Documentation and Archives, Cornell University Libraries Martin P. Catherwood Library** (http://rmc.library.cornell.edu/EAD/htmldocs/KCL05295.html): Illinois Central Railroad; Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen; Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen; Brotherhood of Railway Signalmen Union
- **Railroads in Kansas - Kansapedia - Kansas Historical Society** (https://www.kshs.org/kansapedia/railroads-in-kansas/15120)

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- **Department of Transportation Library** (https://dotlibrary.specialcollection.net/Home): Railroad accident reports **note: account registration required to view materials*
- **National Archives and Records Administration**
  - Record Group 184: Records of the Railroad Retirement Board (http://www.archives.gov/research/guide-fed-records/groups/184.html)
  - Record Group 14: Records of the United States Railroad Administration [USRA] (https://www.archives.gov/research/guide-fed-records/groups/014.html)
- **Kansas Historical Society** (http://www.kshs.org/p/railroad-research/15983): Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway
- **C&NW Historical Society** (https://www.cnwhs.org/archives_genealogy.htm): Chicago and North Western Railway
- **Minnesota Historical Society** (https://libguides.mnhs.org/railroad): Great Northern Railway
- **University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Urban Archives** (http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/wiarchives.uw-whs-mil00086): Milwaukee Electric Railway and Light Company
- **Western Reserve Historical Society** (http://catalog.wrhs.org/collections/search?subject=railroad): New York Central Railroad; Nickel Plate Railroad; Pennsylvania Railroad Company; Northern Central Railway Company; Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company; Ohio railroads; New York Railroads
- **South Suburban Genealogical and Historical Society** (https://ssghs.org/tools-resources/pullman-employee-records/): Pullman Company
- **Southern Pacific Historical & Technical Society** (https://sphts.org/archives/): Southern Pacific Railroad
- **Springfield-Greene County Library** (http://thelibrary.springfield.missouri.org/lochist/frisco/frisco.cfm): St. Louis & San Francisco Railroad; Frisco Employee Magazine issues (PDF format) and All Aboard Magazine issues (PDF format)
- **Union Pacific Historical Society** (http://uphs.org/resources/geneology/): Union Pacific Railroad
- **Pennsylvania State Archives** (http://www.phmc.pa.gov/Archives/Research-Online/Pages/Railroad-Employees.aspx): Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen Union, Pennsylvania State Railroad
- **State Historical Society of Missouri** (https://shsmo.org/research/guides/rail): Railroads and Railways Research Guide
- **Western Railway Museum, Bay Area Electric Railroad Archives** (https://www.wrm.org/visit/archives): Bay Area Electric Railroad Association
- **Colorado Historical Society** (https://www.historycolorado.org/): Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad
- **University of Connecticut, Archives & Special Collections** (https://lib.uconn.edu/location/asc/): New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad (and predecessors)

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- **Utah State Railroad Museum** (http://theunionstation.org/museums/utah-state-railroad-museum): Union Pacific; Denver & Rio Grande Western; Southern Pacific; Utah short lines **note: the website for the Utah State Railroad Museum was not working in January 2020 but reviews on TripAdvisor indicate the museum is still in business (https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g57090-d285974-Reviews-Utah_State_Railroad_Museum-Ogden_Utah.html)*
- **Western Mining & Railroad Museum** (http://www.wmrrm.org/): Denver & Rio Grande Western; Utah Railway **note: the website for the Utah State Railroad Museum was not working in January 2020 but reviews on TripAdvisor indicate the museum is still in business (https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g57010-d1049836-Reviews-Western_Mining_Railroad_Museum-Helper_Utah.html)*
- **Museum of History & Industry** (http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/search/results.aspx?t=i&q=wasmhi&f_subjects=Railroads+--United+States--Records): Burlington Northern Santa Fe; Great Northern Railway; many items on Northwest railroads
- **University of Nevada, Reno Special Collections** (https://library.unr.edu/specoll): Virginia & Truckee Railroad; Central Pacific Railroad; Nevada Central Railroad; Los Angeles and Salt Lake Railroad Company; Southern Pacific Railroad

THURSDAY

Select Bibliography

- Railroad Names and Directory of Common Carrier Railroads Operating in the United States Between 1826-1997 (William D. Edson)
- Moody's Analysis of Investments in Steam Railroads (John Moody)
- Steel Rails Across American: The Short Line and Regional Railroads, Past and Present, of the U.S. and Canada (Robert A. Juran)
- Railroad Maps of North America: The First Hundred Years (Andrew M. Modelski)
- Guide to the Burlington Archives in the Newberry Library 1851-1901 (Elisabeth Jackson and Carolyn Curtis)
- Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Employees (Edna A. Kanely)
- An Anthology of Respect: The Pullman Porters National Historic Registry of African American Railroad Employees (Lyn Hughes)
- The Harvey Girls: Women Who Opened the West (Lesley Poling-Kempes)
- The Directory of North American Railroads, Associations, Societies, Archives, Museums, and Their Collections (Holly T. Hansen)
- Guide to Railroad Historical Resources, United States and Canada, Vols. 1-4 (https://tinyurl.com/y55x5pys) on Google Books

Additional railroad resources will be posted on my website at https://talkingboxgenealogy.com/resources-and-reading/

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North Carolina Presbyterian.

"PROVE ALL THINGS. HOLD FAST THAT WHICH IS GOOD."

VOL. IV.—NO. 38. FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1861. WHOLE NO. 19

Finding Family in Religious Newspapers and Periodicals

Presenter: Lori Thornton, MLS * lorithornton@gmail.com

General

Hyman, Mark J. Afrocentric Leanings of Black Church Newspapers from Mid-Nineteenth Century to WWI. Ph.D. dissertation, Temple University, 1991.

Jensen, Howard Eikenberry. The Rise of Religious Journalism in the United States. Ph.D. dissertation, University of Chicago, 1920.

Norton, Wesley. *Religious Newspapers in the Old Northwest to 1861: A History, Bibliography, and Records of Opinion*. Athens: Ohio University Press, 1977.

Amish, Brethren in Christ, & Mennonite

The Budget (Sugar Creek, Ohio). Began in 1890. Serves Amish-Mennonite communities in United States and Canada.

Baptist

Southern Baptist Historical Library & Archives Digital Collections (http://www.sbhla.org/digital_resources.asp) – Includes convention annuals, *Baptist Press*, *Baptist & Reflector* (Tennessee), and domestic and foreign missions journals.

Biblical Recorder (North Carolina) – Z. Smith Reynolds Library, Wake Forest University (http://digital.olivesoftware.com/Olive/APA/Wakeforest/default.aspx) – Online archives includes 1834-1970.

Southern Baptist Periodical Index – Began in 1966. Indexes periodicals but not the state papers produced by the Southern Baptist Convention.

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Bremner, John B. An Analysis of the Content of Catholic Diocesan Newspapers in the United States. Ph.D. dissertation, University of Iowa, 1965.

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Deseret News (Salt Lake City, Utah) – Began in 1850. Many indexes available.

Frontier Guardian (Kanesville, Iowa) – Published 1849-1852.

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Methodist

Christian Recorder (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania). – Began in 1852. Serves African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) church. Many issues on *Internet Archive*.

Presbyterian

Albaugh, Gaylord P. "American Presbyterian Periodicals and Newspapers, 1752-1830, with Library Locations." *Journal of Presbyterian History* 41, no. 3 (1963): - 42, no. 2 (1964), various pages.

Denison, James T. *An Index to the Periodicals of the Associate Presbyterian Church (1754-1858), Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (1782-1858), and the United Presbyterian Church of North America (1858-1958)*. Escondido, California: The author, 1983.

The Presbyterian of the South (Atlanta, Georgia) – Began in 1909 by a merger of Southern Presbyterian; Central Presbyterian, and South-Western Presbyterian.. Ended in 1931.

Presbyterian Banner (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) (https://panewsarchive.psu.edu/lccn/sn88086163/) (https://digital.history.pcusa.org/islandora/object/islandora%3A14430) – Continuation of Presbyterian Banner & Advocate (1855-1860) which continued Presbyterian Banner (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania); Ran from 1860 to 1898.

Quaker

American Friend (Richmond, Indiana) (1894-1960)

Restoration Movement (Disciples of Christ, Church of Christ, Christian Churches and Churches of Christ)

Christian Chronicle (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma). Began in 1943 in Dallas. Serves Churches of Christ around the world.

Christian Evangelist (St. Louis, Missouri). Began in 1852. Primarily serves Disciples of Christ. Published index available 1852-1958.

Christian Standard (Cincinnati, Ohio). Began in 1866. Primarily serves the Christian Churches and Churches of Christ. Published index available 1866-1966.

Gospel Advocate (Nashville, Tennessee) Began in 1855. Primarily serves Church of Christ.

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Sampling of Published Extracts and Abstracts

Berger, Doreen. *The Jewish Victorian: Genealogical Information from the Jewish Newspapers, 1861-1870*. Witney, England: Robert Boyd, 2004.

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Cameron, Sandra and Dennis Cameron. *Marriage & Death Notices from Presbyterian Newspapers*. Lubbock, Texas: The authors, 2000.

Hamm, Thomas D. *Index of Obituaries and Death Notices in The American Friend*. Richmond, Indiana: The author, 2003.

Holcomb, Brent. *Death and Marriage Notices from the Watchman and Observer, 1845-1855*. Columbia, South Carolina: SCMAR, 2004.

-----. *Marriage and Death Notices from the Baptist Newspapers of South Carolina*. Spartanburg, South Carolina: Reprint Company, 1981-1996. 2 volumes. [v.1. 1835-1865 – v.2. 1866-1887] [v.2. published Columbia, South Carolina: SCMAR]

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-----. *Texas Methodist Newspaper Abstracts, Volumes 1 through 4, Cumulative Index*. Dallas, Texas: Dallas Genealogical Society, 1992.

-----. *Texas Presbyterian Newspaper Abstracts*. Dallas, Texas: Dallas Genealogical Society, 1992.

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----- *More Notices from Ontario's Methodist Papers, 1858-1872*. Ottawa, Ontario: The author, 1993.

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Manning, Barbara. *Genealogical Abstracts from Newspapers of the German Reformed Church, 1830-1839*. Bowie, Maryland: Heritage Books, 1992.

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Portnoy, Eddy. *Bad Rabbi and Other Strange but True Stories from the Yiddish Press*. Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 2018.

Scherbring, Mary Tarcisia. Translations of "Correspondenz" from the Iowa, German Language Catholic Weekly Published in Dubuque, Iowa, 1875-1880. M.A. thesis, Catholic University of America, 1963.

Smith, Jonathan K. T. *Genealogical Abstracts from Reported Deaths, The Nashville Christian Advocate.* Jackson, Tennessee: The author, 1997-2003. Multi-volume set available at Family History Library.

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USING SCANDINAVIAN RECORDS WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW THE LANGUAGE

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http://genealogycertification.wordpress.com
http://theCDGseries.wordpress.com

While the critical historical records of the Scandinavian countries of Sweden, Denmark and Norway are accessible online, many researchers find overseas research intimidating.[1] We hope today to dispel some of the difficulties and barriers imposed on accessing these international records. Armed with the parish name and facts gathered in the United States of your person of interest, you can usually access the original parish records and start your journey—even if the individual was named Lars Larsson!

Work begins in the United States -- by discovering as much information about the immigrant and his/her family in the documents in the locale of residence. The common approach is to assemble all known data points of the US family, including siblings and other relatives (the immigrant's FAN Club[2]), and compare and correlate with likely families in the Scandinavian country of origin. If there is a reasonable correlation, then there is a high probability that you have identified the correct person. Because the Scandinavian countries had limited numbers of forenames and used patronymic naming practices, the misidentification of someone with the "same name" must be guarded against.

The basic skills or information needed by the Scandinavian researcher include:

- Knowing your ancestor's birth parish
- Knowing a few words of the language of the country of interest
- Familiarizing yourself with Scandinavian patronymic naming practices
- Studying the Family Search Wiki for your country/county/parish of interest
- Knowing the unique letters and how to type them
- Familiarizing yourself with the names and locations of the villages/farms in your parish
- Most importantly---a willingness to plunge in!!

This session will introduce you to locating the records, reading the records, and integrating parish records into your research. These record sets will consume approximately 90% of your research time. Other records are also available, e.g. clerical surveys/censuses, military, probate and tax records, and can serve to span gaps in parish records, provide direct and indirect evidence when faced with conflicting or no evidence and add context to your ancestor's story.

The national archives of each country will have the most complete set of records. The collections of records held by Ancestry, FamilySearch and My Heritage can be limited in their years and geographic areas covered and/or the type of record. Read about the collection before trying to find your ancestor to determine if they even are indexed and/or imaged for your county. You may find yourself working from the indexes in FamilySearch or Ancestry and then finding the image in another database. FamilySearch and Ancestry are actively posting new Scandinavian records sets and what was not available yesterday, may be available today.

[1] Americans often use the terms "Nordic" and "Scandinavia" interchangeably. The Scandinavian countries are only Sweden, Denmark and Norway. The term "Nordic" adds Finland, Greenland, Faroe Islands and Iceland.
[2] Elisabeth Shown Mills, "Quicksheet: The Historical Biographer's Guide to Cluster Research (The FAN Principle)," (Baltimore : Genealogical Publishing, Co., 2012).

Making Unique Letters

Each computer system has a symbols or character map, which includes the unique letters of the Scandinavian countries. If using a Scandinavian site, you must use the proper letter and remember that all of these letters come at the end of the alphabet. "Soren" will not find your "Søren" in a Danish database and Søren will be after Szac in an alphabetical list, not after Shottenheimer.

Naming Practices

The Scandinavian countries use a patronymic naming system, using –dotter/-datter (Swedish/Danish) and –sson/-sen as suffixes attached to the father's given name to create the by-name of the child. This is true for the rural population well into the late 1800s. Thus, in Sweden, If Bengt was the child of Per Helgesson, he became Bengt "Per's son" or Persson, not Bengt Helgesson. But, we also know that Bengt's father's name was Helge. Norway handles its naming practices slightly differently. Jens, child of Torkel Torkelsson, was named Jens Torkelson, but because he lived with his mother in Ossen, the farm name was attached to the given/patronymic name to become Jens Torkelson Ossen or Jens Ossen. When Jens moved to another farm, Tjøn, within the same parish, his name changed to Jens Torkelson Tjøn, and was sometimes identified as Jens Tjøn. When Jens immigrated to the United States he had a choice of many names, as he did not identify with just one. He chose Jens T. Dahle! Keeping track of all of the name changes will be critical for successful Norwegian research. All three countries kept Moving in/Moving out records in the 1800s. Trace the movement of your person of interest from farm to farm.

Vocabulary

The languages of the three countries are similar enough that learning one will help with the other two. Spellings, however, were not standardized and so it is likely you will find variations of the same word in the same document—or even on the same page. Pastors used abbreviations, which also varied. To read the records you may find that recognizing approximately 100 words will enhance your understanding of the records. Your Scandinavian vocabulary should include the ones listed on the next table, and also, numbers, locations, governmental jurisdictions, relationships, illnesses and occupations. The FamilySearch Wiki is very helpful and gives you a word list of genealogical terms for each language. See the Resource list at the end of this syllabus.

Comparison of Common Genealogical Terms

	Swedish	Danish	Norwegian
Birth	Födde	Fødsel	Fødte
Marriage	Vigsel	Copulerede	Copulerede,
Death	Dödde	Døde	Døde
Illegitimate	Oäkta	Uægte	Uekte
Witness	Fadder	Fadder	Faddere
Coming into the parish	Inflyttning	Tilgang	Innflyttning
Leaving the parish	Utflytting	Afgang	Utflyttning

You can read more about the naming practices at the FamilySearch.org Wiki page. Enter your country of interest and look on the right hand sidebar for Personal Names or some similar title.

DENMARK

Multiple sites:

- Riksarkivet: (free, images) https://www.sa.dk/en/ (click "English") > Parish registers > Kirkebøger fra hellet landet (3rd section, for rural parishes) > Insert your Amt [county of interest] and Sogn [parish of interest] > Click on data set desired > Click on years of interest and type of record.
- My Heritage: http://myheritage.com ($, index & images) Research > Collection catalog > "Denmark" > select your record choice. MH has the best images. Not all parishes.
- FamilySearch (free, selected indexes): Search > catalog > "Denmark" > Church Records-Indexes > insert name if prompted
- Ancestry ($, World edition, selected indexes): Catalog > Denmark > browse or insert name etc.

Other Danish records

To access Census or *Folketælling*: https://www.sa.dk/en/ or http://www.ddd.dda.dk/ddd_en.htm. The early censuses were taken in summer of 1787, 1801, and 1834. Beginning in 1840, a census was taken every five years until 1860. After 1860, the census was taken every ten years until the end of the century. Starting with the 1845 census, the birth location is recorded.

NORWAY

One stop shop:

- Norwegian National Archives (free) https://www.digitalarkivet.no/en Emigrants, parish registers, censuses and real estate registers are all at one site and are identified by year making these some of the most accessible for the beginning Norwegian researcher. Parish records: > *DigitalArkivet* > "Parish Register: Digitized Parish Register" > Enter County and parish > Select parish records of proper span of time > Select year of event

Other Norwegian Records

Bygdebøker: These books are compilations of vital records of parish by family. The books were not created for every parish. In the beginning of the book, there is a history of the parish in Norwegian. You will want to confirm all information against the original parish records.

Censuses: Only three of the many censuses enumerated in the 1800s provide significant genealogical information--- 1801, 1865 and 1891. These records are available as both an index and as digitized images.

SWEDEN

Multiple sites:

- SVAR (Swedish National Archives, free): https://riksarkivet.se/startpage > Search the Collections > Digital Research Room > church archives > insert parish and county
- Ancestry ($, index): http://www.ancestry.com. Must have World Edition; Start at Ancestry's home page > Search > Europe > Sweden > [click on record set of interest]
- ArkivDigital ($, indexed censuses from 1860 to contemporary). AD is a private firm providing color digital parish images, recently photographed. Beautiful images.

Other Swedish records:
Swedish clerical surveys (sometimes called Household Examinations, primarily for the 1800s): These are an annual assessment of the knowledge of the Lutheran catechism of all of the members of the household who had been confirmed. In the process the pastors noted the babies born, deaths and any movement within and without the parish.

RESOURCES
Tips:

- Some of these resources require you to cut and paste the link rather than just click on it.
- Check the title of the record set to see if it includes the word "Select." That means some parishes may not be included. Make sure yours is.
- All links were checked 10 January 2020.
- If the site is not in English, look for the "English" button or the Union Jack.
- Each country has a Facebook page that has willing volunteers for translations, etc.

Denmark

Juengling, Fritz. "Beginning Danish Genealogy." Legacy Family Tree Webinars
Statens Archiver: How to use the national archives site in English:
http://www.bobcatsworld.com/genclass/Online%20Danish%20Parish%20Registers.pdf
FamilySearch Wiki: "Denmark Genealogy"
https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Denmark_Genealogy

Norway

Blegen, Theodore. *Norwegian Emigration 1825 – 1860*. New York: Amo Press, 1969.
Bygdebøker, including a map of books by county. Use this site to find if the book has been compiled. If it has then check WorldCat to determine which library is the closest for Interlibrary loan. Site was under construction when syllabus was developed. Go to this site and then call to get full URL. It should be operational by the time of the conference. :
https://library.und.edu/branches-departments/special-collections/index.html
Digital Arkivet: A how to use DigitalArkivet:
https://www.digitalarkivet.no/en/content/start-genealogy
FamilySearch Wiki: "Norway Genealogy" https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Norway_Genealogy

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Sweden

Demografisk Databas Södra Sverige, http://www.ddss.nu/ for the southern counties of Halland (yea!), Skäne and Blekinge. Index only but can help find that missing person.
DisByt ($). Swedish Computer Group's subscription site for family trees. Nice site to find descendants and living cousins. https://disbyt.dis.se/dbyt_e_index.php
FamilySearch Wiki, "Sweden" https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Sweden_Genealogy .
Johansson, Carl-Erik. *Cradled in Sweden*. Provo : Everton Publishing, 2002. Considered the most comprehensive of the books about Swedish research.
Garratt, Martha. "Swedish Naming Practices," BCG/Legacy webinar, "Sweden's Multiple Naming Systems & How they Changed in the 1800s," 6 October 2017.

Eddie Wenck:
The Case of a Little Lost Boy

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The search for little Eddie John Wenck took a totally unexpected path that exposed an error made over twenty years ago and would uncover the hidden past of one of Northern Kentucky's well-known landmarks.

Introduction

Children who die young may be difficult to research because they normally leave few records and have no descendants to pass on their story. Their short lives do not add additional branches to a family tree and are often overlooked. It is our responsibility as family historians to tell the stories of these little ones so they will not be forgotten.

The Problem

A Corpus Christi church (Newport, Kentucky) interment record and a Newport (Kentucky) city death register state that Edward "Eddie" John Wenck was buried in Four Mile Cemetery. However, there is no Four Mile Cemetery in Newport. The closest Four Mile Cemetery is in a rural area twelve miles from the city and there is no entry for Eddie or any Wenck in those records.

Family of Edward John Wenck

Mother: Catherine Leiser (1846–1899)
Husbands of Catherine Leiser:

1. George Potter (1840–1876)
2. Martin J. Wenck (1846–1911)

Children of George Potter and Catherine Leiser

1. William S. Potter (1863–1930)
2. George Potter, Jr. (1866–1943)
3. Charles E. Potter (1868–1938)
4. Margaret Potter (1871–1934)
5. John Martin Potter (1874–1955)

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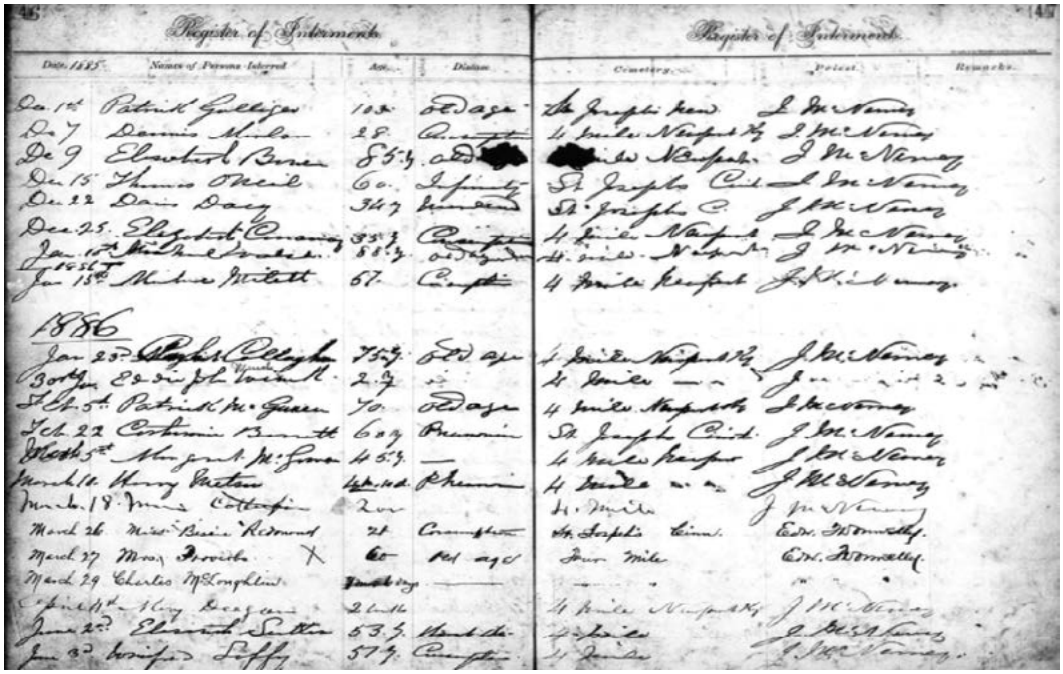
Children of Martin Wenck and Catherine Leiser

1. Martin John Wenck (1879–1940)
2. Angeline Wenck (1881-)
3. **Edward "Eddie" John Wenck (1883–1886)**
4. Theresa Wenck (1886–1887)

CATHOLIC PARISH INTERMENT REGISTER ON MICROFILM



Questions:

- Why was the register created?
- Who created the register?
- When was the register created?
- Where is the original register?
- What is the provenance of the register?

Observations:

- Inconsistencies
  - Priests
  - Ethnicity
  - Similar records

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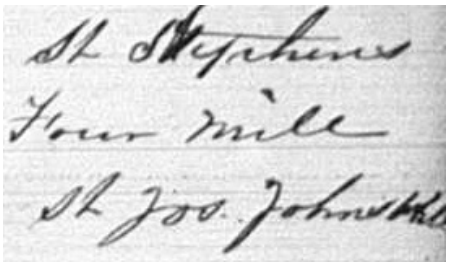
WHAT'S IN A CEMETERY NAME?

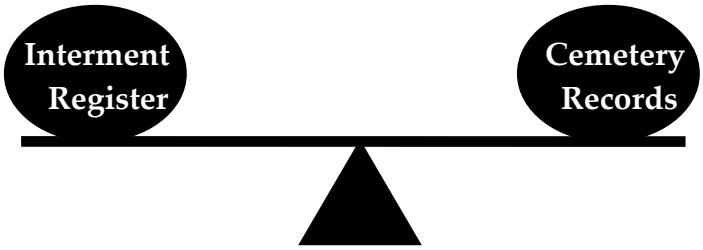
Assemble the Evidence



- Local customs
- Expanding the focus
- Extracting evidence
- Question assumptions
  - location
  - incomplete records

Weigh the Evidence

- Determine scope
  - information items
  - time period
  - additional records
- **Correlate**
  - old and new
  - present conclusion



Reporting Errors
Write a clear and concise summary of the conclusion; publish the conclusion; and inform record owners and record copy holders.

Original Record Roadblocks
Gaining access to original records may be difficult due to preservation issues, especially with the increasing amount of digital content available today.

Researchers should:

- be alert to the potential for errors
- document the correction
- share the research

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Getting To Know The Time And Place

The key to solving this mystery was studying the community and religion of the family. Some of the sources used:

- Census
- Church, parish and diocesan histories
- City, county, and state histories
- City directories
- Local historians
- Local residents
- Manuscripts
- Maps and atlases
- Newspapers
- Photos
- Vital records

Selected Resources:

Adams, Kathleen Carmichael compiler. *St. Stephen's Roman Catholic Cemetery, Campbell County, Kentucky 1850-1940*. Campbell County, Kentucky: K.C. Adams, 199?.

An Atlas of Butler, Kenton and Campbell Counties, Kentucky. Philadelphia: D. J. Lake & Co., 1883.

Campbell County Gen Web. Large section of indexes for Catholic Churches and cemeteries. Online, www.usgenwebsites.org/KYCampbell/.

Diocese of Covington Archives, 947 Donaldson Highway, Erlanger, Kentucky.

Kenton County Library, 502 Scott Blvd., Covington, Kentucky; microfilmed Diocese of Covington church records, and large collection of local history books, newspapers, and vital records on microfilm.

Miller, Julie. "The Perils of Accepting Copies of Original Records at Face Value," *NGS Magazine*, Vol. 42, No. 4 (October–December 2016), 18–23.

Purvis, Thomas L. *Newport, Kentucky: A Bicentennial History*. N.p.: T. L. Purvis, 1996.

Ryan, Rev. Paul E. *History of the Diocese of Covington, Kentucky, On the occasion of the Centenary of the Diocese, 1853–1953*. Covington: Diocese of Covington, 1954.

Schroeder, David E. *History of the Diocese of Covington, Kentucky*. Covington, Kentucky: Kenton County Public Library, 2001.

Tenkotte, Paul A. and James C. Claypool. *The Encyclopedia of Northern Kentucky*. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2009.

Conclusions

Never accept copies of records at face value. Every document and its format should be thoroughly analyzed. If in doubt, consult the original record.

Researchers must trust their instincts when something "just doesn't feel right." Things are not always what they appear. It is worth the time and effort to dig deeper and either confirm or disprove our instincts.

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Beginning Western U.S. Native American Research: Where are the Records?

Forrest Emmett

OVERVIEW

There is a common misconception that records for Native Americans do not exist, that the only way to find genealogical information is to reach out to the tribe. However, sources such as census records, vital records, school records, oral histories, land records, medical records, employment records, financial records, personal and family manuscript collections exist in many locations and repositories around the entire U.S. In general, these sources may be found in the regional repositories of the National Archives, universities and colleges, museums, libraries, religious archives, and online repositories.

RECORD TYPES

The record types below represent the breadth of resources available for western U.S. Native American genealogy research. The locations of these records, brief explanations, and further resources are listed in each box.

Federal Census Records

- ❏ Some Native Americans were enumerated in the federal censuses between 1860 and 1890, but only if they had renounced ties to their tribe and paid taxes. Native Americans on reservations began to be recorded in the federal censuses on the 1900 census and later. Use Ancestry, if possible, to use the search by ethnicity part of their search form.
- ❏ See webpage, "American Indians in the Federal Decennial Census, 1790-1930," from the National Archives about the enumeration of American Indians in each census.
  URL:https://www.archives.gov/research/census/native-americans/1790-1930.html

Agency Census Records

- ❏ Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Agents were instructed to take an annual census of the Native Americans in their **agency** beginning in 1885. The practice was discontinued around 1940.
- ❏ Use www.familysearch.org or www.accessgenealogy.com for free online access. www.ancestry.com is not free, but has an excellent search engine for these censuses.
- ❏ Use *American Indians: a select catalog of National Archives microfilm publications* (D.C.: National Archives Trust Fund Board, 1998) available online at Internet Archive to find specific Native groups and the agencies in which they were enumerated.
  URL:https://archive.org/details/americanindianss0000unit

Oral History/Photographs/Cultural Memory

- ❏ The Indigenous people of the western US, like other Indigenous groups have rich and deep cultural memory. Over the years, various groups have made various efforts

Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Records

- ❏ The National Archives is the primary and official repository for BIA records. They are gathered within Record Group 75. The BIA records are not kept so much in the main

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to preserve the indigenous cultures through stories, photographs, and art.

- ❏ Search in local Universities' special collections and museums for oral history and photograph collections. See the list of major repositories which includes universities and museums with collections covering more than just local Native Americans.

Tribal Records

- ❏ Many tribes keep custody of their own records. These records may be found in tribal archives, colleges, libraries, and museums.
- ❏ Tribal records may be restricted and accessible only under certain circumstances like permission from the local tribal authority or enrollment in the tribe. Try other record types before pursuing tribal records.

Archives, but are divided among the regional repositories.

- ❏ Since its creation, the BIA was the government's primary way of interacting with Native Americans thus all kinds of records were created that contain genealogical information for the individual Native American including: school records, allotment records, financial records, employment records, medical records, court records, census records, heirship records, and ration records.
- ❏ FamilySearch has digitized a large number of BIA records, correspondence, and reports for individual agencies, superintendencies, and area offices. Use FamilySearch catalog.

Religious Records

- ❏ Early Jesuit missionaries recorded in detail their interactions with Native Americans. Both the Spanish and French set up Catholic missions around North America and there are good records that have survived such as censuses, baptisms, marriages, and burials. These records are scattered, but Marquette, which houses the records of the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, produced a finding aid for some of these scattered Catholic records and their locations. See "GUIDE TO CATHOLIC-RELATED RECORDS IN THE WEST ABOUT NATIVE AMERICANS - WESTERN UNITED STATES."
  URL:https://www.marquette.edu/library/archives/NativeGuide/Wguide-intro-main.php
- ❏ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints settled in and colonized several areas throughout the West and left records of their missions and congregations. These

Military Records

- ❏ Current research reveals that few western Native American groups formally served in the U.S. Military before the Civil War. See James P. Collins', "Native Americans in the Antebellum U.S. Military," *Prologue* 39, no. 4 (Winter 2007).
- ❏ In 1866, the President was given power to enlist and employ Indian Scouts for the U.S. Army. Many records such as enlistment papers, muster rolls, medical cards, court-martial files, pension files, and headstone applications were created from this arrangement. See Trevor K. Plante's, "Lead the Way: Researching U.S. Army Indian Scouts, 1866–1914," *Prologue* 41, no. 2 (Summer 2009).
- ❏ Being prior to the Citizenship Act, World War I has a complicated history of Native American service. Researchers should be aware of the Wanamaker Collection at the Mathers Museum of World Cultures. Also see Russel Lawrence Barsh's, "American Indians in the Great War," *Ethnohistory* 38, No. 3 (Summer, 1991), pp. 276-303, as well as Diane Camurat's Master's

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records are housed at the Church History Library in Salt Lake City. Not all of the records are accessible, but their catalog can be consulted.
URL:https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/

- ❏ Grant's Peace Policy in 1869 started the official assigning of religious groups to various Indian Agencies. For the finalized list of reservation assignments, see the *Annual report of the commissioner of Indian affairs, for the year 1876*, Washington, D.C.: G.P.O., [1876], p. 278.
URL:http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/cgi-bin/History/History-idx?type=turn&id=History.AnnRep76&entity=History.AnnRep76.p0262&q1=agencies%20assigned
- ❏ Various other religious archives exist around the country containing the dealings of that religious organization in the western U.S. See for example the Presbyterian Historical Society's collection for the Tucson Indian Training School.
URL:https://www.history.pcusa.org/collections/research-tools/guides-archival-collections/rg-103

Thesis, *The American Indian in the Great War: Real and Imagined*, Institut Charles V, University of Paris VII, 1993. It can be found online at the following web address. The part of most interest is in Part 2, chapters 1 and 2 about American Indians in the draft and in the actual service.
URL:http://www.gwpda.org/comment/camurat1.html#intro

- ❏ After the citizenship act in 1924, Native American men and women participated with the military in much the same way as any other citizen. Native Americans were drafted, enlisted, participated in Red Cross, worked in the defense industry. In World War II, Native Americans served in every branch of the military.

Personal and Family Manuscript Collections

- ❏ Many BIA agents, BIA superintendents, military officers, community leaders, photographers, and activists left behind collections which include their materials relating to Native Americans.
- ❏ These materials are most often held at local universities, museums, historical societies, and state and local archives.

Land Records

- ❏ The Dawes Act of 1887 allowed the president to divide up reservations into individual allotments that were typically between 40 to 160 acres. Ancestry has digitized these allotment records as well as the corresponding application and enrollment for the five civilized tribes. Allotment records for the other tribes have typically been preserved by the BIA through the National Archives, a small portion of which is digitized on FamilySearch. In a few cases, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has preserved some of these allotment records.

Court Records

- ❏ After the 1817 General Crimes Act, crimes between Indians and non-Indians in "Indian Country" came under federal jurisdiction. Records of these would be preserved in the local county, district, or in some cases territorial courts. The material from the district and territorial courts has been preserved in the National Archives and is filed under multiple record groups.
- ❏ In 1883, Courts of Indian Offenses were authorized at each Indian Agency to handle cases between Native Americans on the reservation. While these courts were administered by the Indian Agent, few of the records have been preserved at the National Archives under Record Group 75.

School Records	*Newspapers*
❏ While school records are typically created either by the BIA or a religious organization, it is useful to think of them as their own record type. ❏ Like BIA records, many can be found in Record Group 75 in the National Archives and potentially digitized at FamilySearch. ❏ Like religious records, some records may be found in the religious archives. ❏ Other places they may be found: local universities, historical societies, or state and local archives.	❏ Many tribes published their own newspapers throughout the 19th century. The oldest Native American newspaper, the Cherokee Phoenix, began in 1828. ❏ Many native newspapers have been collected and even digitized along with other newspapers on www.newspapers.com and www.genealogybank.com. Chronicling America has a good listing for Native newspapers and includes the repositories for each paper. ❏ Universities, state and local archives, and historical societies also may hold copies of Native American newspapers.

TIMELINE OF IMPORTANT EVENTS

Each of these important events affected record creation for the individual Native American person. Researchers should develop a basic familiarity with these events.

General Criminal Act	1817	General Allotment Act	1887
Bureau of Indian Affairs	1824	Major Crimes Act	1887
Indian Intercourse Act	1834	Curtis Act	1898
Indian Appropriations Act	1851	Burke Act	1906
Army Reorganization Act	1866	World War I	1917
Indian Peace Policy	1868	Indian Citizenship Act	1924
Courts of Indian Offenses	1883	Indian Recognition Act	1934
Annual Censuses	1884	World War II	1941

MAJOR REPOSITORIES

Each of these repositories holds manuscript/oral history collections related to indigenous people from various tribes and across several states. The URLs below lead to descriptions of the archival holdings of these repositories.

Oklahoma Historical Society: https://www.okhistory.org/research/index
Labriola American Indian Data Center: https://libguides.asu.edu/c.php?g=263762&p=1765043
National Museum of American Indian: https://americanindian.si.edu/explore/collections/archive
Denver Art Museum: https://denverartmuseum.org/collections/american-indian-art
Institute of American Indian Arts: https://iaia.edu/academics/library/archives/
Heard Museum: https://heard.org/library/archives/
University of California, Berkeley: https://guides.lib.berkeley.edu/c.php?g=527365&p=4032630
Marquette University: https://www.marquette.edu/library/archives/indians.php
University of Oklahoma: https://digital.libraries.ou.edu/homehistory.php
Haskell Indian Nations University: https://www.haskell.edu/cultural-center/collections-archives/
Brigham Young University: https://guides.lib.byu.edu/nativeamericanstudies/byu

"The Digital Library on American Slavery: Accessing Pre-Emancipation Court Petitions"

By Janis Minor Forté, BS, MA, fortejm@yahoo.com
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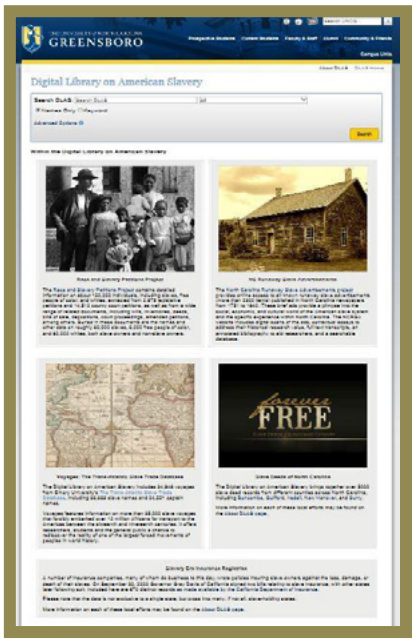
http://library.uncg.edu/slavery/

Researching African-American family history prior to 1865 is a daunting, but not an impossible task. Complicated by the ravages of slavery, laws fractured families, limited social interaction and destroyed kin groups. These repressive restrictions also applied to free people of color who were resided in the south. Between 1775 and 1867 the lives, interactions and social connects of free and enslaved Africans-America are recorded in county court petitions, and state legislative documents. Using the Digital Library on American Slavery's (DLAS) Race and Slavery Petition Project's on-line data base and companion printed guide: *'Race, Slavery and Free Blacks, Series'*, this lecture will demonstrate how to search, and secure abstracts of these legal actions which involved slaves and free persons of color. Every action of their lives including ownership, divisions of them as property, the birth of descendants and etc. are discussed in these court actions. This lecture will also demonstrate how to access the microfilm of the complete court or legislative records.



The Digital Library on American Slavery is an on-line data base of abstracted court cases and state legislative actions. Identified as the 'Race and Slavery Petition Project', this database contains the names of thousands of slaves, their owners and includes information on their community. This five part database project that includes the 'North Carolina Runaway Slave Advertisement'. This database contains thousands of searchable newspaper advertisements of run-away slaves. Many of these ads describe the physical and psychological conditions of the slave including personal and genealogical information. The DLAS website also includes the 'Registry of Slave Deeds' project and the 'Slave Era Insurance Policy' project. The most recent addition to this database is 'Voyages' - a searchable database of the World Wide Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade' industry. The database also includes the Race and Slavery Petition Project, this presentation examines these five projects and demonstrates their genealogical value to African-American research. This project covers all of the southern states and the District of Columbia.

Research Skill Building – Research skills and techniques learned in searching this website will enhance African-American slave research and family history study. By combining on-line search techniques with the library location of the printed guide(s) books, participants will:

1) Learn to navigate the 'Race and Slavery Petition Project'
    a. Discover the impact of court and legislation actions on the lives of the enslaved and free people of color

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b. Learn techniques to co-relate the on-line abstracted court documents with the full legal files,
c. Develop the skills to browse the database of extracted court documents,
d. Learn to obtain the complete record filing(s) with outcomes containing additional research material.

2) Learn to navigate the on-line 'Runaway Slave Advertisement' database project:
   a. Develop new internet search techniques
   b. Learn to download the files of missing slave kin
   c. Appreciate the individual, genealogical and social value of these ads

3) Search the 'Slave Deeds of North Carolina' database
   a. Access the Registry of Slaves Bought and Sold
   b. Learn how to access copies of original Slave Deed Bill of Sale
   c. Learn to access the ads by county
   d. Review a description of Slave Deeds
   e. View 10,000 slave ads by county
4) Access the World-Wide Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade database
   a. Develop skills to access the listings of slave names, slave ship names; their owners and listings of their cargo of humans
   b. Listing of slave names and ships, arrival and departure dates
   c. Access all 34,946 voyages, and 86,689 slave names
   d. Explore the African Name database.
5) Learn to access the 'Slave Era Insurance Registry'
   a. Explore a database that records these policies
   b. What state slave insurance registry laws?
      i. Selected State Registries
      ii. Slave names and owners
      iii. Names of Insurance Policy holders, county, state

Presentation Outline

Part I

Overview of the Digital Library on American Slavery (DLAS),
Race and Slavery Petition database
Examples of Search Methods:
- Search (Browse) by subject/topic: slave ownership, slave management, manumission, Free People of Color, crime and punishment, and etc.
- Search by name: first/last name of owner or slave,
- Search by court petition number,
- Search by select year/state,
- Glossary of Terms

Instructions for accessing the Race & Slavery Petition Project on-line
-Access website at www.library.uncg.edu/slavery.

-Step 1 (search by topic): In top left hand column, click, '**Search By Name'** enter last name of owner. You **may** also wish to enter a state name.

- In the box marked 'Role', FPOC is Free People of Color

-Step 2: At the next page, enter surname only, scroll down to the bottom of page and click, '**search**'. (Note: If the surname is very common, use other filters to narrow search. Do not limit your search to your home state. Slave owner's and/or their relatives were in several states where petitions could have been filed.)

-Step 3: The next page will show **'Name Search Results'** and will list the 1) Court Petition Number, 2) year filed, 3) state where the petition was filed, name, color, gender, role in petition and Enslavement Status. To view a **summary** of the petition. Select a name and 'click'.

-Importance of Petition Number - With this petition number you can now access the abstracted file. All of the microfilm, along with the Guide Books for Series I and Series II, are available at selected libraries. Series I: contain the county court petitions, Series II: contain the state legislative actions.

-Step 4: To view an abstract of the petition. (Under title: **"Name Search Results")** At this page, in the left hand column, click, the 'Petition' number and view the ABSTRACT of the petition.

-Step 5: At the '**Abstract of Petition'** page scroll down and click on the 'number of slaves'. (Click and the names of the slaves will be listed. Each of these documents is printable or you can do a screen print to save or e-mail to yourself.)

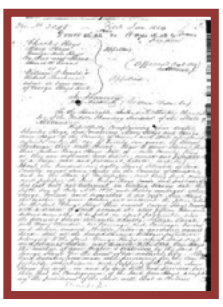
Accessing the Microfilm of the court petition

- Using the Printed Guide Books: *"Race Slavery and Free Blacks, Series I and II, 1777-1867"*
- Understanding the **P**etition **A**nalysis **R**ecord number (PAR). This number will allow you to access the microfilm of the complete court petition.

- example of **PAR numbering system:** 20 18 5203 (eight digits)

20 (**first two digits**)	18 **(second two digits)**	52 **(next digits)**	03 (**last two digits**)
Identifies the legislative or court jurisdiction	Identifies state where petition is filed	Identifies last two digits of filing year (52 is year1852)	Identifies the petition

Example of Court Petition Filed



Petition # 20185203 – In 1852, Alabama, the heirs to the estate of George Hays charged Estate Executor William P. Gould with waste and mismanagement of the estate. This multi page Court Petition identifies 180 slaves by name and owner by the deceased.

The petitions list all of the slaves. The partial abstract list some of 180 slaves, by name.

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Part II: Instructions for Accessing the Runaway Slave Newspaper Advertisements project
Newspaper ads for runaway fugitive slaves posted in newspapers, 1751 to1840.

Part III: Registry of Slave Deed Bill of Sale

- On-line access to over 5,000 run-away slave newspaper ads
- Access biographical/genealogical information
- Reveal ownership information

Part IV: Slavery Era Insurance Registries

- The Value of Slaves
- Market economy of declared insurance policies with cities
- Premiums and Special Premiums
- Selected State Registries

Part V: Voyages: World Wide Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade

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Johnson, Keith A. and Sainty, Malcolm R., *"Genealogical Research Directory, National & International 1999"*

Microfilm

Guide to the Microfilm Edition of Race, Slavery and Free Blacks, Series I, Petitions to Southern Legislatures, 1777-1878, Series II, Petitions to Southern County Courts, 1775-1867, Part B: Maryland (1775-1866, Delaware (1779-1857), District of Columbia (1803-1865), Series II, Petitions to Southern County Courts, 1775-1867, Part C: Virginia (1775-1867) and Kentucky (1790-1864), Series II, Petitions to Southern County Courts, 1775-1867, Part D, North Carolina (1775-1867) and South Carolina (1784-1867), Series II, Petitions to Southern County Courts, 1775-1867, Part F: Louisiana (1795-1863).

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Slave Insurance in the United States, wikipedia.com, Last Accessed, Jan. 2019

The Dutch Reformed Churches in America

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Mary Risseeuw is a genealogist, historian, writer and lecturer. She has researched 19th & 20th century Dutch immigration to Wisconsin for 30 years. She has lectured throughout the Midwest and the Netherlands. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Association for the Advancement of Dutch American Studies. She also organized and hosted the Dutch in Wisconsin Conference in 2008; the first Dutch studies conference to focus solely on Dutch immigration to Wisconsin

Marble Collegiate Church New York City

In 1628 a small group of people met in a wilderness village called New Amsterdam and organized the first Dutch Reformed congregation in North America. By 1664, when New Netherlands fell to the English, there were ten congregations in the colony (present day New York, New Jersey and parts of Connecticut and Delaware). The Dutch language continued to be used in services, as well as the Calvinist doctrines that had been established in the Netherlands during the Reformation. The, now, Reformed Church in America is the oldest Protestant denomination with a continuous ministry. Little did they know that over three centuries later there would be approximately 950 congregations throughout the U.S.

The influx of Dutch emigrants between 1840 and 1860 was, in part, the product of the Secession of 1837 from the Dutch Reformed Church in the Netherlands. The most devout held critical roles at both ends of this emigration process-in the Netherlands and within the settlements established in the 1840s and 50s. Those that settled in the Midwest felt a common bond. The desire to practice their religion in a new country as they saw fit was not without controversy. Nor was pull towards integration into American society and the influence of American Protestants. These Midwest colonies generated the other Dutch communities in the U.S. and served as magnets or to 'process' other waves of emigrants. When congregations began to feel that members were becoming too liberal, the first division occurred. In 1857 the Christian Reformed Church was organized. It has long been considered a more conservative denomination. The role of the churches was (and still is) critical in creating the social capital that defines many Dutch-Americans. Many Dutch-Americans define themselves by their membership in a denominational church. Americanization was a threat to Dutch identity. At the turn of the century ministers denounced adaptation as a source of bringing heresy into the church. Coupling that with major controversy over Freemasonry and women's role in the church creating larger disagreements that continue into 2020. This session will provide the history of the churches and the divisions to help you understand the Dutch immigrant, their settlement choice and their culture in the United States.

1. Religion in the Netherlands

    1.1 Dutch Reformed Church in the 1600s
    1.2 Dutch Reformed Church in the 1800s
    1.3 Differences between New Netherlands and 19th century emigrant religious history

2. Secession of the Dutch Reformed Church

    2.1 History
    2.2 Why this had such an effect on emigration

Rev. Albertus van Raalte

3. Establishment of churches in the United States

    3.1 Rev. Albertus van Raalte in Michigan
    3.2 Rev. Hendrik Scholte in Iowa
    3.3 The Independents and Rev. Pieter Zonne in Wisconsin

Rev. Hendrik Scholte

4. The Christian Reformed Church

    4.1 The split from the Reformed Church in America
    Some of the reasons that were offered:
    *a perceived lack of sound doctrinal preaching by American pastors;
    *a perceived lack of piety and too much accommodation to American culture by the same pastors;
    *the use of hymns in worship by the Americans- the Seceders insisted on psalm-singing only;
    *the practice by the American churches of "open communion, "extending an open invitation to all believers to participate in the Lord's Supper;
    *the perceived lack of solidarity on the part of the Americans with the secessionist cause in the Netherlands.

    4.2 History and influence on Dutch communities

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5. The Netherlands Reformed Church and the True Dutch Reformed Church

    5.2 History and influence

First Netherlands Reformed Church, Grand Rapids, MI

6. Establishment of Colleges and Seminaries
   This includes: Hope College, Holland, MI; Central College, Pella, IA; Northwestern College, Orange City, IA; Dordt University, Sioux Center, IA; Calvin University, Grand Rapids, MI; Western Theological Seminary, Holland, MI; Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, MI: New Brunswick Theological Seminary, New Brunswick, NJ and newer seminaries established after denominational splits.

    6.1. East coast vs. Midwest
    6.2. Liberal vs. conservative

7. Record Collections
    7.1 United States Archives
        7.1.1. Private
        7.1.2. Seminary and college
            Calvin University, Grand Rapids, MI
            Joint Archives of Holland, Holland, MI
            New Brunswick Theological Seminary, New Brunswick, NJ
            Central College, Pella, IA
            Northwestern College, Orange City, IA
            Dordt University, Sioux Center, IA
            Holdings include church history, biographical, newspaper and personal files.

        7.1.3. Local historical societies and public libraries

    7.2 Archives in the Netherlands with U.S. holdings

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Establishing Identity and Proving Relationships: Research Methodologies That Work

Board for Certification of Genealogists® Skillbuilding Lecture

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Robust research uses tools and methodologies that correlate evidence from a variety of sources to reconstitute ancestors uniquely and place them accurately within their families.

Build Methodologies Based on Research Standards

A research methodology consists of tools and techniques applied to gather, analyze, and correlate data. We quote below select standards and phrases from *Genealogy Standards*, 2nd edition. Use these and other standards individually and chained together to build effective methodologies in your research.

Approaching a research project:

10. **Effective research questions** ("sufficiently broad…sufficiently focused")
11. **Sound basis** ("analyzing starting-point information")
12. **Broad context** ("factors that could affect the research plan")
14. **Topical breadth** ("their relatives, neighbors, and associates")
15. **Efficient sequence** ("give priority to efficient discovery")
17. **Extent** ("all potentially relevant sources")

Approaching sources:

19. **Data-collection scope** ("all information potentially relevant")
24. **Understanding meanings** ("for the source's time and place")
36. **Information analysis** ("accuracy, integrity, and completeness")

Approaching evidence:

40. **Evidence mining** ("including indirect and negative evidence")
41. **Evidence scope** ("possible relatives, neighbors, and associates")
47. **Evidence correlation** ("discover parallels, patterns, and inconsistencies")
48. **Resolving evidence inconsistencies** ("articulating a defensible rationale")

Focus on Establishing Identity and Proving Relationships

Consider these and similar elements of identity that combine to uniquely identity a person or relationship:

- **Personal characteristics**
  - Given and family names
  - Physical and biological attributes
  - Occupation
  - Handwriting
- **Life events**
  - Birth, christening, marriage, death, and burial
  - Immigration and naturalization
  - Residence
  - Financial transactions
- **Relationships and groups**
  - Family
  - Friends, neighbors, and associates
  - Societal and religious affiliation
  - Military unit

Common Challenges to Overcome

- *Frontier Research*
  - **Lack of vital records**. In newly settled frontiers, local governments often took decades to enforce registration of births, marriages, and deaths.
  - **Lack of church records**. Protestant and Catholic churches typically appeared years after pioneers of each faith settled an area, with additional years passing before parish registers were consistently kept and preserved. This paucity of early records complicates genealogical research in newly established communities.
  - **Minimal family details in the earliest surviving records**. The first few decades of a new settlement generally kept scantier records and may have struggled to provide adequate storage to preserve early documents.

- *Tracing a Female Ancestor Who Died Young*
  - **Only a handful of records**. The shorter a person's lifespan, the fewer records exist documenting the individual. A young woman rarely bought or sold property, paid taxes, or did anything that would leave a financial record, as she would be under the care of her father or husband for those matters.
  - **Maiden name**. Tracing a married woman of unknown parentage is particularly difficult in the United States when the maiden name of the woman is unknown. When she dies young and her husband remarries, she may be essentially forgotten in written records.

- *Researching Families in Motion*
  - **Unknown origins**. Unknown origins hide the birth and marriage records of migrants and immigrants, restricting research solely to documents created in their most recent residence.
  - **Poor families left few records**. Poor tenant farmers had little money for property, taxes, tombstones, or probate. Consequently, they may have left a meager paper trail, without deeds, mortgages, wills, administrations, obituaries, or tax records.
  - **Problems spelling names**. Immigrant ancestors had foreign names that were often spelled poorly, anglicized, or otherwise altered, thus obscuring their presence in historical records.

- *Records Difficult to Access*
  - **Local access only**. A reasonable exhaustive search often includes records only available locally. Accessing local records may require onsite visits or the services of local researchers. Either approach may involve significant expense.
  - **Hidden records**. Some of the best evidence lurks in attics, barns, and the memory of locals. Finding the records and people takes correspondence, time, patience, and a degree of serendipity. Even when the records exist in an archive, they might be un-cataloged, in offsite storage, or simply unavailable to researchers.
  - **Inadequate indexes**. Newspapers, diaries, estate papers, private ledgers, and many other records lack basic indexes. Even major record types such as deeds, wills, births, marriages, and deaths may have only principle-name indexes.

- *Short-Sighted Research Approaches*
  - **Superficial name searching**. Quick searches of indexes and focusing on the best matches encourages hasty conclusions without adequate analysis and correlation of evidence.
  - **Focusing on one ancestor**. Exclusive focus on the end-of-line ancestor usually fails to extend the line. Also, focusing on ancestral research may fail if inadequate descendant research is ignored. A broader research plan substantially increases the likelihood of success.
  - **Endlessly seeking the perfect record.** No single document holds the undisputed answer. Credible research requires multiple records to produce reliable conclusions.
  - **Expecting direct evidence**. Many challenging research problems cannot be solved with direct evidence alone. Better to plan for an indirect-evidence proof rather than stay entrenched in a direct-evidence mindset.

Specific Methodologies We Will Showcase

- **Cluster genealogy** – researching extended family, neighbors, and associates
- **Documenting as you go** – this speeds up your research
- **Asking good questions** – the essence of a solid research plan
- **Deciding how widely to cast your net** – understanding "reasonably exhaustive" research
- **Onomastic analysis** – understanding naming patterns for the specific culture and time period
- **Visualizing with maps, timeline, and tables** – seeing the bigger picture
- **Measuring proximity effectively** – when is close, close enough?

Recommended Reading

- Board for Certification of Genealogists. *Genealogy Standards*, 2nd edition. Nashville, TN: Turner Publishing, Ancestry imprint, 2019.
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Central South Accreditation Case Study

Michelle Ercanbrack, Family Historian at Ancestry, @MichelleErcanbrack

Walk through each twist and turn of the Martin family's tangled tree in Texas.

How can the Accreditation process help me grow as a family historian?

What are some benefits of having a focused geographic expertise?

What is one way I can create accountability?

What is one way to determine when enough research is enough?

Imagine you are an Accredited Genealogist, what does that feel like?

_____

Birth:

_____

Place:

_____

Death:

_____

Place:

_____

- □ Birth Index
- □ Birth Certificate

- □ Marriage Index
- □ Marriage Certificate

- □ Death Index
- □ Death Certificate
- □ SSDI
- □ Obituary
- □ Find A Grave
- □ Burial

- □ Passenger List
- □ Naturalization

- □ WWI Draft
- □ WWII Draft
- □ Military
- □ Enlistment

- □ Land records
- □ Probate records
- □ Deeds
- □ Tax records
- □ Court records

- □ 1940 Census
- □ 1930 Census
- □ 1920 Census
- □ 1910 Census
- □ 1900 Census
- □ 1880 Census
- □ 1870 Census
- □ 1860 Census
- □ 1850 Census
- □ 1840 Census
- □ 1830 Census
- □ 1820 Census
- □ 1810 Census
- □ 1800 Census
- □ 1790 Census

- □ Agricultural schedule
- □ Mortality schedule
- □ Slave schedule
- □ State census
- □ City Directories

- □ Voter registration
- □ Yearbooks
- □ Employment records
- □ Medical records
- □ Local histories
- □ Maps

- □ Bible records
- □ Church records
- □ Manuscript collections

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Stock Marks Aren't Just Brands: Use them to Identify People Also!

SYNONYMS:
Brands
Cattle Marks
Earmarks
Flesh Marks

By Diane L. Richard[1]

Introduction

I became fascinated with stock marks when I was researching a colonial NC family and realized that stock mark records are some of the earliest extant records found in North Carolina. We often associate stock marks and brands with the large cattle ranches in the western states; we do that at our own risk. That said, let's explore stock marks, their role and most importantly for genealogists, where we can find them across the U.S. and Canada.

EXAMPLES - PUBLISHED VOLUMES

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(3) Abstracts of deeds, Marion County, Mississippi, containing deeds, marks and brands, bonds, mortgages, and deeds of gift, E. Russ Williams, 1962
(4) Cattle marks of Northampton County, Va., 1665-1742, Frank V Walczyk, 1999
(5) Earmark and brand book, showing all sheep and goat earmarks and brands recorded, and all new marks and brands recorded up to February 12, 1937, comp. by Tom Snell, New Mexico Sheep Sanitary Board
(6) Livestock brands & marks: an unexpected bayou country history: 1822-1946 pioneer families Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana, Christopher Everette Cenac & Claire Domangue Joller, 2013
(7) Marks & brands of domestic animals as registered in Knox County, Indiana, 1807-1841, Helen Kackley, 1951
(8) Marks and brands of Effingham County, Georgia 1790-1908, Norman Vincent Turner, 2002
(9) Old Albemarle County, North Carolina, Pasquotank precinct (county) births, marriages, deaths, brands and flesh marks & county claims, 1691-1833, Weynette Parks Haun, 1981.
(10) Early livestock brands of Carteret County, North Carolina, 1768-1849, Sharon Guthrie, 1997
(11) North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal, Tyrrell Stock Marks (1763+), Volume 42, No 1, 2016

[1] Mosaic Research and Project Management, Raleigh, NC, www.mosaicrpm.com, www.tarheeldiscoveries.com, 919-231-8137, dianelrichard@mosaicrpm.com

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EXAMPLES – ONLINE RESOURCES

(1) [Index] [North Carolina] Bertie County NC Cattle Markings 1722-1741, http://files.usgwarchives.net/nc/bertie/deeds/cattle.txt & Stock Marks of Tyrrell County, North Carolina, 1763-1819, http://www.ncgenweb.us/tyrrell/STOCK.HTM
(2) [Finding Aids] Oregon Historical County Records Guide – Coos County Records Inventory, Marks and Brands Records, 1857-1945, http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/pages/records/local/county/coos/inv/marks.html & Douglas County, Marks and Brands Records, 1852-1949, http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/pages/records/local/county/douglas/inv/marks.html
(3) [Index] Levy County Clerk (FL), Historical Marks & Brands, 1865-1907, http://www.levyclerk.com/historical-records/
(4) [Index] Monroe County (MO), Marks & Brands 1831-1870, http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~momonroe/marks.htm
(5) [Abstract] Sumner County (TN), Stock Marks & Brands, 1837-1869, http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~we3sumneritesjblcsf/receipts&c3.htm
(6) [Gateway] Cyndi's List, https://cyndislist.com/pets/brands/?page=1, maintains a "Livestock Brands and Marks page." There is some overlap with the resources listed here and probably others not included here.

Historical Context

Unlike today where it would be unlikely to find cattle, horses, pigs, etc not enclosed behind a stone wall, fence, or some other barrier, in non-cattle ranching states, in earlier times, it was common for stock to freely range.

"Marks and Brands. Until the early twentieth century, North Carolina's range was open – that is, crops, not livestock, were to be fenced in. Marks and brands were used to prove ownership of the cattle, horse, hogs, sheep, and goats roaming free in the woods. Marks were cuts made in the animals' ears, varying in location, number, and type – crop, slit, swallow fork, over keel, under keel, poplar leaf, bit slice, circle, and square. Owners normally used several cuts, which in combination constituted the identifying mark ... Brands were generally initials stamped onto animal rumps.

Marks and brands were publicly recorded in order that duplication, confusion, and controversies might be avoided. Parents often recorded marks in the names of their children. Before 1868, their period of greatest use, marks and brands were recorded in county court minutes or volumes assigned to that purpose. After 1868, registers of deeds usually placed them in Record of Marks volumes."[2]

As with any records, understanding the law helps determine what actions had to be taken and what records were required to be created. For NC, we have "An Act to appoint the Marking Horses, Cattle & Hoggs & to prevent injuries done by killing, mis-marking, driving away or destroying people's Stocks" found in Acts of the North Carolina General Assembly, 1715-1716, Chapter XLII.[3]

FRIDAY

[2] North Carolina Research – Genealogy and Local History, 2nd Edition, Helen F.M. Leary, C.G., F.A.S.G., editor, North Carolina Genealogical Society, Raleigh, 1996, pages 292-3
[3] http://docsouth.unc.edu/csr/index.html/document/csr23-0001#p23-57

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Value of These Records

Recognize that early registrations of stock marks might coincide with land grant purchases or other initial land purchases as the listed individuals moved into the neighborhood. And, not just sons are mentioned! References to daughters and even grandchildren can be found.

Accessing these Records

We are fortunate in that there are many ways to access these records. See the three boxes:
Examples – Published Volumes
Examples – Online Resources
Examples – Historical Published Volumes & Archive Holdings

Additionally, FamilySearch, https://familysearch.org/catalog/search, and its digitization efforts now provides access to these records for select states. Select the Keywords option (you can also limit by Place). A search on "Stock Marks" yields entries found for Alabama, North Carolina, Indiana, Missouri, Tennessee, Arkansas, West Virginia, and more. Recognize that these are a mix of original records and published volumes. A search on "Brands" + "Cattle" yielded entries from Oklahoma, Kansas, Louisiana, Texas, Arizona, Missouri, Georgia and beyond. Recognizing that different locales used different terminology, search on several different words and phrases.

EXAMPLES – HISTORICAL PUBLISHED VOLUMES & ARCHIVE HOLDINGS

(1) Internet Archive, https://archive.org – a rich research for late 19th century and early 20th century information. A search on subject: Livestock Brands yields 24 hits including records from Montana, Alberta Canada, Missouri, Wyoming, Colorado, and more, while a search on subject: Cattle Brands yields 23 hits including records from Texas, Montana, Oregon, Nebraska, and more.
(2) HathiTrust, https://www.hathitrust.org/ -- similar search terms as for internet Archive – records of California [includes a collection of 22 items under earmarks], Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, Texas, and Iowa.
(3) JStor, https://www.jstor.org/ – you can access select content for free. For example, Stock Marks recorded in South Carolina, 1695-1721, A.S. Salley, The South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine, Volume 13, 1912, https://archive.org/details/jstor27575337
(4) Worldcat, http://www.worldcat.org/ -- provides great insight into published volumes (though also microfilm and other formats as well). It is not unusual to find that a microfilmed version of original records might be available in multiple libraries and for interlibrary loan.
(5) ArchiveGrid, https://beta.worldcat.org/archivegrid/ -- several collections of original material are found such as for Decatur County (IN) Stock Marks, 1822, 1871, https://beta.worldcat.org/archivegrid/collection/data/247135179. Similarly found records for Utah, Oregon, Montana, Tennessee, California, Wisconsin, and elsewhere.

Don't forget to research into the library or archival catalog of choice for the locale you are researching. All repositories do not have their catalogs online as part of the already mentioned resources.

Knowing that the western Canadian counties were/are big on livestock ranching, I checked the Archives of Manitoba where I found – Livestock Branch Brand Registers, 1877-1962, http://pam.minisisinc.com/scripts/mwimain.dll/144/PAM_DESCRIPTION/DESCRIPTION_DET_

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REP/REFD+9112?SESSIONSEARCH. Or, maybe they lived in Alberta and the files of the Stockmen's Memorial Foundation, Cancelled Brand Files, http://www.smflibrary.ca/brand.html, are relevant.

I also checked out the SC ArchCat, Catalog for the South Carolina Archives, http://rediscov.sc.gov/scar/ where, apparently, records of interest might be the Estrays records, extant for several counties, where "appraisers certifying the valuation and describing the animals as to kind, marks, brands …" would provide some information about marks and brands.

Recognize that you will not typically find these records at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) as they are not federal records. These are state and/or locally created records.

Also appreciate that many states still have requirements for registering marks, brands, etc.

"Branding Irons" by jkirkhart35, https://ccsearch.creativecommons.org/photos/71174663-6294-466a-9611-7d50e909696c

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Freedmen's Bureau Records—A Rich Source for Researching Black and White Ancestors

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The Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, known more commonly as the Freedmen's Bureau, was established by an act of Congress on 3 March 1865 to be responsible for the supervision and management of all matters relating to refugees, freedmen, and land that was abandoned or seized in the Civil War. It is widely recognized that this record group represents a very important source of information for those researching enslaved ancestry but the contents of this vast record group can provide rich information for those researching black and white ancestors as well as the socioeconomic circumstances of southern communities during this critical period of transition.

Although the bureau's existence was relatively short-lived, operating at its peak from 1865-68 and abolished by act of Congress in 1872, the records left behind provide researchers with primary source documentation consisting of a wide variety of first-person narratives and statistical reports. The various reports are replete with the names and family circumstances of white refugees, plantation owners, and black freedmen; they also provide descriptions and statistical details of agricultural successes and failures, progress in education in the districts, labor contracts ratified, medical aid rendered, relief supplies distributed, conflicts resolved, justice dispensed, and a fair share of the unexpected.

At the head of the bureau was the commissioner, Major General Oliver Otis Howard, who commanded the bureau from Washington, D.C. Assistant commissioners were assigned at the state level, and sub-assistant commissioners, and even sub-sub assistant commissioners, were responsible for the field offices set up in each state. Field offices were responsible for districts or sub-districts consisting of a territory of counties or parishes within each state. Although the organizational structure of field offices varied depending on the area and state, the reporting requirements imposed on field offices were largely consistent. Detailed reports on all manner of bureau activities were regularly filed from the field offices up the chain to the state and then to the commissioner in Washington. The multiple and varied reports were intended to track the bureau's progress toward its mission.

The Keys to using these records to support research goals is to understand the organization and reporting protocols of the Bureau, to identify the type of record that will likely contain the information you seek, to locate and access the records using the variety of media available.

Learning Outcomes

- Locate and access Freedmen's Bureau records to support research goals.
- Identify record types, a description of the record content and the categories of people likely found in the reports.
- Analyze record content for details of the lives of freedmen, planters, refugees, Bureau officers and teachers.

Content Outline

I. Organizational bureaucracy of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands
   a. Purpose and mission of Bureau
      i. People served
      ii. People who served
   b. Reporting structure; reports generated
      i. Bureau
      ii. State or district level
      iii. District level
      iv. Sub-districts, subordinate field offices

II. Reporting on the whole community
   a. Lists and registers
   b. Labor contracts, indentures
   c. Pleas for food and help
   d. Reports of plantation conditions
   e. Medical assistance
   f. Complaints of abuse, unfair labor practices

III. Accessing the records
   a. Research realities
   b. Descriptive pamphlet – the indispensable reference
   c. Your ancestors' likely field office
   d. Record types and results
      i. Registers of colored persons
      ii. Labor contracts
      iii. Complaints
      iv. Plantation records
      v. Aid to indigent

Freedmen's Bureau Research Strategy

- Study the organization of the Bureau and history of operations in the state of research.
- Focus your research on record types; look for lists and registers.
- Locate the field office(s) nearest to your ancestor, then the district and/or state office.
- Study the Descriptive Pamphlet of state of research, really study.
- Identify the Microfilm Roll number that contains the types of records that could possibly answer your research question.
- Access the desired Microfilm Roll; microfilm on site, online at FamilySearch.org or Internet Archive.
- Conduct a page-by-page search to locate ancestors.
- Repeat at the district and state levels.

Resources

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FamilySearch WIKI
https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/African_American_Freedmen%27s_Bureau_Records

Mapping the Freedmen's Bureau
https://mappingthefreedmensbureau.com/

St. Louis County Library. Glossary of terms for Records of the Field Offices of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands. https://www.slcl.org/content/glossary-terms-records-field-offices-bureau-refugees-freedmen-and-abandoned-lands

History.com Editors. Freedmen's Bureau. https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/freedmens-bureau

National Museum of African American History & Culture. The Freedmen's Bureau Records. https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/initiatives/freedmens-bureau-records

The Freedmen's Bureau Online. https://www.freedmensbureau.com/

Four Brothers, Four Stories: Discovering Your Ancestor's Union Army Experience

Sharon Hoyt, MLIS, CG®
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Knowing your ancestor's Union army unit and service dates is only the beginning of his story. A wide range of sources are available to help you learn about and understand his experience.

Researching Soldiers

1. **Compiled Military Service Records (CMSRs)** for volunteer Union soldiers are available from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in Washington, D.C. (https://www.archives.gov/veterans). Each CMSR jacket contains a set of cards summarizing a veteran's entries in muster, payment, prison, hospital, and other rolls. Use the information from the CMSR to identify research opportunities in other records. For more information, see Claire Prechtel-Kluskens, "Compiled Military Service Records: Part I," *NGS Magazine* 38 (January-March 2012):32-36. Also, Claire Prechtel-Kluskens, "Compiled Military Service Records: Part II," *NGS Magazine* 38 (April-June 2012): 32-38. NGS Magazine articles are available to National Genealogical Society (NGS) members at the NGS website: https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/magazine/. For information on Regular Army (non-volunteer) veterans, see "U.S. Army, Register of Enlistments, 1798-1914" on Ancestry.

    - **Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System** (https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm): indexes names in Compiled Military Service Records.
    - **African American Service Records:** Selected compiled service records are available on Ancestry in "U.S., Colored Troops Military Service Records, 1863-1865."

2. **Medical records:** Medical information and injury records may be summarized in CMSRs and pension records, but more details may be available in carded medical records. For an overview, see "Carded Medical Records for Volunteer Soldiers, Regular Army, and Naval Personnel, 1821–1912": (https://www.archives.gov/files/research/military/carded-medical-records-1821-1912.pdf).

3. **Pension Lists and Indexes:** To determine whether an honorably discharged Union Army veteran or his surviving family members applied for or received a pension, check the indexes to Pension Files. If an entry is found, use the data from the index card to order the complete file from the National Archives. For more information about pensions, see: Marie Varrelman Melchiori, CG, CGL, and Claire Prechtel-Kluskens, "Did your Union Army Civil war ancestor apply for a pension?," *NGS Magazine* 40 (July-September 2014): 39-43.

    - **General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934** (NARA T288): Organized by soldier surname. On FamilySearch: "United States General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934". Ancestry: "U.S., Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934."

- **Organizational Index to Pension Files of Veterans Who Served Between 1861 and 1917** (NARA T289): Organized by unit. Images are available at Fold3 as "Civil War and Later Veterans Pension Index." The index without images is available at FamilySearch as "United States, Civil War and Later Pension Index."
- **Pension Application Files of Remarried Widows Based on Service in the Civil War and Later Wars (**NARA M1785): As of January 2020, about twenty percent of available files are digitized on Fold3 in the collection "Civil War 'Widow's Pensions.'"

4. **Pension files:** Files can provide rich details about a veteran and their family members. Files may include information on family members, dates and places of marriage, medical and discharge details, and depositions by family, friends, neighbors, employers, or fellow veterans. Union Pension files can be ordered from the National Archives in Washington, D.C. For more information, see Claire Prechtel-Kluskens, "Anatomy of a Union Civil War Pension File," *NGS NewsMagazine* 34 (July-September 2008): 43-48. Note: Union Navy pension records are fully digitized online at Fold3 (https://www.fold3.com).

5. **Court-Martials:** Military court-martials will likely be noted in a veteran's CMSR. If you find evidence of a court-martial, contact the National Archives for assistance in identifying and ordering the related case file. For more information, see: Trevor K. Plante, "The Shady Side of the Family Tree: Civil War Union Court-Martial Case Files," *Prologue Magazine* 30 (Winter 1998); archived online at *National Archives* (https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1998/winter/union-court-martials).

6. **Prisoner of War records:** Consult the veteran's CMSR for dates and locations.

7. **National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers:** In 1866, Congress established a network of homes to provide care for Union veterans. Records of the National Home (NARA M1749) contain information about a veteran's military service; domestic history (birth place, age, physical description, residence, and nearest relative); and National Home history (admission dates, furloughs, death date, cause of death, and burial). Records for twelve regional homes are on FamilySearch as "United States National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866-1938" (also on Ancestry). For more information, see:
   - History of the National Homes (National Park Service): https://www.nps.gov/articles/history-of-disabled-volunteer-soldiers.htm
   - Trevor K. Plante, "The National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers," *Prologue Magazine* 36 (Spring 2004); archived online at *National Archives* (https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2004/spring/soldiers-home.html)

8. **Death and cemetery records (selected)**
   - **U.S. Records of Death in the Regular Army**: Death register entries for men serving in the Regular (non-volunteer) Army include rank, unit, and the place, date, and cause of death. At Ancestry as "U.S., Registers of Deaths in the Regular Army, 1860-1889."
   - **Registers of Deaths of Volunteers, 1861-1865**: Register entries for volunteers give their name, rank, and unit, and the place, date, and cause of death. At Ancestry as "U.S., Registers of Deaths of Volunteers, 1861-1865."

- **Department of Veteran's Affairs Nationwide Gravesite Locator**: https://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/
  Search for burial locations of Union veterans and their family members in National Cemeteries, state veterans cemeteries, and various other military cemeteries.

9. **Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.):** This fraternal organization for honorably discharged Union veterans was divided into local chapters called "posts" within state-wide departments. Many local post records have been preserved. They provide basic information about a veteran, including personal data, military service dates, unit in which they served, and dates of joining and leaving the G.A.R. Historical societies and state archives in the area where a soldier lived after the war may hold records of local posts. Some records are online at Ancestry. For more information, see: Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. "Grand Army of the Republic Records Project." *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.* http://www.garrecords.org: 2013.

Researching Units

To learn about a veteran's service experience, research his unit and company as thoroughly as you research the veteran. Histories, newspaper articles, and books about a unit may not name your ancestor, but they can provide valuable information about his associates, activities, and the places in which he served.

1. **Unit and Regimental histories:** To determine whether a history exists for your ancestor's unit, search for book titles containing the unit number or name, and check reference lists at state archives. When searching for a unit, search for the unit number (5th New York), its ordinal equivalent (Fifth New York), and nickname, if known (Duryee's Zouaves).
   Unit histories can be found on many free digital book web sites such as Google Books, HathiTrust, Internet Archive, and at large genealogy web sites. If you locate a relevant history, compare the unit's activities to your veteran's compiled military service record.
2. **Regimental Records:** Men who served in the Regular army may be named in monthly "U.S. Returns from Regular Army Infantry Regiments, 1821-1916" (on Ancestry).
3. **Personal Letters and Diaries**: Family letters can be found at state archives, university libraries, and at Civil War-themed web sites. Reading a letter written by someone who served in the same unit can offer insight into your ancestor's experience.

Researching Battles and Locations

Researching where your ancestor's company was stationed or the battles in which he fought can deepen your understanding of your veteran ancestor's experience. To determine whether a man participated in a specific battle, check his CMSR to see whether he was reported present with his unit during those dates.

Battle summaries and maps

Civil war maps can help you locate your ancestor's unit in a specific battle and learn about the terrain in which they fought. Selected resources include:

- **American Battlefield Trust** (https://www.battlefields.org/): This non-profit organization focuses on battlefield preservation. Their web site provides maps and battle information apps that can be downloaded to mobile devices: https://www.battlefields.org/learn/maps.
- **Library of Congress**
  - **Civil War Maps:** https://www.loc.gov/collections/civil-war-maps/
- **National Park Service**
  - **Civil War battles:** https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-battles.htm
  - **Civil War Parks:** https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/relatedparks.htm
- **Newspapers:** Local newspapers from your ancestor's hometown are more likely to mention his unit, while larger newspapers such as the *New York Times* may provide more details about battles. One newspaper of interest to Civil War researchers is *Harper's Weekly*, which included battle descriptions, artwork, and maps. Digital images of the paper are available at HathiTrust (https://www.hathitrust.org/) and The Civil War web site (http://www.sonofthesouth.net/).

Selected Civil War Research Resources

- **National Archives and Records Administration** (NARA): https://www.archives.gov
  For a list of digitized NARA records and where to access them, see:
  - https://www.archives.gov/digitization/digitized-by-partners
- **National Park Service (NPS) Civil War page**: https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/index.htm

Genealogy web sites

- **Ancestry**: https://www.ancestry.com/
  - Civil War records page: https://www.ancestry.com/cs/civilwarrecords
  - NARA Collections: https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1572/
- **FamilySearch**: https://www.familysearch.org
  - FamilySearch Research Wiki (https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/): To learn about research strategies and collections, search for "civil war".
- **Fold3**: https://www.fold3.com/: An important resource for U.S. military records.
- **Online books**:
  - Google Books: https://books.google.com
  - HathiTrust Digital Library: https://www.hathitrust.org
  - Internet Archive: https://archive.org

Books

Dollarhide, William. *Genealogical Resources of the Civil War Era.* Bountiful, Utah: Family Roots Publishing Company, 2009.

Eales, Anne Brunner and Kvasnicka, Robert M. *Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives of the United States.* Third edition. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2000. At HathiTrust: https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/003834362

Discovering Your Immigrant's Origins: Digging Deeper

Rich Venezia
Rich Roots Genealogy
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http://www.richroots.net

Military records

- Pension files can be found for those who fought between 1775 and 1916: soldiers of Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Mormon Battalion, Mexican-American War, Civil War, Indian Wars, Spanish-American War
  - Found between *Ancestry.com*, *FamilySearch*, *Fold3*, and National Archives I (NARA) (Washington, DC)
  - See www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/US_Military_Pension_Records
- World War I/World War II service records
  - Available at National Personnel Records Center (St. Louis)
- Some states have separate record sets related to veterans from that state which may include an exact birthplace
  - https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States_Military_Records
  - NC: WWI Service Cards,1917–1919 and WWII Discharge and Statement of Service Records, 1940–1948 (*FamilySearch*)
  - NY Civil War Muster Roll Abstracts sometimes include birthplace – view at State Archives or https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1965/
  - PA: Veterans' Compensation Applications – WWI and WWII (*Ancestry.com*)

Fraternal Organizations

- Frequently offered some type of insurance or death benefit – hello, records!
- Many ethnic organizations exist/existed (e.g., Order Sons of Italy in America, Massachusetts Catholic Order of Foresters, Polish National Alliance, etc.)
- Don't discount non-ethnic groups (e.g., Freemasons, IOOF, Knights of Pythias)
- Applications, death benefits, mortuary fund files, or other records may be held
- Look for hints of membership on gravestones, in obituaries or newspaper articles, within personal papers or effects (pins/books), in family lore
- Immigration History Research Center (IHRCA) Archives has a large collection of fraternal organization records: https://www.lib.umn.edu/ihrca/

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- The Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies, whose collections are now held by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, held many fraternal and ethnic resources: https://hsp.org/collections/catalogs-research-tools/subject-guides/ethnic-history-resources
- See https://www.cyndislist.com/societies/fraternal/

Social Security Applications (SS-5 forms)

- Includes birthdate, birthplace, parents' names
  - Somewhat rare to include an exact town – often just lists country
- Most people alive and eligible in the late 1930s applied for Social Security
- Only available for deceased individuals (must provide death proof if DOB less than 100 years ago)
- Use SSDI or applications and claims index on *Ancestry.com* to obtain SSN
- Order record ($24 with or sans SSN): https://www.ssa.gov/foia/request.html

Heat Maps

- A forward-facing strategy; i.e., trying to determine a likely place of origin for the immigrant and connecting it to the family already known here
- Ireland: use Griffith's Valuation to see where surname was prevalent
  - Utilize "Irish Surnames" on John Grenham's website for an interactive map: https://www.johngrenham.com/surnames/
- Italy: use http://www.italianames.com/italian-last-names-maps
- Other countries: use censuses, military records, phone books, or other available documents (they must be national in scope) to see where surnames of interest are common; if possible, cross-reference with other known surnames to see in what areas all names are prevalent

Employment Records

- Held across a variety of platforms and archives
- Don't discount sites like *Ancestry.com* or *FamilySearch*
  - Railroad records extremely popular on *Ancestry.com*, including Chicago and North Western Railroad and Northern Pacific Railway Company
- See https://www.cyndislist.com/occupations/
- Consider the location of a company's headquarters (both past and present) when searching for where their records may be deposited
- Look into local, state, regional, and national libraries and archives

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Alien Registration in North Carolina and Elsewhere

- Bolich Alien Registration Act of 1927 ("re-opened" in 1940); only lightly enforced; some intermittent years also exist, depending on county
- Includes photo, DOB, place of residence before NC (possible place of origin)
- See *FamilySearch* and North Carolina State Archives (digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/home/collections/alien-registration-and-naturalization)
- These types of records may exist in other states, e.g. ME (1940) (https://digitalmaine.com/alien_reg/) and MN (1918) (https://www.ironrangeresearchcenter.org/search/)
- Alien registration 1940–1944 also occurred nationally; records held with USCIS
- Enemy aliens in WWI (from Germany & Austro-Hungarian Empire) were required to register with the government; sporadic records survive
    - Appear to exist for KS, ND, NM, eastern NC, Frankfort (KY), Shreveport (LA), San Francisco (CA), Phoenix (AZ), and likely a few other places
    - See Julie Miller's article "Enemy Alien Registrations during World War I," in *NGS Magazine*, Apr-June 2018 edition, pp. 21-28.
    - See https://catalog.archives.gov/id/286181 for records from KS

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) records

- Order records through Genealogy Program: http://www.uscis.gov/genealogy
- Index search $65 (include as much info as possible); Record request: $65
- AR-2s: Alien Registration Forms – 1 August 1940 – 31 March 1944
    - Required for all aliens aged 14 and over residing in or entering USA
- A-Files: Alien Files – 1 April 1944 – 1 May 1951 (more recent through FOIA)
    - Contain various files related to one alien
    - A-Files for individuals with DOB before 1920 *may* be with NARA; search their database by name or A-number: https://catalog.archives.gov/
- Registry Files – 2 March 1929 – 31 March 1944
    - Records for immigrants who arrived between 29 June 1906 and 1 July 1924, but for whom no arrival manifest could be found
- Visa Files – 1 July 1924 – 31 March 1944
    - Official arrival records for those arriving for permanent residence under Immigration Act of 1924
    - Include vital records, affidavits, photos, other documents
- C-Files: Naturalization Certificate Files – 27 September 1906 – 31 March 1956
    - Mainly DOI and/or petition, as well as duplicate certificate of citizenship
    - May contain consolidated A-File, Visa File, or Registry File, or other files
    - See http://media.americanjewisharchives.org/docs/wilskeZack.pdf

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Passport Applications

- Did your ancestor become a U. S. citizen and eventually travel back home for a time, perhaps to visit relatives or settle an estate?
- U. S. Passport Applications: October 1795 – March 1925 are available on *Ancestry.com*, *FamilySearch*, on National Archives microfilm
    - See http://www.archives.gov/research/passport/
    - Passports not a requirement for travel until 1941 except for brief periods in Civil War and WWI; however, naturalized citizens traveling overseas post-WWI likely used a passport (as it was proof of citizenship)
- Request applications from April 1925 and after by mail using FOIA request to: U.S. Department of State, Office of Law Enforcement Liaison, FOIA Officer, 44132 Mercure Cir, P.O. Box 1227, Sterling, VA 20166
- Email Rich for FOIA template if needed
- See https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports/after/passport-records.html
- Passports from the country of origin don't often exist, but are worth a search!
- Look for family papers (both personal and in archives in region of interest)
    - Example: CT State Library, RG 010 includes some passports and other records foreign-born residents submitted to Department of Education when applying for work permits
    - Digitized and indexed: https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2276/

All URLs valid as of 27 January 2020.

Recommended Reading (In Brief)

Bourque, Monique and R. Joseph Anderson, comps., eds. *A Guide to the Manuscript and Microfilm Collections of the Research Library of the Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies*. Philadelphia: The Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies, 1992.

Immigration History Research Center Staff. *Records of Ethnic Fraternal Benefit Associations in the United States: Essays & Inventories.* Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, 1981.

Moody, Suzanna and Joel Wurl. *The Immigration History Research Center: A Guide to Collections*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1991.

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Share and Organize with Evernote

Lianne Kruger, iFamilyHistory.blogspot.ca

Tags

You can add a tag to every note to help identify the contents of the note. A tag maybe a last name, a document type, a location, a time period or more. You may have more than one tag per note, such as a surname and location. Be consistent on the name of the tags. Think about what you want before starting.

To add a tag

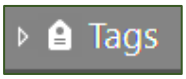
1. Select note.
2. Click on tag at the top of the note.

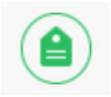
Or

1. Drag and drop from Tag list to Note.

List of Tags

1. Click Tags at the bottom of the Left Panel menu.
2. List of Tags appears in alphabetical order.

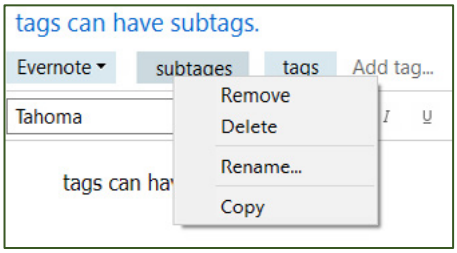




Editing

To edit a tag on a note

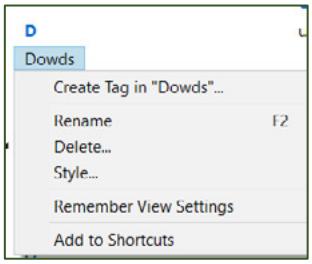
1. **Right Click** on the tags on the toolbar at the top.
   The following menu appears



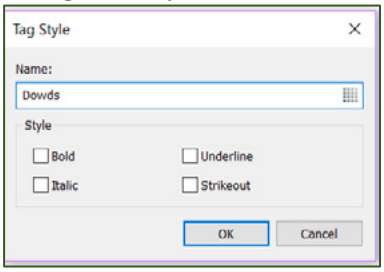
2. You can now
   a. Remove: removes the tag from the list
   b. Delete: deletes the tag from the note only. Does not delete the tag. Cannot be undone
   c. Rename the tag [on all notes]
   d. Copy: Copies to clipboard. You can paste it anywhere.

To edit a tag from the Tag list

1. Right Click on a tag in the alpha
   The following appears



2. You can now
   a. Create a subtag of this tag.
   b. Rename the tag [on all notes]
   c. Delete the tag
   d. Change the style as shown below



   e. Add to Shortcuts [explained below]
   f. Move to Top Level
      If it is a subtag this option will appear. This moves it up a level. No longer a subtag.

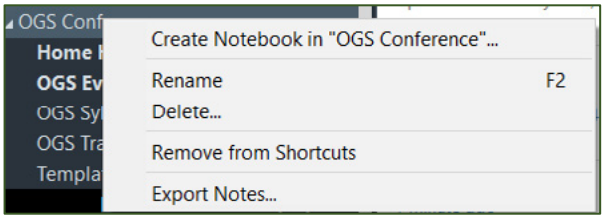
FRIDAY

Notebooks

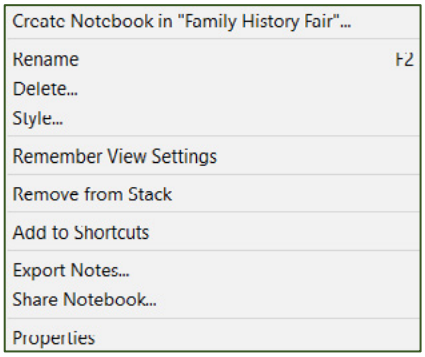
Notebooks are a good way to organize the notes. Think of it as a file folder where you put all your papers/notes, with the same subject in, to keep the notes organized.

To create a notebook

1. Select **File** from the menu.
2. Select **Notebook**.
3. Type in a name for the notebook.
4. Hit **Enter**.
   Or
5. **Right-Click** on a Notebook in the Left Panel on the Notebook you want to create a notebook in and the following menu appears.



Right-Click on a note in the Left Panel and the following menu appears.

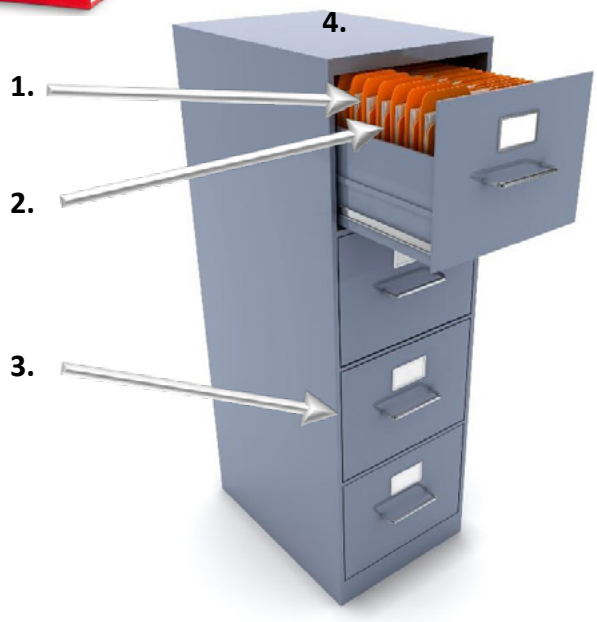


Stacks

Multiple notebooks can be organized into a stack, as in a stack of books.

Another way to think of the organization is as follows:

1. Notes goes into file folders called notebooks
2. Notebooks are stored in filing cabinet drawers
3. Stacks are the drawers
4. Evernote is the filing cabinet



Note:

Some people like tags others like notebooks.
I like to use both.

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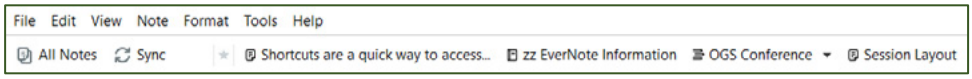
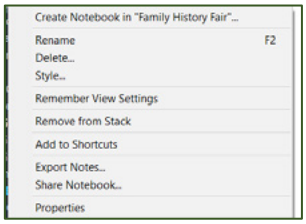
Shortcuts ☆

Shortcuts appear on the Toolbar. Put notes or notebooks that you are working on for easy access.

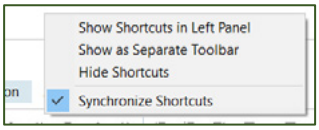


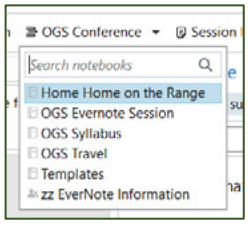
Add a shortcut to a note

1. **Right Click** on a note or notebook in the Note List you want added to the Shortcuts.
2. Select **Add to a Shortcuts**
   The name of note or notebook appears in the shortcut menu on the Toolbar as shown above.



Edit a shortcut

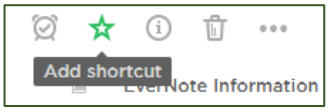




If a Stack or notebook is added, as OGS Conference on the right, a down arrow will appear and all notes in that notebook will appear.

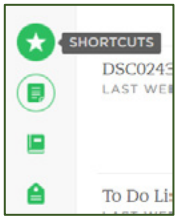
Web Shortcuts

1. Click on the star.
   A circle goes around the star and the menu appears to its right with a list of all notes you have marked as a Shortcut.



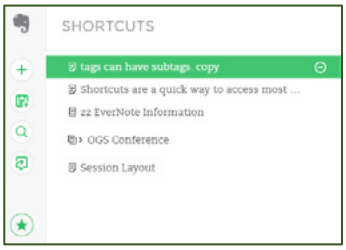
Add to shortcuts

1. Click on the note.
2. Click on the star at the top of the note [on the toolbar].
   To see your shortcuts on the web browser, click on the star on the left-hand side.



Remove a shortcut

1. Move mouse over the shortcut.
2. A minus sign appears at the right of the title.
3. Click on the minus sign to remove the shortcut.
4. It automatically disappears from the shortcut list. It does not remove the note.

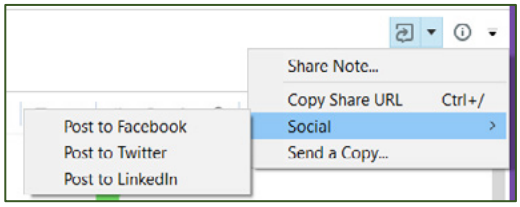


Phone Shortcuts

1. Click the star at the menu on the bottom. A list of **Recent notes** appears at the top of the screen followed by your **Shortcuts**.

Share

You can share a note or notebook with one or more individuals and share the URL with multiple people. Each package has a limit as to how many you can share and receive.



Once I have shared the note, the following screen indicates how many people I have shared with.

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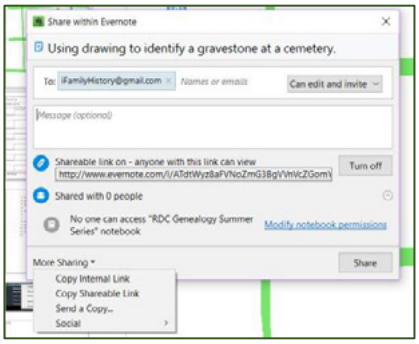


Web browser sharing menu

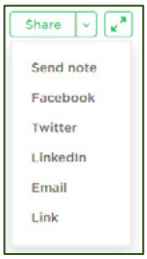
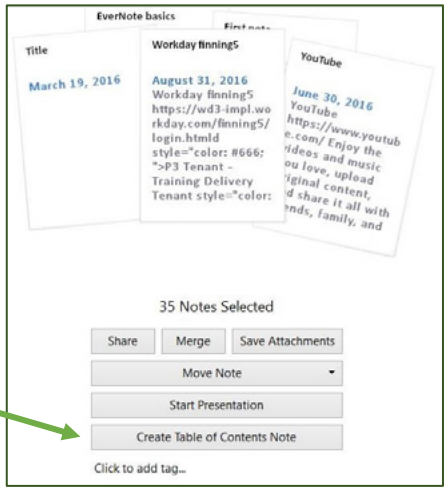


Table of Contents

To create a table of contents note

1. Select the notes you want included in the Table of Contents by holding down Ctrl / Cmd and click.
2. Select **Create Table of Contents Note** in the Note Panel. This creates a new note with a list of individual links for each of the selected notes.
3. Each title is a hyperlink to that note.



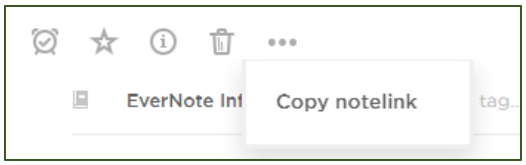
Note:
If you want external shared files included in the index, add the link in a note. Your table of contents can include links to both Evernote content and outside content.

This table of contents can be copied into a Word document. The hyperlinks still work. When clicked they will open the note. They will ask if you want to always open this type of document with Evernote. It will also open what is inside the note if it is a link or file, such as a website or a pdf document.

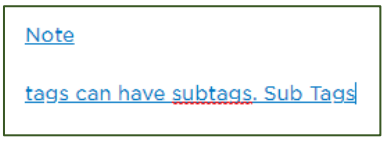
Want to add another note after creating this? You have two options.
Delete this table of contents note and remake it, or do it manually by inserting hyperlinks.

Insert Hyperlinks

To manually create a table of contents or add a link to a note to a previously made note, copying the note links of individual notes and pasting them into a new or existing note.



1. Go to the note.
2. Click on the **…** [three dots on the toolbar]
3. **Copy notelink** appears. Click on it.
4. Go to the note you want the Table of Contents.
5. Click on the line you want the hyperlink to appear.
6. **Paste**. The name of the note will appear as a hyperlink [blue underline].
7. Move your mouse over top of the link to see the link address.



FRIDAY

Carolyn Webber
carolynsgenealogy@gmail.com
National Genealogical Conference

So Many Records, So Little Time – Finding Your Utah Mormon Pioneer Ancestors
Friday, 22 May 2020 at 9:30 AM

Learn how to trace your ancestors through the multitudes of databases, museums, journal collections, newspapers, church records, and so many more collections.

1. **Getting Started**

   Determine your research objective:

   - Find birth information
   - Find marriage, divorce information
   - Find death, burial, and probate information
   - Find the parents of an ancestor
   - Find siblings, or cousins, of an ancestor
   - Find children or other descendants of an ancestor
   - Determine where your ancestor came from
   - Determine where your ancestor lived
   - Create a timeline for your ancestor
   - Learn more about their life experiences
   - Write a story about your ancestor
   - Locate a photo of your ancestor
   - Discover journal entries by or about your ancestor

2. **Research Helps**

   - **Utah State Archives Research Guides**
     https://archives.utah.gov/research/guides/index.html
   - **Utah Online Genealogy Records**
     https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Utah_Online_Genealogy_Records
   - **Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah**
     https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Utah,_Pioneers_and_Prominent_Men_of_Utah_-_FamilySearch_Historical_Records
   - **Steve Morris Utah Record Collections**
     https://stevemorse.org/fhl/websiteslist.php?state=Utah&file=weblinksunitedstates&mode=fhl

3. **Census Records**

   - **Utah Census Records**
     https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Utah_Census
   - **One Federal Census indicates religion** – Presentation will include an unusual way to discover this information
   - **Church Census Records**
     https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/126146?availability=Family%20History%20Library

4. **Immigration and Emigration**
    - **Utah, Emigration and Immigration**
      https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Utah_Emigration_and_Immigration
    - **Latter-day Emigration and Immigration**
      https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Latter-day_Emigration_and_Immigration
    - **Tracing Mormon Pioneers**
      https://user.xmission.com/~nelsonb/pioneer.htm
    - **Saints by Sea**
      https://saintsbysea.lib.byu.edu/
    - **Mormon Migration Database**
      https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2365248

5. **Online Records and Databases**
    - **Utah Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel 1847-1868**
      https://history.churchofjesuschrist.org/overlandtravel/
    - **Utah, Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah, 1847-186**
      https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2202712
    - **Illinois, Hancock County, Nauvoo Community Project 1839-1846**
      http://nauvoo.byu.edu/
    - **Black Mormon Pioneers**
      https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/topics/blacks-in-the-church/black-mormon-pioneers?lang=eng
    - **People, Places, and Events in the Early History of Latter-day Saints**
      http://www.earlylds.com/
    - **Find Your Family in Church History**
      https://history.churchofjesuschrist.org/article/find-your-family-in-church-history?lang=eng

6. **Vital Records**
    - **Search Name Indexes at Utah Division of Archives and Records Service**
      https://archives.utah.gov/research/guides/index.html
    - **Search FamilySearch Catalog**
      https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog
    - **Utah Cemeteries**
      https://history.utah.gov/cemeteries/
    - **Western States Marriage Record Index (pre 1900)**
      https://abish.byui.edu/specialCollections/westernStates/search.cfm

7. **Newspapers**
    - **Utah Digital Newspapers (1871-2016+)**
      https://digitalnewspapers.org/
    - **Chronicling America**
      chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/

8. **Church Records**
    - **Utah Missionary Registers 1860-1937**
      https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2517343
    - **Early Church Information File 1830-1900**
      https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2078505
    - **Patriarchal Blessings -** Details provided during presentation
    - **Church Membership Records**
      https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Membership_Records_of_The_Church_of_Jesus_Christ_of_Latter-day_Saints

9. **Maps and Locations**
    - **Utah Map Collections**
      https://www.mapofus.org/Utah/
    - **Animated Maps of Pioneer Travels**
      https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/church/news/cartographer-uses-maps-animated-timeline-to-tell-story-of-1846-pioneer-trek?lang=eng
    - **Land Records**
      https://glorecords.blm.gov/default.aspx

10. **Blogs**
    - https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/pioneers/

11. **Photos**
    - **Utah, George Edward Anderson Photo Collection 1860-1928**
      https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2202708
    - **Daughters of Utah Pioneers Photos**
      http://isdup.org/dyn_page.php?pageID=45
    - **Pioneers and Prominent Men**
      https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2202712
    - **Utah.gov**
      https://history.utah.gov/library-collections/digital-collections/

12. **Military**
    - **US Mormon Battalion Pension Applications, 1846-1923**
      https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1852758
    - **Utah, Territorial Militia Records, 1849-1877**
      https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1462415

13. **Daily History of the Church 1830-2008**
    - https://history.churchofjesuschrist.org/training/journal-history-of-the-church/journal-history-of-the-church

14. Journals
    - Missionary Journals
      https://lib.byu.edu/collections/mormon-missionary-diaries/

15. **Archives, Libraries, and Museums**
    - **Utah State Archives**
      https://archives.utah.gov/
    - **Church History Library**
      https://history.churchofjesuschrist.org/section/library?lang=eng
    - **BYU Family History Library**
      https://fh.lib.byu.edu/
    - **Family History Library Catalog**
      https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog
    - **National Archives at Denver**
      https://www.archives.gov/denver
    - **Daughters of the Utah Pioneers (DUP)**
      http://dupinternational.org/index.php
    - **DUP Satellite Museums (Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming)**
      http://dupinternational.org/dyn_page.php?pageID=99
    - **L. Tom Perry Special Collections**
      http://sc.lib.byu.edu/

16. Digital Books
    - Portrait, genealogical and biographical record of the State of Utah: containing biographies of many well known citizens of the past and present.
      https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=nyp.33433082306485&view=1up&seq=9
    - Google Books about Pioneers
      https://www.google.com/search?tbm=bks&q=utah+pioneers
17. Legal
    - Utah Territorial Case Files, U.S. District Court 1870-1896 (polygamy, illegal voting, counterfeit, liquor, tobacco, embezzlement, etc.)
      https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1854318

TURNING WITNESSES INTO EVIDENCE

Board for Certification of Genealogists® Skillbuilding Lecture

by

ELIZABETH SHOWN MILLS, CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS, FUGA
www.historicpathways.com • www.evidenceexplained.com

OVERVIEW

The names of witnesses tagged onto the end of a document are not a mere legality and their presence is rarely an afterthought. Although witnesses usually served a perfunctory role, they now serve us as significant informants—once we learn how to use those names to develop evidence. This session approaches the topic in two ways: theory and application.

PART ONE: *Theory*

In the first quarter-hour, we will explore five areas:

- types of records in which we can expect to find witnesses.
- ways in which witnesses were used—and the varying circumstances we can expect.
- situations that affected the choice of witnesses.
- signals that indicate whether a witness is significant to our research project.
- methods to apply in our search for witnesses and—more importantly—our use of them.

PART TWO: *Application*

After our groundwork, we will walk you through a challenging case study, applying those principles we learned under *Theory.*

Our subject is an unmarried freedwoman, never named in any census, who died in 1817 leaving behind no record of her death.

Our goal is to answer two questions that have eluded both historians and genealogists:

1. Where—in what house and on what plot of ground—did she spend her last years?
2. Where does she lie buried?

As you will see, witnesses to other events in her life provide clues we can turn into evidence.

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FRIDAY

RECORDS THAT TYPICALLY INVOLVE WITNESSES

- Apprenticeships
- Bonds (bastardy, marriage, peace, performance, and title bonds)
- Bounty-land applications
- Church sacraments (baptisms & marriages)
- Civil marriage records (bonds, contracts, permissions & returns)
- Court cases (civil & criminal)
- Deeds & donations
- Free papers for people of color
- Land claims
- Lease contracts
- Mortgages (land, crops, household items)
- Pension applications & affidavits
- Petitions to governor or legislature
- Powers of attorney
- Promissory notes
- War-time damage claims

PROBLEMS SOLVABLE BY DEVELOPING WITNESS DATA

- Identity
- Kinship
- Lack of records for the propertyless
- Location of residence
- Maiden names
- Migrations
- Occupations
- Place of origin

Plus clues to

- Other activities
- Other records
- Time frames for life events

USEFUL STUDY

To maximize our use of witness data we need two types of study:

1. *Context.* Reading the laws of the time and place teaches us what was expected or required. State-level and colony-level statute books are widely available online at sites such as books.google.com, hathitrust.org, and the websites of many state archives.
2. *Methodology.* Reading the case studies published within the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* will inform us as to how these laws were applied, teach us the patterns of behavior that were common or rare in specific societies, and demonstrate strategies we can use to turn ancestral witnesses into evidence that solves our own problems.

Articles in peer-reviewed journals often name witnesses when discussing details of a record. The four selections cited below go beyond that, demonstrating how to use those witnesses to build cases that resolve stone-wall problems.

Baty, Laurel T. "Parentage of Martha Smith of Alabama and Mississippi: Overcoming Inconsistent, Incorrect, and Missing Records." *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* (NGSQ) 101 (June 2013): 85–102. Uses a late-life witness to identify a widow's maiden name.

Hart, Frederick C., Jr. "Weed Ancestry of Pioneer American Photographer Charles Leander Weed (1824–1903)." NGSQ 106 (June 2018): 103–10. Uses winesses to prove kinship.

Lennon, Rachal Mills. "Southern Strategies: Merging Identities by Mapping Activities and Linking Participants—Solomon Harper of South Carolina's Lowcountry." NGSQ 107 (September 2019): 165–84. Uses witnesses to merge several "different" men into a single identity.

Morelli, Jill K. "Swedish Records Merge Identities to Reveal Bengt Andersson's Parents." NGSQ 105 (September 2017): 199–210. Uses witnesses to prove origin.

FRIDAY

"A century ago, most Asian Americans were … laborers crowded into ethnic enclaves. Today they are the most likely of any major racial or ethnic group in America to live in mixed neighborhoods and to marry across racial lines…. Asian Americans trace their roots to any of dozens of countries in the Far East, Southeast Asia and the Indian subcontinent. Each country of origin subgroup has its own unique history, culture, language, religious beliefs, economic and demographic traits, social and political values, and pathways into America."[1]

Over half the people in the world live in Asia. Now, with DNA testing identifying more Asian ethnicities, it wise for the modern researcher and the professional genealogist to be more familiar with the differences and similarities when researching Asian ancestry.

Asia Facts[2]:

- Is the largest of the five continents in area and 60% of world's population with 4.6 billion people
- Asia covers an area of 19,189,277 square miles – 30% of earth's land area
- Asia is comprised of 50 countries with over 2,000 different languages
- *North Asia* – Russia (Siberia)
- *Western Asia and the Middle Eas*t are 19 countries with approximately 276 million people (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cyprus, Georgia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, State of Palestine, Syria, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Yemen).
- *Central Asia*, with the exception of Afghanistan, all are former Soviet republics. Estimated 72 people live in Central Asia. (Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan).
- *East Asia* consists of 5 countries, plus the Chinese Special Administrative Regions. Approximately 1.6 billion people live in East Asia. (China, Hong Kong, Macao, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, Mongolia, Taiwan).
- *South Asia* consists of 8 countries with an estimated population of 1.9 billion people. (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka).
- *Southeast Asia* includes maritime nations and the southeast are of the continent. Approximately 662 million people live in there. (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar (Burma), Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, East Timor, Vietnam).

[1] Pew Research Center. *The Rise of Asian America.* Pew Research Center, June 19, 2012, updated edition, April 04, 2013. https://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2012/06/19/the-rise-of-asian-americans/ (accessed January 8, 2020)[2] Nations Online. *Countries of Asia.* NationsOnline.org. https://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/asia.htm (accessed January 8, 2020)

FRIDAY

The Largest U.S. Asian Groups by Company of Origin[1]

- Chinese
- Filipino
- Indian - U.S. has largest Indian population outside of Asia
- Vietnamese
- Korean
- Japanese (only group that is majority born in U.S., with 73%. All other subgroups are majority foreign born).

Important Dates to Know

- 1790 Naturalization Act of 1790 restricted naturalized citizenship to "free white persons" and excluded Asians from citizenship.
- 1820 First Chinese workers migrated to the U.S. to work on railroads, gold mines, factories, farms
- 1868 Japan's end of the Meiji Era, opened up immigration to the U.S.
- 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act, barred all new immigration from China
- 1898 Treaty of Paris, the Philippines becomes a territory of the U.S. allowing immigration
- 1903 First group of Korean laborers came to Hawaii
- 1907 Gentlemen's Agreement with Japan ended immigration of Japanese unskilled workers, but permitted the immigration of businessmen, students and spouses of Japanese immigrants already in the United States
- 1910 Due to the Japanese annexation of Korea immigration to U.S. halts.
- 1917 Immigration Act, extended immigration ban to include all of Asia
- 1924 National Origins Act, extended immigration ban to include all of Asia
- 1943 Chinese Expulsion Act repealed
- 1944 U.S. institutes a new system for filing records known as the "A-Files" (Alien File).
- 1946 Philippine's independence is recognized, immigration continued.
- 1952 Immigration and Nationality Act allows Asian Americans to move out enclaves to middle-class neighborhoods.
- 1953 Korean War ends with small numbers of students, professionals and larger number of immigrants who were wives of U.S. servicemen.
- 1956 A-File for ancestors may be at the National Archives or U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services (USCIS)
- 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act, large-scale immigration began again
- 1975 over half the Laotian Hmong population left the country for because the sided with, or who were perceived as having sided with the U.S. during the Vietnam War. About 90% who made it to refugee camps in Thailand were later resettled in the United States.
- 1975 large numbers of Vietnamese came to U.S. as refugees, fleeing from persecution or seeking economic opportunities.

Possible Problems in Interpreting Data for Asia

- Naming practices for Asia (i.e., Japan has over 70,000 surnames - the most in the world, while Korea has the fewest. Korean surnames *Kim, Yi,* and *Pak* alone account for half the entire population.[3]
- Spoken and written languages
- Changes in calendar and dating styles and practices
- Marriage traditions and family practices
- Culture and traditions

[3] **Byers, Paula K. editor. *Asian American Genealogical Sourcebook,* Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1995**

Records

- Chinese family genealogy record is called 家譜 *jiāpǔ, clan genealogy record* 族譜 zúpǔ
- Japan household family registers is called 戸籍 *koseki*, everyone living in a household is recorded from 1873 onward
- Korea has variations of Chinese clan genealogies, Japanese *Koseki* and Korea own version of record types

Naming Practices

- Many countries list the surname first, followed by the given name
- Spelling variations, a Chinese character can be read and pronounced differently
- Filipinos had only one name, derived from occupation, a childhood nickname, their tribe, a description, or some feature of the place they lived. After 1849 decreed that Spanish surnames to be adopted by all person in the Philippines.
- Less than 100 surnames in Vietnam. People were distinguished by their given names.
- India has a variety of naming styles, from one to two elements, to more complex names. Those influenced by the British took on English naming patterns.
- Christians, Hindu and Muslims, religious affiliation is often indicated by their given name.
- Myanmar (Burma) until recently did not use surnames and a given name could be used by both male and female.

Colonization, Presence and Protectorates:

England: India, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia
France: Vietnam; Cambodia, Vietnam, India, Laos
The Netherlands: Indonesia
United States: Philippines
China: Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, Nepal, Malaysia, Macao, Taiwan
Russia: Mongolia, Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan.
Japan: Korea, China, Philippines, Indonesia
Spain: Philippines

10 Research Strategy Steps:

1. Research wiki on FamilySearch.org
2. History of country
3. Languages, written and spoken
4. Politics, war, upheavals
5. Migration pathways
6. Records, location and access
7. Religions
8. Culture and tradition
9. Societies, groups, schools
10. Government

Asian Resources and Guides:

Online Sources

1. FamilySearch Wiki; familysearch.org/wiki/. First stop when researching a new country. Lists records available, repositories, websites, etc.
2. Cyndi's List; http://www.cyndislist.com/asia/ Search for links for specific countries
3. Shanghai Library, http://www.library.sh.cn/web/index.html one of the largest library in the world and has access to more than 18,000 genealogical charts. The library is building a genealogical database od nearly 50,000 family trees, going back for a 1,000 years. FamilySearch has an agreement with Shanghai Library, and has many books and microfilms available for Chinese researchers.
4. Chinese Language Helps for Jiapu (family genealogy records), https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/File:Chinese_Language_Helps_for_Jiapu-2.pdf
5. National Archives field office maintain INS records for their geographic region in jurisdiction area. Check for immigration records based on ancestor's port of entry.
   The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) Reference Information Paper 99, "Chinese Immigration and the Chinese in the United States," a list of Chinese immigration records held at the various National Archive field offices. This publication is available online: http://www.archives.gov/research/chinese-americans/guide.html.
6. Genealogy on Facebook List, maintained by Katherine R. Willson. A 380-page PDF with over 14,500 links for various genealogy groups on Facebook. Join a group to ask questions and get help with language translations, searching for records, etc.
   https://socialmediagenealogy.com/genealogy-on-facebook-list/
7. FamilySearch. *Philippines Genealogy research Using the Wiki* – Video Series.
   https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Philippines_Genealogy_Research_Using_the_Wiki_-_Video_Series
8. FamilySearch. *Philippines. Finding Town of Origin.* Excellent help and research tips that can be crossed over to other countries.
   https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Philippines_Finding_Town_of_Origin
9. Brigham Young University. *Other Resources India* – pdf download.
   http://files.lib.byu.edu/family-history-library/research-outlines/Asia/India.pdf
10. FamilySearch. *Historical Record Collections* - All Asia & Middle East collections of the Family History Library.
    https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/list/?fcs=region%3AASIA_MIDDLE_EAST&ec=region%3AASIA_MIDDLE_EAST

Books

11. Byers, Paula K. editor. *Asian American Genealogical Sourcebook,* Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1995
12. Boey, Danny. *Basic Guide to Chinese Genealogy,* Singapore: Chineseroots Pte Ltd., 2002
13. Howard, Jason. *Korean Genealogy Guide: A resource to help English speakers discover Korean ancestors,* CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2012

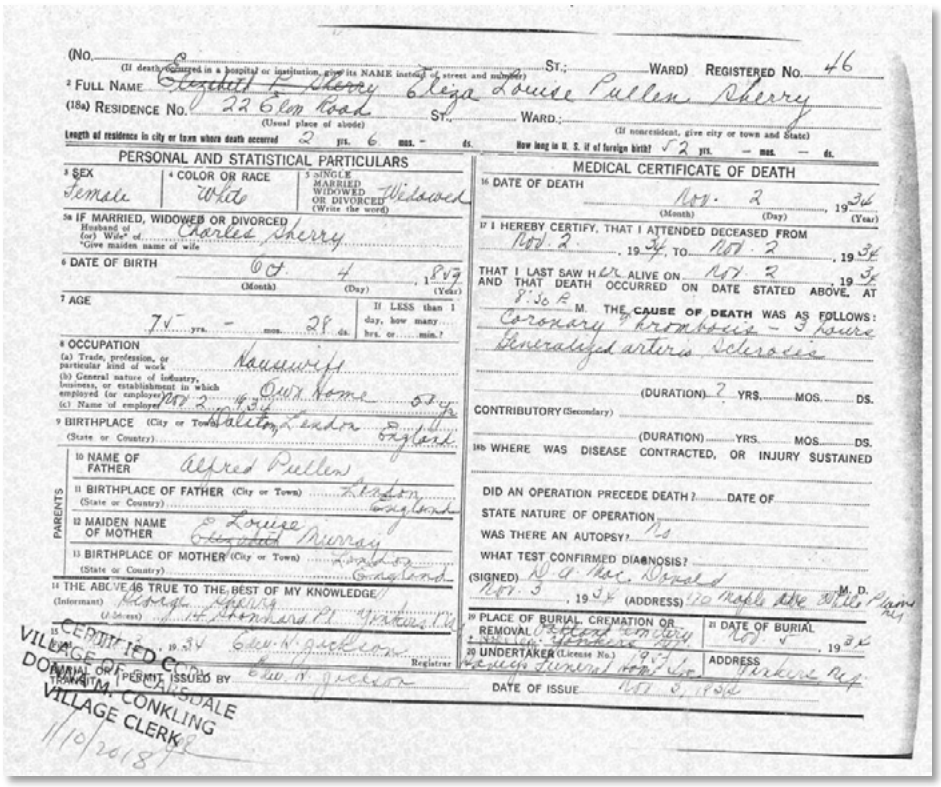
Problem Solving Like A Pro:

Evidence Analysis, Correlation and Conflict Resolution

By Joseph B. Shumway, AG®

Information vs. Evidence: Understanding the difference

- What is Information?
  - What we see or hear when we examine a source, not what we interpret.
- What is Evidence?
  - A research question's tentative answer, which may be right or wrong, complete or incomplete, vague or specific.
  - Evidence is what we DO with the information.
- **Exercise**: How many information points can you identify in the record below? Then, list what each one is evidence of:



(No. ..... St.; ..... Ward) Registered No. 46
(If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number)
2 Full Name ~~Elizabeth P. Sherry~~ Eliza Louise Pullen Sherry
(18a) Residence No. 22 Elm Road St., ... Ward.; .....
(Usual place of abode) (If nonresident, give city or town and State)
Length of residence in city or town where death occurred 2 yrs. 6 mos. – ds. How long in U. S. if of foreign birth? 52 yrs. – mos. – ds.

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

3 SEX: Female
4 COLOR OR RACE: White
5 SINGLE MARRIED WIDOWED OR DIVORCED (Write the word): Widowed
5a IF MARRIED, WIDOWED OR DIVORCED Husband of (or) Wife of Charles Sherry
*Give maiden name of wife
6 DATE OF BIRTH Oct. 4, 1859 (Month) (Day) (Year)
7 AGE 75 yrs. – mos. 28 ds. If LESS than 1 day, how many hrs. or ..... min.?
8 OCCUPATION
(a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work: Housewife
(b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer): Own Home
(c) Name of employer: Nov. 2, 1934 57 yr.
9 BIRTHPLACE (City or Town) Dalston, London England (State or Country)
PARENTS
10 NAME OF FATHER: Alfred Pullen
11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (City or Town) London England (State or Country)
12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER: Louise ~~Elizabeth~~ Murray
13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (City or Town) London England (State or Country)
14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE (Informant) George Sherry (Address) 14 Stanhard Pl. Yonkers N.Y.
15 Nov. 2, 1934 Edw. H. Jackson Registrar
PERMIT ISSUED BY Edw. H. Jackson
DATE OF ISSUE Nov. 5, 1934

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

16 DATE OF DEATH Nov. 2, 1934 (Month) (Day) (Year)
17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, THAT I ATTENDED DECEASED FROM Nov. 2, 1934, TO Nov. 2, 1934
THAT I LAST SAW HER ALIVE ON Nov. 2, 1934 AND THAT DEATH OCCURRED ON DATE STATED ABOVE, AT 8:30 P. M. THE CAUSE OF DEATH WAS AS FOLLOWS: Coronary Thrombosis – 3 hours Generalized arteriosclerosis
(DURATION) 2 YRS. ..... MOS. ..... DS.
CONTRIBUTORY (Secondary) .....
(DURATION) ..... YRS. ..... MOS. ..... DS.
18b WHERE WAS DISEASE CONTRACTED, OR INJURY SUSTAINED
DID AN OPERATION PRECEDE DEATH? ..... DATE OF .....
STATE NATURE OF OPERATION .....
WAS THERE AN AUTOPSY? No
WHAT TEST CONFIRMED DIAGNOSIS? .....
(SIGNED) D. A. MacDonald M. D.
Nov. 3, 1934 (ADDRESS) 170 Maple Ave. White Plains N.Y.
19 PLACE OF BURIAL, CREMATION OR REMOVAL Oakland Cemetery Yonkers N.Y.
21 DATE OF BURIAL Nov. 5, 1934
20 UNDERTAKER (License No.) 1957 Haney's Funeral Home Inc. ADDRESS Yonkers N.Y.

CERTIFIED COPY
VILLAGE OF SCARSDALE
DONALD M. CONKLING
VILLAGE CLERK
1/10/2018

Source: Scarsdale (New York) Village Clerk, Death Certificate, 1934, number 46, Eliza Sherry, 2 November 1934.

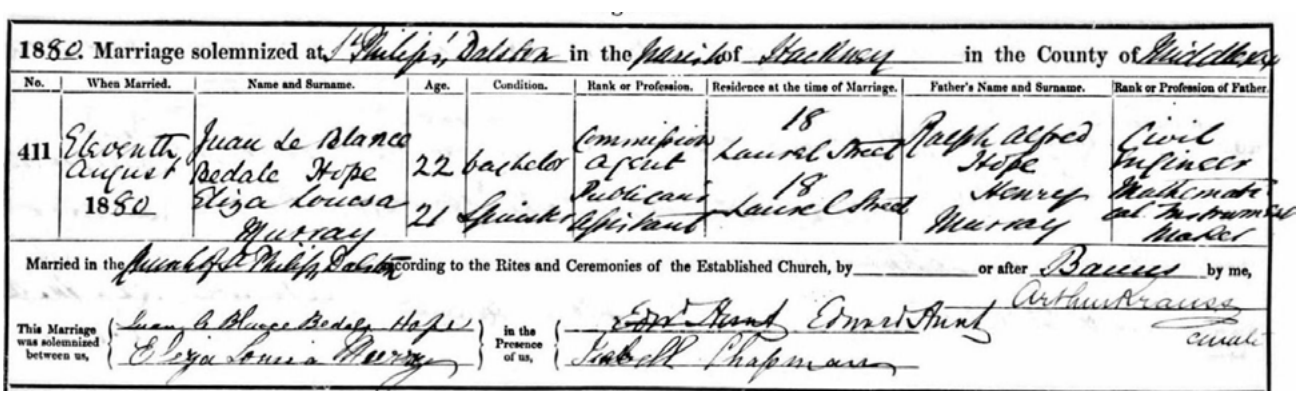
FRIDAY

The Art of Questioning: Using questions to create a hypothesis (or story) worth exploring

- What are the best questions to ask that will reach our objective in the shortest amount of time?
- What other information do I need to prove or disprove my hypothesis?
- What other sources does that potentially lead me to?
- Are there problems with the source(s)?
- The more knowledge we have of geographical, political, social, legal history, etc., the better we become in crafting accurate hypotheses that we can prove out more quickly and efficiently.

Every Clue is Precious: Correlating multiple information pieces to establish evidence

- Direct Evidence - An information item that seems to address a research question and answer it by itself.
- Indirect Evidence - Information items that seem to address and answer a research question only when combined.
- When analyzing evidence, consider the likelihood a piece of information may have been incorrect. This will expose potential weaknesses in your theory.
- **Exercise:** Correlate information items in the two records below, along with the first record (death certificate):



1880. Marriage solemnized at St Philip's, Dalston in the Parish of Hackney in the County of Middlesex

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
411	Eleventh August 1880	Juan de Blanco Bedale Hope	22	bachelor	Commission agent	18 Laurel Street	Ralph Alfred Hope	Civil Engineer
		Eliza Louisa Murray	21	Spinster	Publicans Assistant	18 Laurel Street	Henry Murray	Mathematical Instrument Maker

Married in the Church of St Philip Dalston according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by _____ or after Banns by me, Arthur Krauss curate

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Juan de Blanco Bedale Hope / Eliza Louisa Murray in the Presence of us, Edward Hunt / Isabell Chapman

Source: United Kingdom, General Register Office, 1880, Sept Quarter, Hackney District, Marriages.

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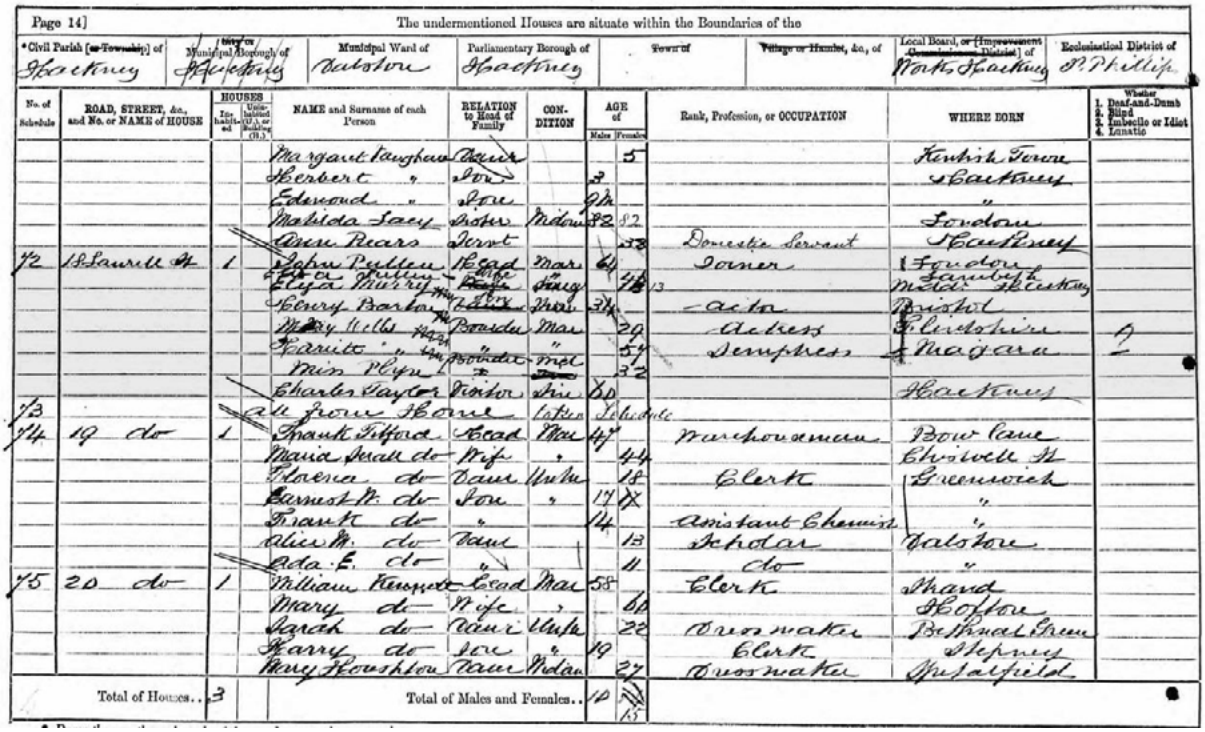

Page 14] The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the

Civil Parish [~~or Township~~] of	Municipal Borough of	Municipal Ward of	Parliamentary Borough of	~~Town of~~	~~Village or Hamlet~~, &c., of	Local Board, ~~or [Improvement Commissioners District]~~ of	Ecclesiastical District of
Hackney	Hackney	Dalston	Hackney			North Hackney	P. Phillip

No. of Schedule	ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES Inhabited	HOUSES Uninhabited (U.), or Building (B.)	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CONDITION	AGE of Males	AGE of Females	Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN	Whether 1. Deaf-and-Dumb 2. Blind 3. Imbecile or Idiot 4. Lunatic
				Margaret Vaughan	Vaur			5		Kentish Town	
				Herbert "	Son		3			Hackney	
				Edmond "	Son		9m			"	
				Matilda Lacy	Sister	Widow	32	82		London	
				Ann Pears	Servt			38	Domestic Servant	Hackney	
72	18 Laurell St	1		John Pullen	Head	Mar	64		Joiner	London	
				Eliza Pullen	Wife			48		Lambeth	
				Eliza Murry	Wife	Sing		13		Middx Hackney	
				Henry Barton	Son	Mar	34		Actor	Bristol	
				Mary Wells	Boarder	Mar		29	Actress	Flintshire	2
				Harriet "	"	"		57	Semptress	Magara	2
				Miss Plyn	Boarder	Wd		32			
				Charles Taylor	Visitor	Sin	60			Hackney	
73				all from Home		Lakes	Schedule				
74	19 do	1		Frank Tilford	Head	Mar	47		Warehouseman	Bow Lane	
				Maria Small do	Wife	"		44		Chiswell St	
				Florence do	Vaur	Unm		18	Clerk	Greenwich	
				Earnest W. do	Son	"	17			"	
				Frank do	"		14		Assistant Chemist	"	
				Alice M. do	Vaur			13	Scholar	Dalston	
				Ada E. do	"			11	do	"	
75	20 do	1		William Kennedy	Head	Mar	58		Clerk	Strand	
				Mary do	Wife	"		60		Hoffton	
				Sarah do	Vaur	Unm		22	Dressmaker	Bethnal Green	
				Harry do	Son	"	19		Clerk	Stepney	
				Mary Houshton	Vaur	Widow		27	Dressmaker	Spitalfield	
	Total of Houses..	3		Total of Males and Females..			10	15			

Source: 1871 England Census, Dalston, Hackney, Middlesex County.

Creating Something from Nothing: What evidence can you draw from the lack of information?

- Negative Evidence - Evidence derived from the absence of information in extant records where the information might be expected.
- Negative evidence is evidence! How can you use it to your advantage?
  - Questions to ask when we don't find something:
    - Is it the record (or recordkeeper)?
    - Is it me?
    - Is it the ancestor?

FRIDAY

What is Truth? Resolving conflicting pieces of information

- Questions to ask when conflicting information arises:
  - Is it the record (or recordkeeper)?
  - Is it me?
  - Is it the ancestor?
- We must conduct an exhaustive search to make sure all clues have been gathered.
- Studying an ancestor's FAN club (**F**riends, **A**ssociates and **N**eighbors) is also crucial.

Concluding Points

- Slow Down!
- Stop and more carefully analyze *each information point* on *each record* as you go!
- Ask more questions about the records.
- Ask more questions about the ancestors.
- Connect all the dots between every record.
- Create a story from the record and work to prove or disprove it.

Notes:

Starting Mexican Research with Civil Registration and Church Records

Lauren Wake

FamilySearch International
LaurenWake@FamilySearch.org

Learn how to find your Mexican ancestor's birth, marriage, and death records online through the civil registration and church records offered on FamilySearch.org and Ancestry.com.

CATHOLIC CHURCH RECORD TYPES

Catholic church records can be located in Mexico since the Spaniards first came to Latin America. The following is a brief description of the genealogical information found in Catholic Church records.

Baptisms (bautismos): Name of child, date and place of birth, names of parents, residences and places of origin of parents, date and place of baptism, names of godparents and/or witnesses. Sometimes names, residences, and places of origin of grandparents.

Confirmations (confirmaciones): Name of child/children and parents, date and place of confirmation.

Marriages (matrimonios) and marriage licenses (presentaciones or expedientes): Names of the couple, date and place of marriage, residences, places of origin, ages, and occupations of the couple, names of any previous spouses, names of parents and their places of origin and residences, names of witnesses. Sometimes the names of grandparents.

Marriage Dispensations (dispensas): If the impediment involves familial relationships, the relationship of the bride and groom to the common relative will be explained.

Deaths (defunciones): Name and age of deceased, death date and place, burial date and place, marital status, place of birth, name of parents or spouse, possibly note if the deceased left a will and possibly the names of heirs.

CATHOLIC CHURCH RECORD ACCESS

FamilySearch Indexed Records

Many of the church records have been indexed and are available on FamilySearch.org. Review the following classes on FamilySearch.org for suggestions on searching these indexed records.

- Gurtler, Debbie. "I Didn't Know You Could Search Like That!" FamilySearch Learning Center. https://www.familysearch.org/ask/learningViewer/1476 (accessed 27 January 2020).
- Gurtler, Debbie. "Through the Eyes of the Parish Priest." FamilySearch Learning Center. https://www.familysearch.org/ask/learningViewer/1261 (accessed 27 January 2020).

You can find many of these indexes on Ancestry.com as well, but they are not linked to the original records.

FamilySearch Online Images

You can access thousands of digital images of Catholic church records for Mexico that have not yet been indexed on FamilySearch.org. Do a place search in the catalog for the town where the family lived in order to locate these records.

Diocesan and Parish Archives

When records are not available on FamilySearch.org, they can be located at diocesan or parish archives. Consult the FamilySearch Wiki Article "Mexico Church Records" for help locating and contacting a dioceses or parish archive.

CIVIL REGISTRATION RECORD TYPES

Civil registration began in 1857 in Mexico, although it took some states a few years to begin recording the birth, marriages, and deaths of each person in the state. While civil registration records contain much of the same information as Catholic church records, sometimes information is included on a birth that is excluded on a marriage. As such it is important to locate and compare information from both records.

Births (nacimientos): Name of child, date and place of birth, names of parents, residences and places of origin of parents, date and place of birth registration, names of witnesses. Sometimes names, residences, and places of origin of grandparents.

Marriages (matrimonios) and marriage licenses (presentaciones, informes or expedientes): Names of the couple, date and place of marriage, residences, places of origin, ages, and occupations of the couple, names of any previous spouses, names of parents and their places of origin and residences, names of witnesses. Sometimes the names of grandparents. Sometimes names of children legitimized by the marriage.

Deaths (defunciones): Name and age of deceased, death date and place, burial date and place, marital status, place of birth, name of parents or spouse, name of informant and witnesses, possibly note if the deceased left a will and possibly the names of heirs.

CIVIL REGISTRATION RECORD ACCESS

Ancestry.com

Ancestry.com has digitized and indexed the vast majority of Mexican civil registration records. Refer to the following table to see the record coverage by state.

	Births		Marriages		Deaths	
Aguascallentes	1860	1947	1860	1961	1859	1961
Baja California Sur	1860	1930	1680	1950	1860	1987
Campeche	1859	1921	1860	1921	1860	1912
Chiapas	1861	1947	1861	1952	1861	1987
Chihuahua	1861	1947	1861	1967	1861	1987
Coahuila	1861	1930	1861	1950	1861	1999
Colima	1861	1931	1863	1952	1860	1997
Durango	1861	1930	1861	1951	1861	1987
Federal District	1861	1931	1861	1950	1861	1987
Guanajuato	1862	1929	1866	1929	1862	1930
Guerrero	1860	1947	1863	1954	1860	1987
Hidalgo	1861	1948	1861	1967	1861	1967
Jalisco	1857	1948	1861	1961	1856	1987
Mexico	1861	1939	1861	1939	1861	1941
Michoacán	1859	1934	1859	1940	1859	1935
Morelos	1866	1920	1866	1916	1865	1916
Nayarit	1868	1934	1868	1959	1868	2001
Nuevo Leon	1859	1947	1859	1960	1859	1962
Oaxaca	1861	1948	1861	1950	1861	1987
Puebla	1861	1930	1861	1930	1859	1930
Queretaro	1866	1937	1866	1957	1865	2004
Quintana Roo	1867	1902	1866	1902	1866	1902
San Luis Potosi	1860	1948	1860	1967	1860	1987
Sonora	1866	1948	1857	1950	1862	1987
Tamaulipas	1860	1948	1860	1950	1860	1987
Tlaxcala	1867	1927	1867	1937	1867	1937
Veracruz	1860	1947	1859	1947	1859	1950
Yucatan	1861	1939	1861	1950	1861	1988
Zacatecas	1861	1947	1861	1952	1861	1952

The following states do not have full record coverage on Ancestry.com.

Mexico City: While the majority of Mexico City was captured by ancestry, many districts are completely missing. If an ancestor is not located in the index, their records will need to be requested from the local civil registration office.

Sinaloa: The civil registration records of Sinaloa from 1861-1929 were captured by FamilySearch and can be viewed at www.FamilySearch.org. They are in process of being indexed.

Baja California and Tabasco: The civil registrations of both Baja California and Tabasco have not been digitized or indexed by any entity. Records will need to be requested from the local civil registration office.

Mexican Archives

If you need records that are not available online, they can be requested from local civil registration offices. With the exception of the states of Guerrero and Oaxaca, where the records are recorded by the municipality but are archived on a district level, and the Distrito Federal (Federal District), where they are kept in delegations, civil registration records are created by local civil registration office, from which they are transferred, to municipal and state archives.

You can obtain copies of these records by writing to the local civil registry office, or by sending someone to the office to request the records. The municipal archives will inform you if the records have been transferred to state archives, and you can send your request there.

There is no centralized list of local civil registration offices. You can usually locate the office by searching the internet for the name of the municipality and the state, followed by the phrase "Oficina del Registro Civil."

You can find a list of state civil registration offices at the following website.

- Secretaría de relaciones exteriores. "Sección consular en el reino unido de México: Register Offices in Mexico." Consulmex.gox https://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/reinounido/index.php/en/contenido/5-registro-civil/198-register-offices-in-mexico (accessed January 27, 2020).

A national birth index also can be consulted at https://www.gob.mx/actas. Follow the instructions in the following article to utilize this resource:

- Garza, Moises Garza. "How to Find Your Ancestors Using Mexico's Civil Registration Records." Mexicangenealogy.info. https://mexicangenealogy.info/mexicos-civil-registration-records/ (accessed January 27, 2020).

RESOURCES FOR READING SPANISH HANDWRITING

The following resources can help you read the Spanish records you will find in your research.

- "BYU Script Tutorial." Script.byu.edu. https://script.byu.edu/Pages/the-spanish-documents-pages/the-spanish-documents(english).
- Gurtler, Debbie. "Paleogra-what?! Deciphering Spanish Handwriting" FamilySearch Learning Center. https://www.familysearch.org/ask/learningViewer/1764.
- Gurtler, Debbie. "Reading Spanish Handwritten Records." FamilySearch Learning Center. https://www.familysearch.org/ask/learningViewer/203.
- FamilySearch. "Spanish Genealogical Word List." FamilySearch Wiki. https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Spanish_Genealogical_Word_List.
- Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. "Diccionario de Abreviaturas Novohispanas." http://www.iifilologicas.unam.mx/dicabenovo/#.Xie_alNKg6g.

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The War of 1812: Service Records, Pensions, and Bounty Land

Rebecca Whitman Koford, CG®, CGL℠ • rwk.genealogy@gmail.com

Brief History of the War of 1812

It was the "Second Revolution" that solidified the country as a recognized independent nation. More often it is the "Forgotten War." Americans were angered by British impressment of their seamen for the Royal Navy. Among other insults, Americans felt that the mother country had no respect for the independence and autonomy of the new nation. American politicians looked for expansion into Canada as well. War began 18 June 1812 and ended on 17 February 1815 when Americans received the news that the Treaty of Ghent had been signed on Christmas Eve, 1814. The treaty did not resolve the issues, rather it put the two countries at a state of *quo antebellum* (all as it was before the war). Both Americans and British-Canadian forces felt that they had prevailed.

Indexes

Indexes are available for much, but not all, of the military records of the War of 1812. Its best to try more than one site for the same record set, the search engines vary.

- "War of 1812 Service Records." *Fold3,* index, https://www.fold3.com/browse/276/
- "United States War of 1812 Index to Service Records, 1812-1815." *FamilySearch*, https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1916219
- "United States War of 1812 Index to Pension Application Files, 1812-1910." *FamilySearch*, https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1834325
- "United States Old War Pension Index, 1815-1926." *FamilySearch*, https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1979425
- "War of 1812 Pension Application Files Index, 1812-1815." *Ancestry*, https://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1133
- "United States Remarried Widows Index to Pension Applications, 1887-1942." *FamilySearch*, https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1979426
- "Bounty-Land Warrant Applications Index," *Fold3*, searchable and browsable, surnames A-L, https://www.fold3.com/browse/247/h_5U0XzIz
- "U.S. Army, Register of Enlistments, 1798-1914," *Ancestry*, enlistment records for Regular Army, not militia, https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1198/

Service Records

Compiled Military Service Records (CMSR) are part of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) collection, located in Record Group (RG) 94, "Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served in the War of 1812." These are for represent soldiers in the militia units, not those who in the regular army (see the "Register of Enlistments" above for regular army). The enlistment periods for volunteer militia were relatively short, lasting anywhere from 30 days to one year; some men enlisted more than once. Notes of service were taken from muster rolls, payrolls, order books and other papers and collated into thick yellow filing cards that measure 3 ¼ x 8" and are found at the National Archives (NARA I) in Washington, D.C. Some original documents, such as enlistment or personal papers, may be included in each file jacket with enclosed cards.

Pensions

Pension benefits provided veterans or their heirs with financial assistance after the war they had been involved in. These were generally regular payments on a monthly basis made by a government entity (state or federal)

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to someone who served in the navy or armed forces and qualified for the benefits. Successful applications may be dependent on disability, financial need, or length and/or level of service. Applicants for pensions were required to provide information on the soldier's service, including discharge papers, affidavits from soldiers, or proof of marriage or relationship for widows or heirs. Service would be checked against extant muster and payrolls for the unit. Eligibility requirements changed over time. Pension files are currently part of Record Group (RG) 15, Records of the Veterans Administration, at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. **Pension records for War of 1812 veterans and their dependents are currently being digitized in full color and are available to the public for free at *Fold3*:** "War of 1812 Pension Files," https://www.fold3.com/title/761/war-of-1812-pension-files. As of this writing, the project is working through surnames beginning with P. The *Fold3* search engine does not allow for name Soundex searching, also use the Browse feature (https://www.fold3.com/browse/1/h5iT6dgqR).

Abbreviated Guide to War of 1812 Federal Pension Laws & Eligibility Requirements

Year	*Statute*	*Statutes At Large - Federal Congressional Acts* "Statutes at Large," Library of Congress, https://www.loc.gov/law/help/statutes-at-large/index.php
December 1811	12th Congress, Sess. 1, 2 Stat. 671, Chap. X	Congress allowed that "the heirs and representatives of those non-commissioned officers or soldiers, who may be killed in action, or die in the service of the United States, shall likewise be paid and allowed the said additional bounty of three months' pay, and one hundred and sixty acres of land…" The law further stipulated that the widow or minor children of a deceased soldier were to receive "half the monthly pay to which the deceased was entitled at the time of his death, for and during the term of five years," but only if the widow did not remarry.
January 1812	12th Congress, Sess. 1, 2 Stat. 672-674, Chap. XIV	Provisions for Invalid Pensions to raise troops for War of 1812 - Eligible for Half-pay pensions: Invalid officers - Eligible for $5 per month: Non-commissioned officers, musicians, or privates. Inferior disabilities received an allowance commensurate with the level of their disability.
August 1813	13th Congress, Sess. 1, 3 Stat. 73, Chap. XL	Soldiers who "shall be disabled by known wounds received in the actual service… while in the line of his duty … be placed on the list of invalids of the United States, at such rate of pension… as may hereafter be provided by law…" Under these conditions, few veterans qualified if they were not injured enough to be incapable; widows could not apply if the veteran had not died of his wounds.
April 1816	14th Congress, Sess. 1, 3 Stat. 285, Chap. LV	Eligible for Half-pay pensions for 5 years: Widows or orphans of deceased officers, militiamen, rangers, sea fencibles, volunteers, non-commissioned officers, musicians, or privates who served minimum term in War of 1812 or died in service or while returning home as a consequence of his wounds. Surviving veterans previously eligible for $5 per month raised to $8 per month.
February 1871	41st Congress, Sess. 3, 16 Stat. Chap. L	Eligible for $8 per month: Surviving officers, enlisted men, drafted men, including militia and volunteers of the military and naval service who served 60 days and been honorably discharged and had not supported the enemy in the late rebellion (Civil War). Widows (not orphans) required to have married soldier prior to 17 February 1815 (Treaty of Ghent) and have been loyal to the federal government in the Civil War. (Note that this resulted in 25,000 survivor claims and 7,000 widow's claims.[1])
March 1878	45th Congress, Sess. 2, 20 Stat. Chap. XXVIII	Above amended to reduce time of service to 14 days or having participated in an engagement; widows allowed to have married any time since 1815. Loyalty clause abolished. - Act of March 1886 increased benefit to $12/month. - Act of 1916 increased benefit to $20/month.

Bounty Land

On December 24th, 1811, Congress' "Act for Completing the Existing Military Establishment" granted that non-commissioned officers and soldiers who enlisted for five years and who had been honorably discharged be allowed $16 (about $300 today) and "one hundred and sixty acres of land, to be designated, surveyed and laid off at the public expense, in such manner and upon such terms and conditions, as may be provided by law." The same was offered to the family of a deceased soldier killed in action, to his minor children and widow, but only to a widow who did not remarry. As the war progressed, the country was in need of more soldiers, and Congress increased the award for bounty land to 320 acres in 1814. Many veterans did not meet the five-year requirement and were therefore not eligible for the early bounty land awards.

[1] Glasson, *Federal Military Pensions in the United States,* 110.

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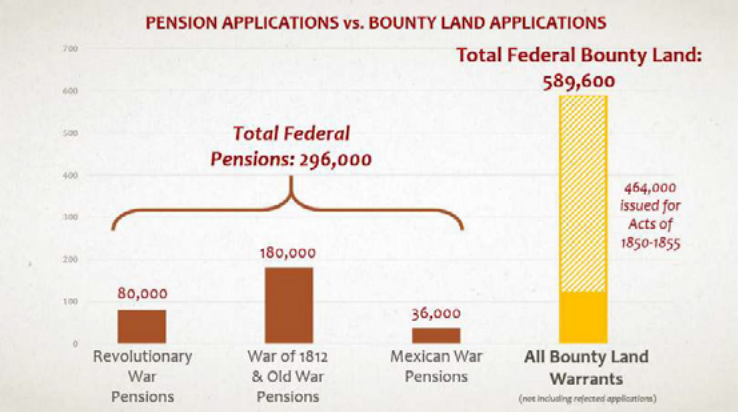
Between 1812 and 1850 about 29,000 warrants were awarded. Initially, these were not assignable (able to be sold). People will always find a way, however, and a large black-market trade in military warrants thrived, rarely to the benefit of the veteran. Warrants were legally assignable after the Act of 1852. All successful and rejected applications are either interfiled with the soldiers' pension packet OR filed separately in the (Unindexed) Bounty Land Warrant Application Files in NARA RG 49.



See bibliography for sources.

Timetable of Selected Changes in Bounty Land Legislation, 1811-1856	
1811	Congressional Act promised $16 and 160 acres to non-commissioned officers and soldiers (not militia men) who enlisted for five years and then honorably discharged; same to widow/orphans of vets killed in service.
1812	General Land Office (GLO) established to administer public lands. New military districts planned for Michigan territory (later abandoned and relocated to Missouri), Illinois, and Louisiana (now Arkansas).
1841	Preemption Law: Warrants may be used to pay for land (for squatters on un-surveyed western lands).
1846	Mexican War bounty-land enlistment incentives were 160 acres to privates, musicians, and non-commissioned officers for 1 year of service, 40 acres for less than one year. None to officers. Warrants were redeemable at any military public land tracts. (War of 1812 Veteran groups incensed – began suing for benefits for their service.)
1850	Service awards to enlisted men and officers who had not been awarded bounty-land previously and who had fought in any conflict since 1790, including Indian Wars; minimum 1 month of service. Open also to widows & minor heirs. Warrants were not assignable except by inheritance (Act of 1852 reversed this to allow the sale of warrants and extended benefits to militia men who served after 1812, also Virginia Revolutionary warrants could be exchanged for scrip that was accepted in any General Land Office). ▪ 160 acres – Nine months' service minimum ▪ 80 acres – Four months' service minimum ▪ 40 acres – One months' service minimum
1855	Extended the Act of 1850 to make 160 acres the minimum entitlement for service as low as fourteen days or travel over 1,200 miles. Now open to chaplains, teamsters, militia rangers, and volunteers of the Kings Mountain Campaign, Nickojack Campaign, and Black Hawk War. (Act of 1856 extended this to include naval veterans and any Revolutionary War service). **Any persons who received a warrant from the Act of 1850 could re-apply for the balance between what they had already been awarded and the new 160-acre award.**

Once an **APPLICATION** was approved, the veteran or heir would be awarded a **WARRANT.** A warrant number usually includes three identifiers: the warrant number, the amount of acreage awarded, and the year of the act under which it was claimed. A bounty-land warrant number such as 12345–120–55 would indicate the number of the awarded warrant, 120 acres, and the Act of 1855. That would either be sold (assigned) or the family would travel to the federal land office in the state they chose (or were allowed) and surrender it for a **PATENT** for the land. Surrendered patents are part of the General Land Office (GLO) files but many have been digitized and are online at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) website at https://glorecords.blm.gov/search/default.aspx.

Private Acts of Congress

When a soldier's or widow's application for pension benefits was rejected, many next petitioned Congress to seek a private bill allowing their claim. If approved, a private bill would be enacted to overturn the pension office decision. A well-written article by Charles E. Shamel about private claims and legislation is recommended reading for this subject (see Bibliography). Another very important reference is Bockstruck's *Revolutionary War Pensions… by Private Acts of Congress to 1905* (see Bibliography), many private acts are included.

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Non-Federal Records for the War of 1812

Look for state pensions, militia lists, newspapers, and lineage applications that include the War of 1812 generation. National Parks Battlefield sites often have on-site historians who may have compiled stories of the soldiers who fought there.

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FRIDAY

Grandpa Was an Alien? Effective Naturalization Records Research

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Naturalization records are legal proof that a person became a citizen in a country different than where they were born. The citizenship laws have changed over the years, but are fairly consistent in having three steps. In the United States, naturalization records could be filed in any court anywhere in the country but they often were filed in the county where the person resided. After 1906 a duplicate copy of the citizenship papers was sent to Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization (INS) in Washington D.C. Citizenship was not required, but many people completed the process to gain benefits such as voting or better jobs.

From 1855 until 1922, women were granted citizenship when their husbands became legal citizens if they were married at the time he started the process. They were not issued a separate record to prove their citizenship status. In 1922 they were required to apply for their own citizenship certificate. During the years 1907 to 1922, if a woman married an alien, she could lose her citizenship even if she had been born a U.S. citizen.

Between 1790 and 1929, minor immigrant children (who were under the age of 16 when they arrived here) were granted citizenship when their parents were issued their final naturalization papers. They derived their citizenship from their parents, and were not issued a separate paper to prove their new status. However, from 1824 until 1906, minors who arrived here before they were 18 years old could petition the court for naturalization (skipping the first step) when they became 21 years old. (This law was abused so it was repealed in 1906.) In 1929 individuals who were immigrant children with derived citizenship could apply for naturalization papers in their own name. This was common for children who came to the United States before the 1900s and wanted to apply for a certificate as adults. Applicants issued citizenship papers between 1929 and 1956 should have records in the C-Files at USCIS while those who applied after 1956 should have records in the A-Files.

Colonial Naturalizations before 1790

1. Denizations – these were limited citizenship papers, which allowed the person to buy or sell land. They could vote but could not hold office nor could their heirs inherit their land.
2. Oath of Allegiance – this gave full citizenship to the person who renounced all former country loyalties.
3. Collective Citizenships – this process naturalized a group of people without supporting documents. (Such as when all white residents in America were granted citizenship in 1776 when it became a new country.)

Many books have been published about early naturalizations or denizations. Check World Cat or the card catalog at FamilySearch. Genealogical.com offers a variety of naturalization and denization indexes for sale.

Naturalizations between 1790-1906

Those wanting to become citizens could apply in any court. Many genealogical societies have indexed these, so always look for an index first because it will save you hours searching through court records. If an archive exists for the county where you believe your ancestor filed, check to see if they have an index to naturalizations. Many do and the index will list the book, volume and page where the papers are recorded. Make sure to get a copy of the original record, not just the index page. Courts where naturalizations might be filed include: county courts, common pleas, probate, chancery, superior, municipal, U.S. Circuit or District, surrogate, criminal, police, or marine.

The time needed from when they arrived in the United States until when they could start the naturalization process has changed over time.

- From 1790 to 1795 –had to be a resident in the United States for 2 years and in the state for 1 year
- From 1795 to 1798 –had to be a resident in the United States for 5 years
- From 1798 to 1802 –had to be a resident in the United States for 14 years
- From 1802 to current –had to be a resident in the United States for 5 years

There are three steps to the citizenship process:

1. First papers or Declaration of Intent
2. Petition for Naturalization
3. Final papers or certificate granting citizenship

In order to apply for citizenship, the applicant had to be a resident of the United States for the required period of time before they could file their declaration. Filing their first papers or declaration could occur in any court, but it generally occurred where they were living. A sponsor or friend, someone who knew them well and could attest to their work habits and willingness to support the United States, would come with them to court and give an affidavit about them. Make sure to get copies of all three documents as they are different and clues to the person's origins may be in one and not the others. The first two records generally contain the applicant's full name, date of birth, place of origin, date of arrival, name of the ship they arrived on, who their sponsor was, and where they were living at the time of the petition. Finding these records can be difficult because a person could file the first papers in a court in New York, then file the petition in Ohio; and then file the final papers in Iowa where they eventually settled. Search for citizenship papers in all the courts where your ancestor resided.

If you can't determine when or if a person became a citizen, start with the 1900-1930 census records. These censuses not only list the year the person immigrated but some indicate if they became a citizen and the year they completed the process. Be careful with these dates though, as the census takers did not check what was said against the ship passenger or court records and not everyone's memory was accurate. For the most part the dates on the census records, if not correct, will be within a few years and will help you locate your person.

The census records will provide you clues on the stage of their citizenship.

al : means alien – they either have not gained citizenship or started the process
pa: means their first papers have been filed
na: means they are a naturalized citizen and have completed the process

Military – People did not have to be citizens to serve in the United States military. The U.S. Government passed laws to encourage immigrants to serve in the military. Some specific laws that affected naturalization records:

- 1862 – Soldiers in the Army who were honorably discharged that wanted to apply for citizenship had their residency requirement reduced from 5 years to 1 year and their declaration step waived
- 1894 – Seamen in the Navy / Marines who were honorably discharged that wanted to apply for citizenship had their residency requirement reduced from 5 years to 1 year and their declaration step waived
- 1918 – Soldiers in World War I that wanted to apply for citizenship had their residency requirement and declaration step waived, and were naturalized at military posts.
- The World War I Draft Registration notes if the person was a U.S. citizen or not. If not, it will state what king/country their allegiance is to.

Naturalizations after 1906

The Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization (INS) was created in 1906 to help keep track of immigrants to the United States and their papers proving their citizenship status. Aliens still had to complete the three stages of naturalization process to become legal U.S. Citizens. By 1929, INS required photographs of applicants to be included. These papers are stored at the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Copies of these files if they were created more than 50 years ago for a deceased individual can be ordered from their genealogy department for a fee at www.uscis.gov/genealogy .

- Declaration of Intent (Form 2202) – filed in triplicate with the original staying with the court, one copy with the applicant and the last copy sent to INS. If your ancestor still has a copy of their Declaration of Intent (not the one filed at the court or with INS), then they probably did not become citizens since they were supposed to turn this in when they appeared for their petition.
- Petition for Naturalization (Form 2204) – a copy filed with the court and a duplicate copy sent to INS
- Certificate of Naturalization (Form 2207) – the certificate was given to the applicant while the certificate stub was kept at the court to prove citizenship was issued

Other useful records

- Naturalization Certificate Files (C-Files)
  - Naturalization papers for aliens who arrived in the United States between Sept. 27, 1906 and March 31, 1956. Copies available from USCIS
- Certificates of Arrival (1906-1940)
  - Created by the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization (INS) when someone applied for citizenship. They verify the ship manifest to determine if the person could legally be admitted to the USA. It lists the port of entry, the date of arrival, the ship name, and the manifest number
  - After this record was created it was sent back to the court where the alien applied for citizenship and should be on file with the naturalization record.
- Alien Registrations, Form AR-2 (1940-1944)
  - Non-citizens (aliens) over the age of 14 years were required to register their current addresses and places of employment with the federal government between August 1, 1940 and March 31, 1944. Copies available from USCIS.
- Visa Files
  - Immigrants wanting to visit or establish a permanent residence in the United States needed a visa to enter the country. Visas obtained from 1920-1940 are available to the public from the visa office at the National Archives II in College Park, Maryland.
  - Between July 1, 1924 and March 31, 1944 it was required that all immigrants to the United States have a visa to enter the country. These visas usually contain a photo and details on their birth, parents, children, and previous residence. Copies available from USCIS.
- Registry File
  - This file was created for aliens who had no legal way to prove how they came into the United States between June 29, 1906 to July 1, 1924. This helped them start the process to become citizens. Copies of these records are stored at USCIS.
- Alien Files (A-Files)
  - These files were created for aliens who arrived after April 1, 1944 or aliens who arrived in the United States before that date but who had previous contact with INS. Copies of these are available from USCIS.
- Passports (start in 1790)
  - Passports were not required for U.S. citizens who traveled out of the country prior to 1952, except during the years of World War I and World War II. Many Americans obtained passports anyway for their own security. If your ancestor had a U.S. passport, then they were a citizen.
  - From 1952 to 2009 most countries require passports to leave and enter their country
  - Since 2009, passports are required for all U.S. citizens who want to travel outside the U.S.
  - Passports issued from 1791 to 1925 are available at the National Archives. Some are also on FamilySearch and Ancestry.com. For passports obtained after 1925 contact the Passport Office, Department of State in Washington D.C.

Websites that might have naturalization indexes online

Most naturalization records and indexes are not online, but occasionally you can find them. Here are some of the most popular sites that may have online indexes or images:

- United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) (http://www.uscis.gov)
- Local court website (use a Google search to find the website then search for the court or archive links)
- Local genealogical society (most will probably be in their published books, not online, but it never hurts to check)
- Library/Archive special collection (check their catalog for holdings. Digital images may or may not be online)
- FamilySearch (http://familysearch.org)
  - *Historical records* - Hover over SEARCH and click on RECORDS. Click BROWSE ALL PUBLISHED COLLECTIONS. Choose either a location or collection filter to the side to narrow the database choices.
  - *Catalog* – Hover over the word SEARCH and click on CATALOG. Type in the state then county you believe they were naturalized in. If there is no "naturalization and citizenship" category you will need to search the "Court records" or "Probate record" listings. You want records with the author being a court, not an individual's name. Courts have original records while authors that are individual names are usually abstracts.

- Ancestry.com (http://www.ancestry.com)
  - You can search by clicking SEARCH at the top then choosing IMMIGRATION AND TRAVEL. Type in your ancestor's name and add filters to narrow search results. Or you can narrow by category to the right first, then add your ancestor's name.
  - You can also click SEARCH and select CARD CATALOG then choose IMMIGRATION and EMIGRATION. This will give you a list of all the titles in Ancestry's collection. Add filters on the left to narrow your database choices or type a keyword in the box at the top.
- Fold3 (two ways to search) (http://www.fold3.com)
  - Click BROWSE then select ALL TITLES. In the category choose NATURALIZATION RECORDS. You can then choose to view records or indexes, then the specific publication by location, and then the narrow down to what letters start your specific surname until you get to the name you want.
  - Type your ancestor's name in the advanced search box. On the left side scroll down until you get to the "Publication Type" filter. Select SEE ALL and then scroll down until you see the word Naturalizations. Click to box and then the DONE button.
- Places to Find U.S. Naturalization Records & Index Online (has links to naturalization indexes by state and sometime the counties within the state) http://germanroots.com/naturalization.html

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FACEBOOK'S 13,000+ GENEALOGY & HISTORY LINKS

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CREATING A FACEBOOK ACCOUNT

1) Visit https://Facebook.com, enter your info, & click "sign up". If you use a fake name, gender, birth date, and/or different email address, record it somewhere!
2) Open your email program, open Facebook's email, & click link to "confirm".
3) Add a profile photo (can beof anything; groups may not let you join without one).

ADDING PAGES & GROUPS TO YOUR FACEBOOK ACCOUNT

1) Click the link of a page or group listed in the Genealogy on Facebook list (https://socialmediagenealogy.com/genealogy-on-facebook-list).
   Or, when signed into Facebook, type name of a genealogy group/page in search bar & look for it in the drop-down menu.
2) For groups, click "Join Group". For pages, click "Like."

GROUPS VERSUS PAGES

- Many members post to group, only 1-2 people post to page, so it is best to post to groups when possible
- Groups will ***always*** have the word "groups" in its URL, but pages may or may not have the word "pages" in its URL
- Groups are either public or private, and are then either visible or hidden.
  - Public - nonmembers can see posts; posts show up in search engines
  - Private - only those who join the group can see the posts; posts do not show up in search engines
  - Visible (default) - anyone can find the group by a search in the search bar
  - Hidden - no one will ever see the group or its contents unless the group's creator personally sends an invitation to join the group

MANAGING NOTIFICATIONS FROM PAGES & GROUPS

1) The default setting is to receive all notifications from each page you "like" and each group you "join".
2) After you "like" a **PAGE**, hover your cursor over the word "Liked" and a drop-down menu appears, with options to change notification settings.
3) When you "join" a **GROUP**, hover your cursor over "Notifications" and a drop-down menu appears, with options to change notification settings.
4) Notifications of responses to your queries will appear as red numbers in the upper right corner to alert you of unread posts or messages. Click the red number & a drop-down menu appears, listing activity (clicking a notification takes you to that page or group).
5) To see all the groups you have "joined", go to Facebook home page (Newsfeed) & click on "Groups" in the middle of the left column.
6) To see all the pages you have "liked", go to Facebook home page (Newsfeed) & click on "Pages" in the middle of the left column.

POSTING A QUERY ON FACEBOOK

1. State a single research question
   Ex: *Who was the father of John Smith?*
   OR When did John Smith marry Jane Doe?
   OR Where is Jane Doe buried?
2. Include relevant data for who/when/where/what
   Ex: *Who was the father of John Smith, born about 1845 in Wayne County, Michigan; married Jane Doe in 1865 in Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan; and died in Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan in 1908?*
3. State where you've already looked
   Ex: I have already located John in the 1860, 1870, 1880, and 1900 census; and in the Wayne County, Michigan city directories for 1865-1907; and I have his marriage announcement and obituary from the Detroit Free Press.
4. Thank everyone who tries to assist you

CREATING YOUR OWN PAGE OR GROUP

1) Click the word "Create" at the top of the page (immediately to the left of the "Friend Requests" symbol
2) Choose "Page" or "Group"
3) Follow the prompts to name your page or group, invite Facebook friends to "like" (if it's a page) or "join" (if it's a group), and to define its audience or privacy setting.

MANAGING SECURITY SETTINGS

1) Click the black question mark in the upper right corner of the page.
2) "Privacy Check-Up" is a very quick review of your settings; "Privacy Shortcuts" is a more detailed review of your settings.
3) It is recommended that everyone do a detailed review of privacy settings a least once annually.

FACEBOOK PURITY / FLUFFBUSTING PURITY

- Free web browser extension for computers (not iPads/tablets or cells)
- For use with Edge, Firefox, Chrome, Safari, Opera - NOT Internet Explorer
- Can filter out posts & images that are political, religious, spam, ads, games, etc.
- Install at https://FBPurity.com.
- After installation, return to Facebook and click on the letters "FBP" immediately to the right of the word "Create" to open FBPurity's settings.
- Open each of the sections by clicking the carats (black sideways triangles) and make your choices.

Identifying the Right Ancestor: How to Apply the GPS in Irish Catholic Records

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Searching Irish Catholic records seems like a simple task because of indexed databases provided on various websites. However, missing records, confusing parishes, name variations and the databases themselves may be skewing your search results without you knowing it. Learn methods to make confident conclusions when working with these records.

Where to find the records.

- Digitized and browsable microfilm at the National Library of Ireland (NLI) — **https://registers.nli.ie/.** Cutoff date of 1880.
- Indexed databases of the NLI microfilm.
    - *Ancestry* — somewhat free when signed in with free account.
        - "Ireland, Catholic Parish Registers, 1655-1915" — **https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/61039/.**
    - *FindMyPast* — free when signed in with free account.
        - "Ireland Roman Catholic Parish Baptisms" — **https://search.findmypast.com/search-world-records/ireland-roman-catholic-parish-baptisms**.
        - "Ireland Roman Catholic Parish Marriages" — **https://search.findmypast.com/search-world-Records/ireland-roman-catholic-parish-marriages**.
        - "Ireland Roman Catholic Parish Burials" — **https://search.findmypast.ie/search-world-Records/ireland-roman-catholic-parish-burials**.
    - *IrishGenealogy.ie* — free.
        - Only County Kerry, parts of County Cork, and most of Dublin City — **https://churchrecords.irishgenealogy.ie/churchrecords/.**
- Transcriptions from locally held registers for many, but not all, counties and parishes. Usually extend past NLI 1880 cutoff date. (Most areas not covered are available on *IrishGenealogy.ie*.)
    - *RootsIreland.ie* — subscription.
        - **http://www.rootsireland.ie/** and the various Irish Family History Foundation heritage centers available through the site.

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FRIDAY

Why you may not have accurate and thorough search results in Irish Catholic records.

- Record creation and preservation:
  - Parishes have different starting dates.
  - Registers may have record gaps.
  - Some registers have been lost.
- Record availability:
  - Records may be missing in indexed databases.
    - Some NLI registers starting before 1880 were not microfilmed if the registers extended beyond the cutoff date.
    - Some early registers were never microfilmed.
    - Some parishes were never microfilmed.
    - Some registers were so poorly microfilmed that accurate transcriptions and indexes were not possible.
  - The same registers are not extant over all the websites.
- Parish and locality knowledge:
  - Civil and Catholic parishes may share names but different boundaries.
  - Civil and Catholic parishes may have different names.
  - An individual may have attended a church that was easier to get to but not in his or her parish.
- Searching the records:
  - Differing transcriptions, indexes, record sets, and search methods are found on the various websites.
  - Many same named individuals occurred throughout Ireland.
  - Surnames had many variations.
  - Many nicknames and first name variants were used.
  - English versions of Latin first names may not be available in all databases.
  - Second names were not recorded in the records.

How to do a reasonably exhaustive search in Irish Catholic church records.

- Important — Identify the location where your Irish research subject lived.
- Identify all possible parishes he or she may have attended.
  - Check for multiple Catholic parishes in, or overlapping, a Civil parish using the Civil parish locater on John Grenham's *Irish Ancestors* — **https://www.johngrenham.com/places/civil_index.php.**
  - Check for all nearby churches and their parishes using Shane Wilson's *SWilson.Info* website to search by location to find a Catholic parish or church — **https://www.swilson.info/gmapsetcoords.php**.
- Identify any record gaps for all the associated Catholic parishes with these aids.
  - John Grenham's Catholic parish locater — **https://www.johngrenham.com/places/rcmap_index.php.**
  - NLI microfilms for parishes — **https://registers.nli.ie/**.
  - *RootsIreland.ie* sources can be found using the following steps.

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        - Search by County — **http://www.rootsireland.ie/map/**.
        - Select "Online Sources" from the toolbar.
        - Caution: Results can be misleading as all record gaps and missing record sets may not be indicated.
    - John Grenham, "Chapter 14 — Roman Catholic Parish Registers," in *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* (Dublin: Gill Books, 2019).
- Identify possible surname variations with these aids.
    - John Grenham's Irish surname search — **https://www.johngrenham.com/surnames/**.
    - *Ancestry*, "Surnames in Ireland" — **https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/7257/**.
- Identify possible nicknames and first name variants with these aids.
    - "List of common First Name variations" — **http://www.rootsireland.ie/help/first-names/.**
    - "Given Name Alternatives for Irish Research" — **http://content.bandzoogle.com/users/dennisahogan/files/GivenNameAlternatives.pdf**.
    - Judith Eccles Wight, *A Rose by any Other Name: A Guide to Irish Christian Names* — **https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/records/item/264994-redirection**.
    - Robert E. Matheson, Varieties and Synonymes of Surnames and Christian Names in Ireland: for the guidance of registration officers and the public in searching the indexes of births, deaths, and marriages (Dublin: Alex. Thom & Co., 1901) — **https://archive.org/stream/varietiessynonym00math#page/n5/.**
- Identify possible Latin first names with these aids.
    - "Latin Names in English" — **http://www.from-ireland.net/irish-names/latin-names-in-english/**.
    - "Latin Names as found in RC Church Registers" — **http://www.ulsterancestry.com/free/ShowFreePage-443.html**.
    - Also see" List of common First Name variations" — **http://www.rootsireland.ie/help/first-names/.**
- Search and keep track of all results found for:
    - Identified parishes.
    - Identified surname, first name and Latin name variations.
- Search at multiple websites in case of differing indexes, transcriptions, record sets, or search methods.
    - Use wildcards.
    - Search broadly then narrow results.
    - See specific website information in John Grenham, "Chapter 5 — The Internet," in *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*.

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Correlate the results paying attention to:

- Any possible record gaps or parish anomalies.
- Any same named individuals.
    - More research will be needed to separate their identities.
- Surname and first name variations found.
- Townlands or other identifying information found.

Look for any conflicting information and resolve the problem(s) if possible.

Craft a soundly reasoned conclusion about your research subject. This may allow you to:

- Confidently identify him or her.
- Show how he or she could be one of several same named individuals.
- Demonstrate why he or she could not be found.

Useful Resources:

- John Grenham, *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* (Dublin: Gill Books, 2019).
- John Grenham's *Irish Ancestors* — **https://www.johngrenham.com/**.
- Shane Wilson's *SWilson.Info* — **https://www.swilson.info/index.php.**
- Northern Ireland's "PRONI Guide to Church Records" — **https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/publications/proni-guide-church-records**.
- Map counties, civil parishes, townlands & more — **https://www.townlands.ie/**.
- Map and learn about placenames in English and Irish — **https://www.logainm.ie/en/**.
- Historic Ordnance Survey maps in "Base Information and Mapping" layers — **http://map.geohive.ie/mapviewer.html**.
- Samuel Lewis, A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland (London: S. Lewis & Co., 1837) — **https://www.libraryireland.com/topog/**.
    - Also available at the Civil Parish level through John Grenham's *Irish Ancestors* — **https://www.johngrenham.com/places/**.

Keeping up to date:

- John Grenham's *Irish Roots* blog— **https://www.johngrenham.com/blog/**.
- Claire Santry's *Irish Genealogy News*— **https://www.irishgenealogynews.com/.**

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Using Cluster Methodology to Solve a Long-Standing Problem

Board for Certification of Genealogists® Skillbuilding Lecture

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What we initially perceive as a brick-wall problem is often solvable. This case study shows how diligent application of the Genealogical Proof Standard can solve a long-standing problem using indirect evidence.

Cluster methodology is not unique to genealogy. It is used extensively in data mining, statistical data analysis, pattern recognition, etc. The Wikipedia article for cluster analysis defines clustering as the "task of grouping a set of objects in such a way that objects in the same group (called a cluster) are more similar (in some sense) to each other than to those in other groups (clusters)."[1]

The concept is especially useful in genealogical research when problems cannot be solved by researching an individual, but require researching his surrounding community to identify common characteristics or associates. In genealogy circles we often refer to cluster methodology as the FAN Club.[2] We study friends, associates, and neighbors for clues to origins, migrations, and relationships.

Definitions (from *Genealogy Standards*, pp. 1–2, 75–76, 78, 80, 81–82; see bibliography):

- Genealogical evidence: "A *research question*'s tentative answer, which can be right or wrong, complete or incomplete, or vague or specific; can be *direct*, *indirect*, or *negative*."
- Direct evidence: "An *information* item that seems to address a *research question* and answer it by itself; the opposite of *indirect evidence* and one of three categories of *genealogical evidence*."
- Indirect evidence: "*Information* items that seem to address and answer a *research question* only when combined; the opposite of *direct evidence* and one of three categories of *genealogical evidence*."
- Negative evidence: "A type of evidence arising from an absence of a situation or *information* in extant records where that information might be expected; one of three categories of genealogical *evidence*; compare with *negative search*."

- Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS): "The genealogy field's standard for determining whether a conclusion is acceptable or not." The five elements of the GPS are:
    1. "Reasonably exhaustive research—emphasizing original records providing participants' information—for all evidence that might answer a genealogist's question about identity, relationship, event, or situation"
    2. "Complete, accurate citations to the source or sources of each information item contributing—directly, indirectly, or negatively—to answers about that identity, relationship, event, or situation"

[1] "Cluster Analysis," Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cluster_analysis).
[2] "QuickLesson 11: Identity Problems and the FAN Principle," *Evidence Explained: Historical Analysis, Citation and Source Usage* (htpps://www.evidenceexplained.com/content/quicklesson-11-identity-problems-fan-principle).

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3. "Tests—through processes of analysis and correlation—of all sources, information items, and evidence contributing to a genealogical question or problem"
4. "Resolution of conflicts among evidence items pertaining to the proposed answer"
5. "A soundly reasoned, coherently written conclusion based on the strongest available evidence"

The GPS is best attained by understanding and implementing the standards set forth in *Genealogy Standards* (see bibliography). The standards describe best practices in the field, and faithful application of those standards will result in high-quality work that stands the test of time.

Substitutes for Missing New York Records

The Joseph Johnson Chase problem is based in rural upstate New York during the time period 1790–1850, often called the "black hole" of New York research. Records either were not kept, sporadically kept, or later destroyed leaving researchers without reliable sources to check. Substitutes for some records can be used as workarounds. Researching all members of the subject's FAN club in all available records often allows reconstruction of the subject's life and ultimately leads to success in breaking down brick walls.

Some Selected Substitutes for Vital Records:
In general:

- Births, deaths, and marriages were recorded in many localities between 1847 and 1852. Check for your localities in the FHL catalog as most of these have been filmed and are available there. Keep in mind that compliance was spotty and that many records have been lost.
- Some church records exist. Always check local Dutch Reformed Churches, even if you don't think your ancestor went there. These churches were better about recording vital records than other denominations and newcomers from New England often attended DRC services.
- Upstate cities (Albany, Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, and Utica) recorded vital records earlier than most counties. Be aware of the dates in your city of interest.
- Newspapers in the area may carry notices of deaths and marriages. Check the NYG&B website member's section for links to digitized New York newspapers.

Marriages:

- Some ministers and justices of the peace kept records. They are usually difficult to locate, but many have been published in various books or journals.
- *Names of Persons for Whom Marriage Licenses Were Issued by the Secretary of the Province of New York, Previous to 1784* (1860, repr. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1984).
- Kenneth Scott, *Marriage Bonds of Colonial New York, 1753–1784* (New York: Saint Nicholas Society of the City of New York, 1972).
- The 1865 and 1875 New York state censuses record all marriages taking place in the preceding year.

Births:

- State census records provide useful clues to narrowing birth dates. For example, the 1825, 1835, and 1845 censuses (only some of which are extant) recorded the number of births in the household during the preceding year and the gender of the baby. See William Dollarhide, *New York State Censuses & Substitutes* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2005).
- The 1855 census tells the county of birth (if in New York) and also tells the years of residence in the household's 1855 town of residence. The 1865 and 1875 censuses continue to record the county of birth, but not the duration of residence in the town.

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Deaths:

- Newspapers in the area may carry a notice of a death. Check the NYG&B website member's section for links to digitized New York newspapers, fultonhistory.com, and the subscription newspaper sites.
- State census records contain useful clues for pinpointing death dates. For example, the 1825 census recorded the number of deaths in the household during the preceding year and the deceased's gender.
- All deaths taking place in the preceding year are recorded on the 1865 and 1875 New York state censuses. Also utilize the federal mortality schedules.
- Upstate cities (Albany, Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, and Utica) recorded vital records earlier than most counties. Be aware of the dates in your city of interest.

Some Substitutes for Missing Land Records

Transfers of land were not required to be recorded until 1823, but compliance was spotty at best. The following may prove residence on a given piece of land, even in the absence of a land record.

- Landowner maps. Beginning in the 1850s atlases of most counties were published, many of which named landowners. There are also some available earlier, sometimes for only a town or village. Study your locality in depth for available resources.
- Survey maps of turnpikes, canal routes, and railroads. These often show owners bordering the property. Those for the New York Canal Commissioners are in the New York State Archives (NYSA), Albany. They also have some turnpike maps, but many of those will be found scattered in county archives.
- Surveyor's field books, many of which are found at NYSA, often show residents. Search for all known associates as well as the person of interest.
- Manorial records. The majority of newcomers into upstate New York in the first half of the 1800s did not own land, but leased it. Landlords kept lease records and many of those survive. Determine which landowner owned the land in your area of interest and search for his papers in OCLC and online. For an interesting study of Van Cortlandt's Manor and to learn more about the manorial system in general, see Sung Bok Kim, *Landlord and Tenant in Colonial New York* (Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press, 1978).
- Neighborhood studies. Sometimes the only way to prove an ancestor's presence is to perform a neighborhood study. By determining all possible neighbors and researching all their land records, one often discovers enough shreds of evidence to prove another man's residence.
- Tax records. These are somewhat scarce, but can be informative when located. Search for and use these records whenever possible. (Note: Paying tax does not necessarily mean the individual owned the land; often lease agreements stipulated that renters paid the tax.)

Read the Scholarly Journals!

Any case-study article printed in the five scholarly (peer-reviewed) genealogical journals is worth studying. Reading well-reasoned, well-written arguments hones the reader's evidence analysis skills and teaches new strategies and resources for effective research. Those articles often detail how problems were solved using cluster methodology. The top five journals are the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, *The New York Genealogical & Biographical Record*, *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, *The American Genealogist*, and *The Genealogist*. The bibliography below includes a sampling of case studies utilizing cluster methodology.

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What You Need to Know Before Researching Hispanic Ancestors

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The objective of this class is to learn the basic research steps needed to begin a search for Hispanic ancestors. Among these steps will be: how to identify the locality, what record types are most useful, and how to find help reading Spanish handwriting and understanding the documents.

RECORD TYPES

The most commonly used record types for research in Hispanic countries are:

- Civil Registration
- Catholic Church Records
- Census – Mexico in 1930 (not complete), Argentina in 1869 and 1895
- Border crossings - Mexico to United States 1895-1957

CIVIL REGISTRATION – IMPORTANT DATES

Argentina 1881
Brazil 1888
Bolivia 1940
Colombia 1865
Costa Rica 1888
Cuba 1885
Chile 1885
Dominican Republic 1828
Ecuador 1901
El Salvador 1879
Guatemala 1877
Honduras 1881
México 1857
Nicaragua 1879
Panamá 1914
Paraguay 1880
Peru 1886
Puerto Rico 1885
Spain 1869
Uruguay 1879
Venezuela 1873

INFORMATION FOUND IN THE RECORDS

Births / Baptisms *Nacimientos / Baptismos*

- Name of child
- Hour, date, and place of birth (Civil Registration), Baptism date (Church Records)
- Names of parents, their marital status, birthplace (usually), ages and profession (Civil Registration)
- Names of witnesses, their age, marital status and profession (Civil Registration)
- Birthplace and relationship of witnesses, if any (Civil Registration)
- *Padrinos* - Godparents (Church Records)
- Possible additional information may include the names of paternal and maternal grandparents, their marital status, birthplace, and if still living

Marriages *Matrimonios*

- Bride and groom – names, ages, civil status, birthplace, residence of bride and groom
- Profession of the bride and groom (Civil Registration)
- Names of parents of bride and groom (normally)
- Possible additional information may include the names of witnesses, the church marriage date (Civil Registration) and other documents about the couple's ability to marry.

Deaths / Burials *Defunciones / sepulturas*

- Date and place of death, age, marital status, and profession (Civil Registration)
- Birthplace and/or residence
- Parents' names if not married
- Spouse's name, if married
- Possible additional information may include the cause of death (Civil Registration), burial place, names of heirs or children, if any, and if the deceased left a will.

Marriage information files *Informaciones Matrimoniales / Presentación*

- Application and paperwork required to marry, usually has more information than the marriage.
- Usually a few days or a few pages before the marriage, often in separate books.

Confirmations *Confirmaciones*

- Name of the parish, date of confirmation
- Name of the child, name(s) of godparent(s)
- Names of parents (not always)

FINDING AIDS

Google Maps

Gazetteers *Diccionarios geográficos*

Mexico Antonio García Cubas, *Diccionario geográfico, histórico y biográfico de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos* (Mexico: Antigua Murguia, 1888-1891). FHL INTL 972 E5g. (Ask at the FHL reference desk or find it online through the Wiki page **Mexico Gazetteers**).

Spain Pascual Madoz, *Diccionario geográfico-estadístico-histórico de España y sus posesiones de ultramar* (Madrid: P. Madoz, 1848-1850). FHL INTL 946 E5m (Ask at the FHL reference desk or find it online through the Wiki page **Spain Gazetteers**).

Ecclesiastical guides *Guías eclesiásticas* contain parish guides and may provide jurisdictions

FamilySearch Catalog

LANGUAGE HELPS

Handwriting help

- Script website http://script.byu.edu/
- Reading Spanish handwritten records (online lesson) FamilySearch Learning Center

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Translation help

- Spanish Genealogical Word List article in FamilySearch Wiki https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Spanish_Genealogical_Word_List
- Google Translate http://translate.google.com/
- FamilySearch Community located under the Help menu in the upper right corner of FamilySearch.org. You must be logged in to view and participate.

RESEARCH STRATEGIES

Before beginning a search for a record, use the chart in this document to determine if you have enough information to be successful. To use the chart, first choose the event or record type you wish to locate. Do you know the information from the next three columns – Names, Dates, and Places? If not, you may wish to take a step back in your research and locate a record from a previous generation. The information in the Names, Dates, and Places columns is vital because it will help to confirm, when you find a record, that you have found the right record.

Important: Always work from the known to the unknown. Don't search for a record if you have no connecting information to confirm you have found the right person.

Event or record type	Names	Dates	Places
Birth or baptism	Parents or siblings	Birth date (can be estimated) or Birth date of a sibling	Birthplace or Place of residence of parents
Marriage	Bride and groom or Names of their parents	Date of marriage (can be estimated) or Birth date of oldest child	Marriage place or Place of residence or Birth/baptism place of a child
Death or burial	Parents or Spouse or Children	Death date (can be estimated	Death place or Place of residence
Immigration or Emigration	Person and/or Names of parents, spouse or children	Arrival date (can be estimated) Departure date (can be estimated)	Place of arrival Place of departure

SEARCH TECHNIQUES

Search for an Individual

1. Go to FamilySearch.org, log in and click on Search. A FamilySearch.org account is free and allows you greater access to records.
2. Enter a first name and a last name. Even though Hispanics use two surnames, try your searches only with the first surname or the paternal surname because most of the indexed records have only one surname.
3. Use the option to **Restrict records by location** if your ancestor only ever lived in one country.

4. In order to add a specific place, you need to Search with a life event. Your best option is **Any**. Using **Any** will give you a lot of results and you won't miss any by narrowing your options to only Births, Marriages, or Deaths. LESS IS MORE!!
5. Click on Search.

Note: The only names that will be searched are those already indexed. Many records are not indexed yet so if you don't find anything, try browsing images online. This will require you to know the location where an event took place and an approximate year when the event took place.

Search with a relationship

- Spouse
- Parents
- If you don't get results using first and last names, try searching using only last names.
- Try leaving out the child's name.
- Try searching for the person as an individual, spouse, and parent.

Tips for searching indexed records

- Less is more
- By clicking on the small box next to names and/or places you will limit your search to include only those that contain those exact names or places. This limits your results but may be helpful when searching for names that are very common.
- You can use wild card characters to substitute for a letter or group of letters that may be spelled in a variety of ways. For example: You might use Jul* to look for anyone whose name begins with those three letters. Your results might include Julio, Julian, Julios, etc.
- If you don't find the person you are seeking, try spelling variations of the first and/or the last name.

Tips for browsing images

Search for the locality beginning with the largest jurisdiction and drilling down to the smallest. For example: State or province > city > parish.

- Choose the type of records and year range that fits the year range you need.
- You can browse forward or backward in an image set using the small arrows that appear on either side of the words **Image xx of xx**. The arrow pointing to the right is to advance. The arrow pointing to the left is to go backwards. You can also enter an image number and click on Enter to advance to that image number.
- To use the tools to improve the image quality, click on **Tools** and you will see various options. To adjust the brightness or contrast of the image, use the slider and then click on **Apply** when the image appears as you wish.
- Search in indexes first, if any, but remember the page number in the index rarely corresponds to the image number.
- Begin with date of the event (birth, marriage, death) working forward in time. The records are normally in chronological order by the date of the event or of the registration. If the event is not on the date expected, try searching a few years before or a few years after.
- Take notes or use a research log. Be patient and don't give up.

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THE MAN WHO LIVED AS MARCUS FOLDERMAN

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Shiel, Jeanette. "The Man Who Lived as Marcus Folderman (1849–1922): Identifying the Origin of a German Immigrant to Rensselaer County, New York," *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record* 151 (January 2020): 5–18.

The important thing is to not stop questioning.
Curiosity has its own reason for existing.

—Albert Einstein,
Old Man's Advice to Youth: "Never Lose a Holy Curiosity"
LIFE Magazine (2 May 1955): 64

CASE STUDY: CONFLICTING EVIDENCE

- Ask a question and focus the analysis upon that question. Build a case, step by step, incorporating the Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS) to answer the question.
- Resolve all conflicts.

MY QUESTION: Who was Marcus Folderman's mother?

CHASING IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

- Consider phonetics: Folderman > same as Volterman? Olderman? Alderman? Ask someone else verbally, "How would spell xxx?"
- Use records that provide clues of American immigration, time and place.
- *Familienbuch* - family registers, or genealogical summaries that were issued in Germany.
- Derivative records can omit vital information; go for the primary records. If a record exists in derivative form, the primary record *probably* exists.
- Sometimes…*Less really is more.*

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Immigrant Letters, Memoirs and Travel Journals

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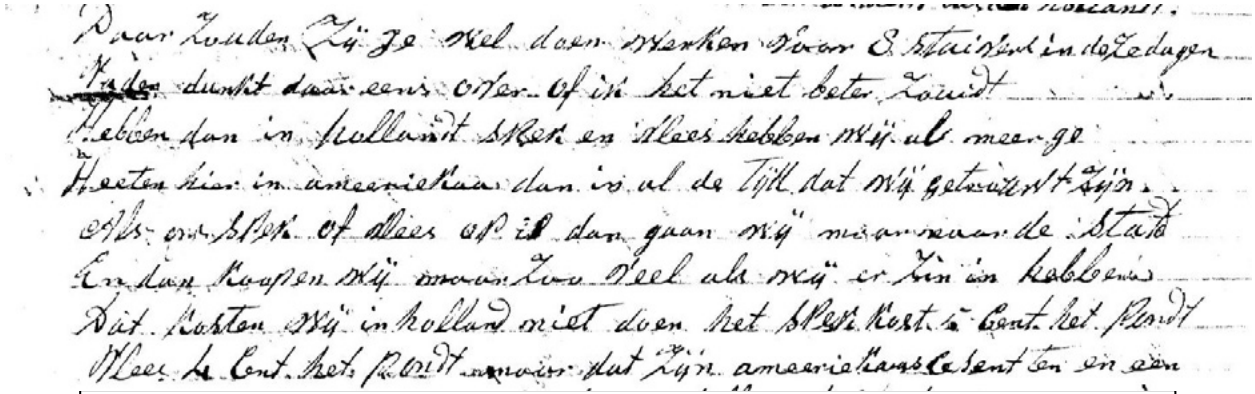
Mary Risseeuw is a genealogist, historian, writer and lecturer. She has researched 19th & 20th century Dutch immigration to Wisconsin for 30 years. She has lectured throughout the Midwest and the Netherlands. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Association for the Advancement of Dutch American Studies. She organized and hosted the Dutch in Wisconsin Conference in 2008; the first Dutch studies conference to focus solely on Dutch immigration to Wisconsin.

Letters, memoirs and travel journals are a rare primary source that is often overlooked in understanding the experiences of immigrants. These letters were generally written by ordinary immigrants. They are a genuine source of information about America for families and the communities who had to deal with the effects of emigration on the other end. Through these letters, emigrants and their families compared life abroad to the life they left behind. They contain details about every situation the immigrant finds himself in: the choice of a place to settle, his neighbors, his land, finding employment, the difficulties with language, loneliness, and questions about citizenship, church membership, political parties and war. When correspondence from different populations is examined, one can gain more insight into the variations in cultural practices, expectations in a new world, and an overall worldview. Economic concerns and family news are often the most highlighted topics. Letters were also written solely to encourage emigration.

1. Emigration
    - 1.1 History and background
        - 1.1.1. What were the chances your ancestors wrote letters?
2. Letters
    - 2.1 What they contain
    - 2.2 Using them to trace family and neighbors
    - 2.3 Why you should collect anecdotal evidence
    - 2.4 My family had no letters
        - 2.4.1. Examining collateral families and neighbors



Portion of letter written in 1851 from Milwaukee, WI to the Netherlands:
"*Father, think this over as to whether I would be better off in Holland. We eat more pork and beef than we did since we were married. If all your pork or beef is gone, we go to town and buy as much as we like. In Holland we could not do that……I already bought a stove for 5 dollars and ½ on which we can cook 4 pots at the same time and bake bread. For a barrel of flour which has a weight of 196 lbs, we paid 4 dollars. We couldn't do that in Holland because all we could afford was a cup of wheat flour.*"

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3. Memoirs
    - 3.1 What they contain
    - 3.2 How to determine relevance to your family's history

4. Travel Journals
    - 4.1 Using them to identify immigration routes relevant to your family
    - 4.2 Historical detail

5. Translation
    - 5.1 Old Dutch/German/Polish/Etc. vs. Modern Language
    - 5.2 Dialects
        - 5.2.1 How to anticipate their use
        - 5.2.2 Can you recognize a dialect?
    - 5.3 How to find translators

6. Materials collections and how to find them
    - 6.1 Archives in the U.S. and Europe
    - 6.2 Libraries in the U.S. and Europe
    - 6.3 Books
    - 6.4 Methods to create your own collection

7. The Bigger Picture: Why are they important?
    - 7.1 Using letters for historical research
        - 7.1.1. National, state and local history
    - 7.2 Expand your knowledge of the people behind the history lesson.
    - 7.3 Learn the details behind your family story

* More than 400 million letters were exchanged between the United States and German during the peak decades of German immigration.

* After larger scale emigration began in the 1840s, a more reliable postal system made it possible for immigrants to keep in contact with families in their country of origin.

*By the 1880s, there were more than 3 million letters exchanged between Germany and the United States in a given year.

* Was the choice to emigrate a disappointment or did it turn out better than they expected?
* Was there a typical experience?
* Can you determine when the move to assimilate began?
* What advice were the immigrants giving their families back home?
* Can you determine who maintained ties to the old country and how strong the home sickness was?
* What are the differences between current immigrant experiences and those of the 19th & 20th century?

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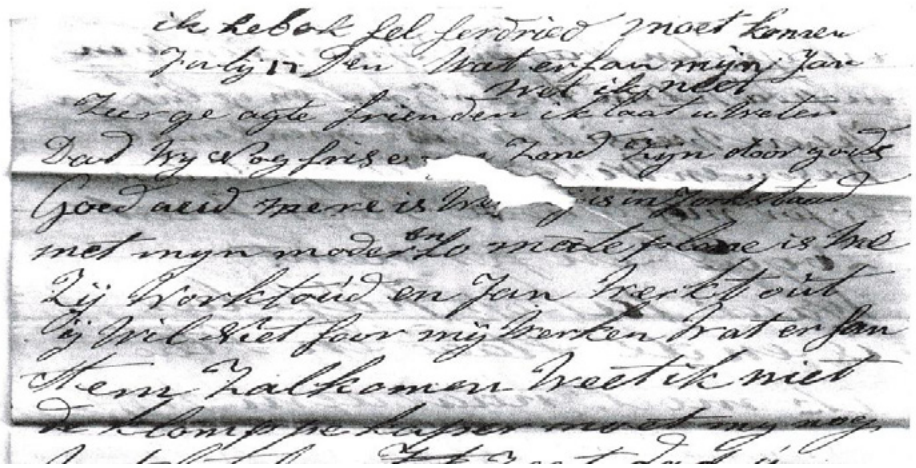

The challenges of immigrant letters can include language, dialects, and handwriting. The physical state of the original letter or quality of a scanned version might present additional obstacles. Bleed through and tears are common issues to deal with.

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Uncovering the Life of a Free Black Virginian through Southern Claims Commission Records

By Andre Kearns, BA, MBA

Lecture Number (F345)

Friday, May 22, 2020, 2:30pm

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https://medium.com/@andrekearns

"If you take the hogs how am I going to feed my children?"

This is what my third great grandfather Exum White, born a free black in Suffolk, VA, asked the Union officer who showed up at his door in 1862 to confiscate his farm hogs in order to feed his troops. Exum was married with a growing family.

.

This moment was taken from Exum's Southern Claims Commission testimony. The Commission was established post- civil war to hear war grievances citizens had against the government. Exum filed a $390 compensatory claim in 1871 and was eventually awarded $160.

Virginia boasted one of the largest free populations of color in the south and they represented one-in seven of Virginia's allowed claims. In this session I will teach all that can be uncovered on the lives of free people of color during the civil war through researching their Southern Claims Commission application. I will do this by sharing what I learned about Exum White by examining his claim.

About the Southern Claims Commission (SCC). I will share an overview of the Southern Claims Commission and why claims applications represent a rich source of genealogical information for free people of color

- The Southern Claims Commission (SCC) (1871-1880) was created by President Ulysses S. Grant to allow Union sympathizers living in Southern states during Civil War to apply for reimbursements for property losses due to U.S. Army confiscations during the war.
- Over 22,000 Southern Loyalists (those who were Union sympathizers) from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia submitted claims
- Applicants qualified for reimbursement by proving loss of property and loyalty to the Union during the war
- Applications are a rich source of genealogical information because Claimants had to answer the 80+ questions inclusive of names and dates of family members, and provide witnesses who had to answer the same questions

What can be uncovered about the life of Exum White from his SCC application

- Exum White was born free in Nansemond, VA about 1829
- January 1862 Confederates force Exum White and 100 other free men of color men to labor on the rebel works on railroad near Manassas for 60 days
- By Fall 1862 he is back on his farm in Suffolk when his property is confiscated by the Union army
- The presence of his signature on his application tells us he is literate

- He had a strong network of Friends, Associates and Neighbors (FANS) from his Nansemond free person of color community who supported him and whom he supported in respective claims
- His Union loyalty as demonstrated in his application provides insight into his political views and activism later in life

Uncovering deeper family history. I will broaden my genealogical approach to other forms of information on Virginia free people of color, build a family tree for my ancestor Exum White, and build a more complete picture of his life and our family history.

- **Free people of color in Virginia.** I examine census records for broader historical context on free people of color in Virginia
- **The Whites of Nansemond as Free Blacks.** Using Census records and DNA testing I identify his free black parents as Meredith and Parma Small White and his grandmother
- **Portrait of Freedom.** Connecting with family members I uncover his portrait, photo and Virginia Free Negro Registration papers
- **Restricted Citizenship.** I examine Black Laws of Virginia enacted over Exum White's lifetime to learn about the restrictions under which he lived his life
- **Black Land ownership.** I review White family Deeds to identify Exum White as a black landowner
- **Voting for the first time under Reconstruction.** I examine poll records to discover Exum voting for the first time under Reconstruction
- **Family participation in Freedman schools.** I discover Freedman's Bureau records to uncover White family participation in Freedman schools
- **A Beacon of light.** I share a history of the Nansemond River Lighthouse and how Exum White is listed as head keeper in 1882
- **Political Leadership and Fighting Jim Crow.** I uncover Exum's political pursuits and his fight against Jim Crow through accounts sourced from newspaper articles
- **Prince Hall Masons of Suffolk.** I uncover annual communications to uncover Exum White as a Prince Hall Free Mason

Preserving a Portrait of Freedom. I will share the steps I took to preserve a family portrait of Exum White which I have inherited.

- I outline the process I used to preserve the portrait of Exum White that was handed down to me
- I share how the portrait now hangs in my home where my sons can be reminded of their great-great-great-great grandfather Exum White's amazing legacy

Research Resources

- U.S., Southern Claims Commission Allowed Claims, 1871-1880 on Ancestry and Fold3
- Networks of resistance: black Virginians remember Civil War loyalties by Amanda Kleintop
- US Federal Census Records on Ancestry
- Will and Estate Records of Family Search
- Deeds Records, On Microfilm at the Library of Virginia
- African American Poll Books, 1867: http://www.virginiamemory.com/transcribe/collections/show/29
- U.S., Register of Civil, Military, and Naval Service, 1863-1959 on Ancestry
- Newspapers.com

THE GREAT WAR: RESEARCHING YOUR WORLD WAR I ANCESTORS

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INTRODUCTION:

With the war in Europe raging since 1914 and the United States remaining neutral. Many genealogy records created during the war share the feelings, attitudes, and reactions by our Government during the Great War.

WORLD WAR I BRIEF TIMELINE:

August 4, 1914-The United States officially declares neutrality.

May 7, 1915-U-20 Sinks *HMS Lusitania* with 128 U.S. Citizens Onboard

January, 1917-Zimmerman Telegram that proposed alliance of Germany and Mexico.

April 6, 1917-United States declares war on Germany

November 11, 1918-End of hostilities –Treaty of Paris.

OMPF FILES:

The strength of the Army in 1917 was roughly 200,000 men of whom 80,000 were serving with various National Guard units.

The https://www.archives.gov/personnel-records-center/military-personnel located in St. Louis, MO is the repository of millions of military personnel, medical, and payroll records of discharged and deceased veterans of all the services during the 20th century. Prior war military records are held at the National Archives in Washington, DC. The service member's military records is referred to as the Official Military Personnel Files (OMPF). On July 12, 1973 a disastrous fire revenged the building housing the OMPF files for members of the U.S. Army and the U.S. Air Force. It affected between 16-18 million service files that were either destroyed or damaged. Records destroyed included:

Army Personnel discharged November 1, 1912, to January 1, 1960 **80%**

Air Force Personnel discharged, September 25, 1947, to January 1, 1964 **75%** (Starting with names alphabetically after James E. Hubbard). The Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard records were not affected by the fire. Mail requests are sent to the following address:

National Personnel Records Center (NPRC)
Military Personnel Records
1 Archive Drive
St. Louis, MO 63138

ACCESS TO RECORDS:

Patrons access the records in one of 3 ways:

- Visit NPRC with an appointment
- Hire a genealogist to search records
- Mail in request Form 180- https://www.archives.gov/files/sf180-request-pertaining-to-military-records-exp-april2018-1.pdf for records

WHAT IS CONSIDERED ARCHVAL:

Service files of military personnel who were discharged more than 62 years ago are open for public inspection. This is a rolling date and moves forward every calendar day.

RECORDS OF THE C.E.F.

Canada entered the First World War on August 5, 1914. By 1918 more than 35,000 Americans would go on to serve in the ranks of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF)

This included Americans living in Canada and those who crossed the borders to fight. The Records from Canadian soldiers include: https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/search.aspx

United States Residents in the CEF from 1917-1918-Part of RG163-Selective Service – https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/9177/

MORTUARY FILES:

Another set of records located at the NPRC that are a collection of file for individuals who were killed in action (KIA) which would include deaths as a POW. Called Individual Deceased Personnel Files or IDPF during World War II earlier they were referred to as "*Mortuary Files*" or "*Casualty Files"*.

During World War I from 1915-1939 they were also called "*Burial Files*" and are located at NPRC in St. Louis, MO.

DRAFT REGISTRATION CARDS:

The passage of the Selective Service Act of 1917 on May 18, 1917 authorized the President to increase the military. All males between the ages of 18 and 45 was required to register for the draft. Located in RG163

The Provost Marshal General Office (P.M.G.O. Office), was put in charge to see that the draftees registered and men didn't forget to register and additionally were detailed to enforce those slackers and to fit into classification men registered.

The World War I-Draft consisted of three (3) separate registrations:

1st Registration-June 5, 1917-Men aged 21-31 born between June 6, 1886-June 5, 1886 (12 Questions)

2nd Registration-June 5, 1918-Men who turned 21born between June 6, 1896-June 6, 1897 (10 Questions) Supplement Registration

3rd Registration-September 12, 1918-Men aged 18-21 and 34-35 born between September 11, 1872 and September 12, 1900 (20 Questions)

Records are online at 3 different locations https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/6482/ and https://www.fold3.com/title/959/wwi-draft-registration-cards/description, and lastly https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1968530 The National Archives has Draft Classifications for men "Fit for Duty" or "Deferred for Military Service" Consult the Archives in Morrow, GA.

TROOPSHIP MANIFESTS:

Troopship manifests provide a complete listing of the Army personnel that went overseas to France and returned to the U.S. https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/61174/ The originals are part of RG92 located in the Quartermaster General The manifests contain the following:

- Name of Soldier
- Rank
- Service Number
- Company/Regiment/Unit
- Next or Kin
- Emergency Contact/Relationship

WOUND CHEVRONS:

Reports on casualties provide valuable service information including the injury and location of service. Found in RG391 at the National Archives Including the following information:

- Name of Soldier
- Service Number
- Military Unit/Organization
- Rank
- Date of Wounding or Gassing
- Location of Incident

Usually they are recorded at the end of the units military information-under Special Order or General Orders.

MORNING REPORTS:

Located at the National Personnel Record Center in St. Louis, MO. These records are microfilmed (some damage from 1973 fire), and include the United States Army from 1912-1959 considered archival. Written requests are not accepted. Patron can only access these records by visiting the National Personnel Record Center in St. Louis, MO. Military unit must be known.

MUSTER ROLLS:

Military records also known as unit rosters that are available on microfilm covering 1912-1943 onsite at the National Personnel Record Center in St. Louis, MO. Organized and indexed by unit. Contains the following information:

- Date of Muster
- Location of Muster (Camp, Station, Etc.)
- Grouped by Companies
- Name of Soldier
- Rank
- Service Number

FBI CASE FILES:

Organized on March 16, 1909-Originally called a "*Special Agent Force*" and headed by Alexander Bielaski. The Bureau changed name in 1935 called the Federal Bureau of Investigation. These case files will cover investigations by the F.B.I. and cover the years of 1908-1922-and include more than 2 million pages of materials detailing numerous individuals.

- Miscellaneous Files-1908-1922
- Mexican Files-1909-1921
- Old German Files-1915-1920
- Bureau Section Files-1920-1921

The largest set of the above records consist of the Old German Files. Access these online at https://www.fold3.com/title/74/fbi-case-files

ENEMY ALIEN AFFIDAVITS:

Following the onset of hostilities person non-naturalized "*Enemy Aliens*" by definition, were required to register as a national security measure under the provisions of a Presidential Proclamation of April 6, 1917. Females were likewise required to register for persons of natural birth that were married to enemy aliens or nationals. Search the Wiki at Family Search: https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Alien_Registration_Files

INFLUENZA PANDEMIC:

One of the deadliest pandemics in history. It began in Spring of 1918 in Kansas and quickly spread across the globe. By May 1918 the flu strain has come to the war zone in France where both sides soon became sick and died. The peak month of October, 1918 saw the largest number of deaths.

Afterward it started to lessen and by the Spring 1919 the flu had disappeared. More than 45,000 soldiers died from Influenza during World War I. Compared to 53,404 soldier who died in World War I on the battlefield.

GREAT WAR COMMISSION:

After the end of the war in 1918-several states created the War History Commission and put together questionnaires for the soldiers/sailors upon their return to civilian life. Some of these states would include Missouri, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. See the individual state archives or libraries for their collections.

GOLD STAR MOTHERS:

The Term "Gold Star Mother" was applied to those woman who had lost sons in World War I. Later this was extended to include widows. All of these woman received a Gold Star

Star medal-for their fallen hero; being encouraged them to display in their homes. In 1929-President Calvin Coolidge passed the bill-made into law that year—for Mother's and Widow's of soldier who died between April 5, 1917 and July 1, 1921. On October 31, 1933-when the program ended-6,693 of the eligible 17,389 woman made the pilgrimage. The original files are located at the National Archives with online index at https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/3037/

VETERAN CLAIM FILES:

In 1921 United States Congress created the Veterans Bureau regarding benefits. Later in 1930 President Hoover combined Veterans Bureau, with the Bureau of Pensions to later be called the Veteran Affairs. The records at the National Archives are part of RG15 with index covering from 1917-1940 available on https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2968245

The files have two numbering designations. If the veteran file number is preceded by a "C" this indicates the person is alive requesting benefits. Once Deceased that numbering Changes as the file number it now preceded by an "XC".

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NOTES:

Fifty Overlooked Genealogical Resources in Fifty Minutes

By Diane L. Richard[1]

Introduction

Since 2006, I have been authoring a Net Notes column for *Internet Genealogy*. "Internet Genealogy looks at websites and related news that are sure to be of interest." The Net Note column provides a quick snapshot of neat free genealogically relevant databases that have caught my eye. We are not talking database additions to Ancestry or FamilySearch et al. Many of these are home-grown narrowly focused databases that just might provide you with an invaluable piece of information. I've easily written over 400 net notes. The focus is typically on resources that are free for anyone to use though occasionally a subscription resource deserves recognition. Let's now take a look at a "whole bunch" of hidden gems you have available at your fingertips that you might not be aware of.

"NEW TO ME" & "HOT OFF THE PRESS" FINDS

(1) [World] Endangered Archives Program (EAP), https://eap.bl.uk/ -- primarily funds digitization projects to record and preserve the content of archives; includes great archival material for the Turks & Caicos.
(2) [US] Mexican War Soldiers & Sailors Database, https://www.nps.gov/paal/learn/historyculture/search-usmexwar.htm [New January 2020]
(3) [World] Europeana Newspapers, https://www.europeana.eu/portal/en/collections/newspapers
(4) [African American] Frederick Douglass Newspapers, https://blogs.loc.gov/headlinesandheroes/2020/01/frederick-douglass-newspapers-1847-1874-now-online/ [New January 2020]

Catch the talk for the rest!

CROWDSOURCED PROJECTS

(1) From the Page, https://fromthepage.com/collections -- resource for collaborative transcriptions used by many in the genealogy community.
(2) Zooinverse (History), https://www.zooniverse.org/projects?discipline=history&page=1&status=live – includes (Jan 2020) – African American Civil War Soldiers and Anti-Slavery Manuscripts
(3) Crowd Source Indexing (CSI), https://csindexing.com/ -- created specifically for genealogical indexing, houses projects big and small.

Catch the talk for the rest!

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OLDIES BUT GOODIES -- WORLD

(1) [Germany] Verein für Computergenealogie e.V." (CompGen), http://des.genealogy.net/start/selectProject
(2) Genealogical Society of Finland (Hiski Project), http://hiski.genealogia.fi/historia/indexe.htm
(3) [France & beyond] Geneanet, https://en.geneanet.org/archival-registers/ -- a contributive, collaborative and freemium website.

Catch the talk for the rest!

AFRICAN AMERICAN RESOURCES

(1) HeinOnline - Slavery in America and the World: History, Culture & Law, https://heinonline.org/HOL/Index?collection=slavery
(2) Digital Library on American Slavery (DLAS), https://library.uncg.edu/slavery/ -- several databases documenting those enslaved in the south and around the world.
(3) Last Seen: Finding Family After Slavery, https://informationwanted.org/ -- thousands of "Information Wanted" advertisements taken out by former slaves searching for long lost family members.
(4) Slave Voyages, https://www.slavevoyages.org/ -- expanded version of what was Voyages: The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database (DLAS) which now also includes intra-American voyages.
(5) Virginia Untold – The African American Narrative, https://www.virginiamemory.com/collections/aan/

Catch the talk for the rest!

OLDIES BUT GOODIES -- US

(1) The Ancestor Hunt, https://www.theancestorhunt.com/ -- I have grown to appreciate this website more and more. Interested to know about newspapers online? You can check out lists for each US State, Canada and the World (only select countries). What about photo archives? The list goes on.
(2) Online Genealogy Records and Resources (Joe Beine), https://www.deathindexes.com/sites.html – still my go to place to ID what death records I might have ready access to online.
(3) Linkpendium (Karen Isaacson and Brian (Wolf) Leverich) -- http://www.linkpendium.com/usa-genealogy/ -- my favorite website to review as I start every project! A quick and easy way to find out "some" of what is online. I like the organization by state and then county.
(4) Digital Public Library of America, https://dp.la/ -- gateway to over 37 million images, texts, videos and sounds from across the United States.

Catch the talk for the rest!

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OLDIES BUT GOODIES -- UK

(1) FreeUKGenealogy, https://www.freeukgenealogy.org.uk/ -- encompasses FreeReg, FreeCen and FreeBMD.
(2) Genuki, UK & Ireland Genealogy, https://www.genuki.org.uk/ -- a virtual reference library of genealogical information of particular relevance to the UK and Ireland.
(3) ($) The British Newspaper Archive, https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/
(4) [UK & Beyond] http://dustydocs.com/ -- a conduit to vital records across the United Kingdom

Catch the talk for the rest!

OLDIES BUT GOODIES -- CANADA

(1) Can Genealogy, http://www.cangenealogy.com/ -- a handy guide to the best Canadian resources.
(2) Peel's Prairie Provinces, http://peel.library.ualberta.ca/index.html -- a resource dedicated to assisting scholars, students, and researchers of all types in their exploration of western Canadian history and the culture of the Canadian prairies.
(3) British Home Children in Canada, https://canadianbritishhomechildren.weebly.com/
(4) Ontario Ancestors Databases (not just Ontario), https://ogs.on.ca/databases/

Catch the talk for the rest!

Resources for Learning About Neat "New to You" Overlooked Websites

Newsletters and Blogs (a few of my favorites)

There are many many newsletters (and blogs) for genealogists to choose from. Pick the ones that make the most sense for the research you are doing! Do this because these are the newsletters (and blogs) where you might learn about a great database that won't be big enough or hot enough to get the attention of the larger mainstream newsletters and blogs and yet prove invaluable to those researching a particular region, ethnicity, religion, occupation, etc.

Recognize that many newsletters also have a presence on social media, such as Facebook (FB). Pick which delivery method best suits you. Some newsletters like Dick Eastman's, Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter, https://blog.eogn.com/, I receive via email and that's because I've been doing it that way for so long. I could just as easily access this same news via Facebook and Dick Eastman's FB page, https://www.facebook.com/dickeastman.

Recognize also that with newsletters (and blogs) you often have a choice on how frequently you receive new posts/news. To help manage my inbox, I typically do the "digest" version and then have my email software automatically sort these to a folder called "Genealogy Newsletters." I then typically review once a day. Since news is often repeated across newsletters (and blogs) and social media, this helps me also manage repetitive news items.

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A few more favorites (in no particular order):
(1) Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter (already mentioned)
(2) ResearchBuzz (by Tara Callishain), https://researchbuzz.me/ -- she finds news from all around the world and from unexpected places! I get a weekly digest though I also follow her on FB.
(3) Library of Congress, https://service.govdelivery.com/accounts/USLOC/subscriber/topics – I don't follow this one closely and every so often some really neat and new material is digitized. It's really a compendium of items from several blogs that I receive in digest mode. Latest News, Library of Congress Blog, Library of Congress Magazine, New on the Web, Finding Aids and more are just some of the topics that I receive notifications about. For example, in January, Frederick Douglass Newspapers, 1847-1874: Now Online, https://blogs.loc.gov/headlinesandheroes/2020/01/frederick-douglass-newspapers-1847-1874-now-online/?loclr=easerb, was announced and that was important to me as someone currently researching several families composed of "Free Persons of Color" and I was curious to see if this newspaper collection would help.
(4) National Archives and Records Administration, https://www.archives.gov/social-media/blogs – Another entity which produces a number of different blogs and you can opt to participate in all or just one!

Facebook Pages (a few of my favorites)

Similarly, I have a few feeds for new genealogy resources that I get just through Facebook:
(1) Afrigeneas African American Genealogy Community, https://www.facebook.com/groups/afrigeneascommunity/
(2) Digital Library of Georgia, https://www.facebook.com/DigitalLibraryofGeorgia -- with so many North Carolinians migrating into and through Georgia, this feed helps keep me up on GA materials from county records to newspapers and more; a rapidly expanding collection.
(3) Library of Virginia, https://www.facebook.com/LibraryofVA/ -- provides news not just about new additions to its collection and also about other valuable Virginia research resources.

Just a reminder that the newsletters, blogs and Facebok pages mentioned above are just a few of the ones that help me as a genealogist.

Family Tree Magazine – Best Genealogy Websites

Each year a list of 101 Best Genealogy Websites is produced, https://www.familytreemagazine.com/best-genealogy-websites/, and the list is always worth checking out to see if there are any new resources or a website has been greatly expanded. The list is presented alphabetically or you can check out the named categories; these do vary somewhat year-to-year.

Conference Vendor/Exhibitor Halls

Whether you are attending a conference in person or virtually or not at all, check out who is in the vendor/exhibitor hall or look up a list of those business and organizations who are attending. If the name is unfamiliar to you, explore their website.

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Validating Unsourced Online Information

Board for Certification of Genealogists® Skillbuilding Lecture

Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG, FASG, FUGA, FNGS ♦ Tom@JonesResearchServices.com

A case study on identifying a Revolutionary War veteran's children shows how thorough research, including DNA testing, can verify undocumented information.

Options for responding to unsourced online information

1. Blindly trust it.
   - ♦ Risks incorporating and sharing incorrect information
2. Blindly ignore it.
   - ♦ Risks overlooking correct information and useful clues
3. Seek to verify or disprove it.
   - ♦ Avoids the risks of blindly trusting or ignoring unsourced compiled data

The problem and its background

- ♦ Revolutionary War veteran Jonathan Tucker left no record of his children. He lived in New York state when it recorded no births, marriages, or deaths. He owned no land for offspring to inherit. His probate file identifies no heir. Only his widow received his pension's final payment, and her death preceded Revolutionary War widows' eligibility for pensions.
- ♦ Previous research established that Jonathan was born in New Hampshire on 19 March 1763, served in a New Hampshire regiment throughout the Revolutionary War, was discharged at Albany, New York, and married Abigail Cook of Albany County (later Rensselaer). They and Abigail's parents lived there in 1790. In the 1790s the Tuckers settled in Cayuga County, New York, where Jonathan worked as a teamster. Starting in 1818 Jonathan received a Revolutionary War pension in Cayuga County. He died on 13 July 1822.
- ♦ Despite the absence of information about Jonathan's heirs, pre-1850 census tally marks suggest that Jonathan and his wife had two daughters and five sons. See table 1 (on page after next).

A breakthrough and a research question

- ♦ An undocumented online tree gives Jonathan and Abigail's exact marriage date, attributes seven children—two daughters and five sons—to them, and gives exact dates of birth and death for Jonathan, Abigail, and the seven children. See table 2. The tree's compiler does not know where he obtained the information, and the few other trees with the same information seem to have copied it from him.
- ♦ Is the tree's information correct? Does it accurately answer the research question: Who were Jonathan and Abigail's children?

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Research methodology and stages

1. Identify the problem (no official record of a Revolutionary War veteran's children) and set a research focus (identifying the children).
2. Document the starting-point information (the veteran and his wife).
3. Consider the validity of unsourced online information concerning the couple's children.
4. Use pre-1850 census tally marks to understand family composition and compare it to the unsourced online information.
5. Gather and study relevant source information, including DNA test results:
   a. Establish the identity of the veteran's easiest-to-identify offspring.
   b. Use information about that person to lead indirectly to candidates for more offspring.
   c. Use associations and other indirect evidence to establish relationships among the potential siblings.
   d. Use DNA data from targeted testing of the potential siblings' descendants. Also use DNA data from serendipitous matches on GEDmatch and within Ancestry's "Common ancestors," "Shared Matches" and "ThruLines" features.
   e Identify tentative genetic connections among DNA test taking descendants of the potential siblings.
   f. Document the test takers' DNA test results and their descents from the potential siblings.
   g. Assemble the DNA and lineage data into documented charts and tables to help clarify family relationships.
   h. Consider competing explanations for the shared DNA. Eliminate the explanations that documentary or DNA evidence contradict until only one supportable hypothesis explains the shared DNA.
6. Establish conclusions:
   a. The shared DNA supports sibling relationships among three candidates for the veteran's children.
   b. Parallels and identical information among the relationship conclusions and the unsourced online information show that the undocumented online information came from a now-unknown family record.
7. Obtain permissions to share the living test-takers' DNA and lineage data.
8. Prepare the results for written publication:
   a. Present, describe, and document the research findings, explain the reasoning, and state the conclusions.
   b. Use DNA and lineage data only from deceased test takers and living adults who gave consent.
   c. Enhance the explanations with genealogical charts and with tables showing and comparing DNA test results.
9. Submit the written and documented paper for vetting and publication.

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Table 1
Jonathan Tucker's Household Composition from Censuses and Their Implications When Combined

UNITED STATES CENSUSES				IMPLICATIONS
1790	1800	1810	1820	
male over 15 (b. bef. 1774)	male 26–44 (b. 1755–74)	male over 45 (b. bef. 1774)	male over 44 (b. bef. 1774)	Jonathan, head, b. 1755–74
female (b. bef. 1790)	female 26–44 (b. 1755–74)	female over 45 (b. bef. 1774)	female 45 and over (b. bef. 1774)	wife, b. 1755–74
female (b. bef. 1790)				daughter, b. bef. 1790; gone by 1800
female (b. bef. 1790)	female 10–15 (b. 1784–1790)			daughter, b. 1784–1790; gone by 1810
male under 16 (b. 1774–90)	male 16–26 (b. 1773–84)			son, b. 1774–84; gone by 1810
	male under 10 (b. 1790–1800)			son, b. 1790–1800; gone by 1810
	male under 10 (b. 1790–1800)	male 16–25 (b. 1784–94)		son, born 1790–94; gone by 1820
	male under 10 (b. 1790–1800)	male 16–25 (b. 1784–94)		son, b. 1790–94; gone by 1820
		male under 10 (b. 1800–1810)		son, b. 1800–10; gone by 1820

Sources:
1790 U.S. census, Albany Co., N.Y., Rensselaerwick Town, p. 265, Jonathan Tucker household; microfilm M637, roll 6, National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).
1800 U.S. census, Cayuga Co., N.Y., Town of Aurelius, p. 706, Jonathan Tucker household; NARA microfilm M32, roll 28.
1810 U.S. census, Cayuga Co., N.Y., p. 1177, Town of Aurelius, Village of Auburn, Jonathan Tucker household; NARA microfilm M252, roll 31.
1820 U.S. census, Cayuga Co., N.Y., Town of Aurelius, p. 51, Jonathan Tucker household; NARA microfilm M33, roll 68.

Compiled and documented source material related to this case

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Table 2
Unsourced Online Information about Jonathan and Abigail Tucker's Family

NAME	BIRTH	DEATH	MARRIAGE
Jonathan Tucker	19 March 1763	13 July 1822	8 April 1783
Abigail Cook	25 January 1761	15 November 1827	
Susanna Tucker	18 December 1784	13 September 1818	
Lovinia (Lovina) Tucker	1 June 1787	10 April 1874	1805
Samuel Tucker	28 August 1789	3 March 1852	
Lambert Tucker	21 April 1792	18 November 1821	
John Tucker	20 May 1794	21 July 1821	
Benjamin Tucker	27 October 1796	13 November 1828	
Ebenezer Loomis Tucker	29 July 1801	14 December 1881	

Source: "Antsky," comp., "Jonathan Tucker," profile page with links to spouse and children, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/tree/24560827/family/pedigree : viewed on 27 Jan. 2020), for Jonathan Tucker.

Table 3
Comparison of Census Implications with Unsourced Family Data

CENSUS IMPLICATIONS	UNSOURCED FAMILY DATA
Jonathan, b. 1755–74	Jonathan Tucker (head), b. 19 March 1763
wife, b. 1755–74	Abigail Cook (wife), b. 25 January 1761
daughter, b. bef. 1790; gone by 1800	Susanna Tucker (daughter), b. 18 December 1784
daughter, b. 1784–1790; gone by 1810	Lovinia (Lovina) Tucker (daughter), b. 1 June 1787; married in 1808
son, b. 1774–84; gone by 1810	Samuel Tucker (son), b. 28 August 1789
son, b. 1790–1800; gone by 1810	Lambert Tucker (son), b. 21 April 1792
son, born 1790–94; gone by 1820	John Tucker (son), b. 20 May 1794
son, b. 1790–94; gone by 1820	Benjamin Tucker (son), b. 27 October 1796
son, b. 1800–10; gone by 1820	Ebenezer Loomis Tucker (son), b. 29 July 1801

For sources, see tables 1 and 2.

FRIDAY

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The "Forgotten" Immigrants: The Swiss to America

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www.Facebook.com/Roots4U
Roots4U.blogspot.com

INTRODUCTION:

Quote: Lewis Bunker Rohrbach from *Guide to Swiss Genealogical Research* (Rockland, ME: Picton Press, 2010), 6: "During the entire period 1700-1900, Cantons Bern and Zürich were Switzerland's two largest cantons and together supplied roughly 85% of all Swiss emigrants to America (over 90% in the earliest years, perhaps 75% at the end of the period)…" Mr. Rohrbach's book is thus heavily weighted to cover these cantons in Switzerland. Like Mr. Rohrbach's book, this lecture will be focused on these cantons, but it is easily translated to other cantons in Switzerland. Overall, Switzerland has contributed over a quarter million immigrants to the United States between the eighteenth century to 1920.

Before 1820, up to 30,000 Swiss emigrated to America, with the largest numbers settling in Pennsylvania, North and South Carolina. A similar number came in the nineteenth century prior to the Civil War destined for the Midwestern states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin. The massive immigration wave of the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century included over 200,000 Swiss primarily to the Midwest, the Pacific coast, and to primary urban areas.

OVERVIEW:

Switzerland covers only 15,940 square miles, making it in size slightly larger than Maryland, and smaller than West Virginia. It consists of 26 cantons ("states"). For this example, we will look at Canton Bern, which as of 1 January 2010 was split into 10 *Verwaltungskreise* ("counties or administrative districts"). This took the place of the previous 26 *Amtsbezirke* and more centralized governmental roles into fewer locations. There are currently 388 *Gemeinden* ("cities or towns") as a further subdivision in Canton Bern. For more information and details of other cantons, see Wikipedia's "Districts of Switzerland" at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Districts_of_Switzerland.

Citizenship rights (*Heimatrecht*) in Switzerland lie first and foremost with the person's *Heimat*. There is no literal English translation of this word, but this is the hereditary *Gemeinde* of origin of every Swiss citizen. A Swiss citizen may live far removed from their *Heimat*, yet this is still their "home". It is this piece of information that is vital to determine for Swiss researchers.

The concept of the *Heimat* is so unique to Switzerland that genealogists need to be cautious when presented with information that they descend from "Christian Moser of Biglen". Christian Moser may have NEVER, EVER lived in Biglen, but that was his *Heimat*.

Good resources for general Swiss genealogy overview are Rohrbach's aforementioned book, Switzerland genealogy wiki at *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Switzerland_Genealogy) or perusing the Swiss site at *Cyndi's List* (https://www.cyndislist.com/switzerland).

RECORDS – UNITED STATES:

Remember that Europe was an ever-changing landscape of administrative districts well into the 19th century. Most of our Swiss immigrant ancestors were German-speakers, and it is very common to find records in the United States indicating place of birth as "Germany." This is very common in the United States census, especially before 1880. Furthermore, many 18th century immigrants of Swiss heritage actually lived in areas of present-day Germany and France, where their previous generations has settled after the Thirty Years' War (1618-1648). Since you are here at this lecture, you have undoubtedly determined you have Swiss heritage!

We will discuss the standard research techniques for identifying your *Heimat* using records generated in America, with special emphasis on those that yield the highest percentage of successes. These include church records, estate records, naturalization records, biographical and personal records, Social Security records and World War I and II Draft Registration records.

PUBLISHED RECORDS:

The next step to finding your ancestor or your ancestor's *Heimat* is to consult published Swiss resources that can be obtained on this side of the Atlantic.

Genealogisch-Heraldische Gesellschaft der Regio Basel, *Billeter-Sammlung Julius Billeters genealogische Arbeiten* (Basel: GHGRB, 2001, ausgabe 2005). Julius Billeter was an indefatigable Swiss genealogist who produced nearly 72,500 pages of research on nearly 2,000 Swiss family names. His research should only be used as a guide as errors are frequent. The Family History Library has microfilmed all of his work, or it can be ordered from the genealogical society in Basel per page. The surname index and ordering information can be found at http://www.ghgrb.ch/index.php/de/83-billeter. Read *Cautions and Limitations in Using Julius Billeter's Research* by Rick Saunders at http://kunden.eye.ch/swissgen/billet-e.htm. The Family History Library catalog lists 961 titles by Julius Billeter, most separated by surname.

Albert Bernhardt Faust and Gaius Marcus Brumbaugh, *Lists of Swiss Emigrants in the Eighteenth Century to the American Colonies*. (Washington, DC: Vol. 1, 1920, Vol. 2, 1925); *Two Volumes in One* (reprint, Santa Maria, CA: Janaway Publishing, 2003). If you have 18th century Swiss immigrants, you MUST check this source. Also, keep in mind that the huge group of 18th century German-speaking immigrants we like to lump into "Palatines" included thousands of native-born Swiss or those whose families may have left Switzerland for the Palatinate a few generations before. It is digitized at https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/009026718.

Cornelia Schrader-Muggenthaler, *The Swiss Emigration Book, Volume I* (Apollo, PA: Closson Press, 1993). This is an index of approximately 7000 names made from primary archival sources listing emigrants from canton Aargau, 1803-1876; Basel, 1731-1754 and c1800-1890; passports from Solothurn, 1822-1853; and emigrants from Switzerland to Alsace Lorraine from the personal records of Doris Wesner.

Mario von Moos, *Bibliography of Swiss Genealogies* (Camden, ME: Picton Press, 1993). This is an inventory of nearly 10,000 printed Swiss genealogies arranged alphabetically by surname followed by a complete place index.

Lewis Bunker Rohrbach, *Swiss Surnames: A Complete Register*, three volumes (Camden, ME: Picton Press, 1989, 1995). This is the American edition of *Familiennamenbuch der Schweiz* and includes all Swiss surnames and their *Heimat* in 1940. It is no longer in print and has been replaced with the Swiss Surnames CD by Picton Press, which eliminates all surnames that entered Switzerland after 1861. The 1989 version of *Familiennamenbuch der Schweiz* representing all surnames in Switzerland as of 1962 can also be found online – in English – at http://www.hls-dhs-dss.ch/famn/ as a free service under the *Historisches Lexikon der Schweiz (Historical Dictionary of Switzerland)* project. This resource is vital for identifying a possible Heimat of your ancestor!

RECORDS – SWITZERLAND:

Some general notes on record-keeping in Switzerland: all vital record keeping should be kept in one's *Heimat* regardless of where the event took place, regardless of how far-flung that might be. Another copy of the same record will be found at the location in which it occurred. How often is this practiced? What will the difference be between records? How can I find them?

Civil Registration became mandated on 1 January 1876, eliminating the Church's function as a registrar. Unfortunately, privacy laws in Switzerland are strict, and access to records after 31 December 1875 is extremely limited. Authors, such as Rohrbach, will indicate that it is impossible to access them, but this researcher has had fairly good luck when contacting the *Zivilstandsamt* for the *gemeinde* of interest. Many researchers may be familiar with the *Familienschein.* This is essentially a family group sheet built by the *Zivilstandsamt* from the vital records in their possession. Although this is a great way to get a lot of information from multiple sources, I have found numerous errors based on a clerk's assumption. It is NOT an example of primary documentation.

RECORDS – SWITZERLAND – CHURCH RECORDS:

The mainstay of primary Swiss research is through church records. There simply is no other way to further your research without using them.

Finding aids for church records and where they can be found are immensely helpful. Many have been printed and are available in larger libraries. An exhaustive bibliography of church finding aids can be found at the website *Swiss Genealogy on the Internet: Church Record Inventories* at http://kunden.eye.ch/swissgen/kirbuc-m.htm. The parent site is full of information for Swiss genealogy, although it is infrequently updated.

As of January 2020, Family Roots Publishing (www.familyrootspublishing.com) has published twelve volumes of *Map Guides to Swiss Parish Registers*, including volumes for Bern, Zürich, Basel, and Aargau, which will be of use to most Americans of Swiss descent.

Also, all of the church record books of Canton Bern have been microfilmed and were once available on CD through Picton Press. This company is now defunct, but many of their publications may be available

at libraries or for resale. Nearly 400 *Gemeinden* are grouped into 173 *Kirchgemeinden*. There is nearly 100% coverage of Bern church records through the microfilm of the Family History Library as well. Remember to check for your *Gemeinde* of interest through the Family History Library's catalog to determine if the FHL has digitized the records.

At *FamilySearch.org* the following databases can be of help:

Switzerland, Church Book Extracts, 1550-1875: Browse only. Extracts of records from numerous cantons although the originals are in Pratteln. Not comprehensive. It's arrangement is very similar to Billeter's work.
Switzerland Church, Records, 1277-1992: Browse only images for Cantons Bern and Schaffhausen and Basel-Stadt.
Switzerland, Bern, Civil Registration, 1792-1876: Browse and partially indexed civil records primarily for towns in the Jura Mountain area of Canton Bern.
Switzerland, Baptisms, 1491-1940; Switzerland, Marriages, 1532-1910; and *Switzerland, Burials, 1613-1875*: Very heavily weighted for Thurgau, but indexed records for all of Switzerland.

Make sure to look at the coverage of these broad-based databases by clicking "Learn More" on the database home page on *FamilySearch*.

Luckily, many canton archives have started to digitize their church records collections. The State Archives of Canton Bern have reproduced their church books online for free in PDF format. Quality is often not very good, but they are accessible at www.be.ch/kirchenbuecher. The Canton of Basel-Landschaft are also available online without charge at https://www.baselland.ch/politik-und-behorden/besondere-behorden/staatsarchiv/archivbestande/Kirchenbuecher. Other cantonal availability can be checked at GenWiki's Kirchenbücher online page at http://wiki-de.genealogy.net/Kirchenbücher_online#Schweiz.

Further discussion, use and examples of church record use will be covered in lecture.

RECORDS – SWITZERLAND – CANTONAL RECORDS:

It is important to remember that each Swiss canton operates with a certain amount of autonomy, so the records you find in one may not be found in others. Remember when searching the Family History Library catalog to look at what is available under a canton level. For example, twelve collections of census records for Fribourg between 1811 and 1880 can be found on *FamilySearch*, but census records are generally a rarity for other cantons. There are 24 microfilms of probate records for the Bucheggberg district of Canton Solothurn for 1690 to 1774. These unique cantonal records are not an exception. Look for the gems that may help YOU in YOUR area of Swiss research!

There is no "National Archives of Switzerland". Again, the Canton is primarily the largest body of interest to the researcher. As such, it ALWAYS is necessary to check the canton archives to assess their holdings and how they can help you.

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Researching Veterans of the Spanish-American War

David Allen Lambert, NEHGS Chief Genealogist, dalambert@nehgs.org

Step #1 - Determine if and when he fought

1. Overview of the Spanish-American War and Philippine Insurrection.
2. Confirming your family oral traditions with primary sources.
3. Using the 1900, 1930 and 1940 U.S. federal census for clues.
4. Utilize your family heirlooms for clues to military service.
4. Local historical societies and eBay for lost or related heirlooms.

Step #2 – Locating state level manuscript and published sources

1. Locating military records that have been published locally and on a state level.
2. Resources of local State Archives and your Adjutant General's Offices.
3. Military clues from town and county histories.

Step #3 – Tips for going online before going to the U.S. National Archives

1. FamilySearch related database overview.
2. Ancestry.com related database overview
3. Fold3 related database overview.
4. Online cemetery resources to locate your veteran.

Step #4 – Going to the U.S. National Archives (NARA)

1. Tips before going visiting NARA in Washington, D.C.
2. Understanding and locating your ancestors "Service Records" and "Pension" paperwork.
3. Sorting out the digital scans and paperwork when your home.

Step #5 – Suggestions after your research

1. Additional records from your State Adjutant General records for your veteran.
2. "Adopting the Regiment or Vessel" of your ancestor.
3. Create a virtual memorial or biography for your veteran.
4. Map out the military journey of your ancestor on land and sea.
5. Create a social media group on Facebook to locate other descendants of his unit or vessel.

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Google Docs, Google Sheets, and Google Keep all work together to provide excellent solutions for the modern genealogist's research log, note-taking, and transcription needs. Whether working on your desktop computer at home or your iPad at an archive, you can create, update, and access your research notes with Google Docs and Sheets. *Genealogy Standards* 19-36 discuss data collection, note-taking content, transcriptions, abstracts, source analysis, and information analysis.[1] Technology tools for note-taking help genealogists be productive as they strive to meet these standards.

Why Use Google Docs and Sheets

Google Docs and Sheets are the equivalent of Microsoft Word and Excel, with many productivity and collaboration features. You may want to use Google Docs and Sheets because they are:

- free, cross-platform compatibility, available in many file formats, lightweight, user-friendly
- continually saving as you work and can revert to a previous version if needed
- automatically saved to your Google Drive and every word searchable
- collaborative in real time and easy to share

Google Docs

Google Docs is a useful tool for creating transcriptions during the data collection phase of research. Because each Google Doc is given a unique web address/link, you can insert the link to your transcription into your research log spreadsheet for quick access.

[1] Board for Certification of Genealogists, *Genealogy Standards,* 2nd ed. (Nashville: Ancestry, 2019).

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Automatic Transcriptions of Typed Text

Create transcriptions of printed/typed (not hand-written) text automatically by converting photo files (.jpg, .png, .gif, .pdf) to google docs. This works best with just a single column of text, not a multi-column newspaper article. Upload the photo file to your Google Drive. Right click on the item and click "open with Google Docs." Wait while the item is transcribed. If you selected a jpg, png, or gif file, the image will be the first item in the google doc, followed by the transcription.[2]

Transcriptions of Handwritten Text

Insert special characters by clicking Insert > Special Characters. Pick the character from the categories or draw the character in the box to help you find it. To insert a freeform drawing, click Insert > Drawing > New. Select the arrow next to the line tool to choose "scribble." This allows you to draw freehand any item that is not available on your keyboard or special characters. For transcriptions of multi-page records, use headings and the outline feature. This allows you to quickly jump to the page in the transcription that you need.[3]

Insert a Bookmark

Insert a bookmark to create a link to a particular place in a Google document. Paste this link in your research log to go directly to the part of your document that contains the transcription pertaining to that entry in the log.[4]

Explore, Define, and Link Tools

The following tools accessible within Google Docs can help add context to your research notes.

- Explore – highlight text, right click > Explore. A pane opens to the right with results from the web, image results, and results from your Google Drive. Click the quotation mark button on an article to "cite as a footnote" and Google automatically adds a footnote citing that article.[5]
- Define – highlight a word in your doc, right click and select "define." The dictionary opens.
- Link – highlight text, right click > Link. Paste a link, choose one of the suggested links, or click "find more" to find more links using Explore.

Offline Mode

To access your google docs and sheets offline, complete these steps while connected to the internet. Use the Google Chrome browser. Install and turn on the Google Docs Offline Chrome extension. Go

[2] Google Support, "Convert PDF and photo files to text," (https://support.google.com/drive/answer/176692).
[3] Google Support, "Use document outlines, margins & rulers" (https://support.google.com/docs/answer/6367684).
[4] For details about how to create and link to bookmarked text in a Google Doc, see Matt Elliott, "How to point people to a particular spot in a Google Doc," 31 May 2013, *cnet*, (https://www.cnet.com/how-to/how-to-point-people-to-a-particular-spot-in-a-google-doc/ : accessed 27 Jan 2020).
[5] Google Support, "See and use suggested content in a document," (https://support.google.com/docs/answer/2481802).

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to your Google Drive settings, and check the box next to "sync docs to this computer to edit offline." Go to individual files you would like to use offline and right click, then choose "available offline."[6]

Voice Typing

If you prefer to talk instead of type, use the Google Docs voice typing tool. Start a new Doc and click Tools > Voice Typing. This is available in the mobile app and computers if you have a microphone.

Google Docs Quick Create Chrome Extension

If you need to create a note quickly, use the Google Docs Quick create chrome extension. Click the quick create chrome extension in your toolbar and then select "new document." Start typing your note. The document is automatically saved to the top directory in your Google Drive.[7]

Google Sheets

Google Sheets is a spreadsheet tool you can use to create electronic research logs to use from any device and any location. If you prepare in advance, you can use them offline at repositories, etc.

Adding Links to a Sheet

After adding the date, repository, call #, and source citation to your research log, you should enter the results of your search. Instead of typing lengthy transcriptions of the document into your log, insert a link to a Google Doc containing the transcription or abstract.[8]

For example, in the results column of your log, type "William Keaton Probate File Transcription" within a cell, and press Enter. Highlight that cell and click Insert > Link, or use the keyboard shortcut Ctrl+K. In the box that opens, paste the URL that you are linking to in the link field.

Side-by-side View with the Side Panel

In Google Docs and Sheets, additional Google apps are available in side-by-side view with the side panel. Click the arrow at the bottom right to show the side panel: Calendar, Keep, and Tasks. In tasks, create lists of to do items with due dates and check boxes. In Keep, view previously created notes and create new notes, including screenshots and images saved from the web. Create citations in your research log while viewing notes for saved websites side-by-side.

[6] Google Support, "Use Google Drive files offline," (https://support.google.com/drive/answer/2375012).
[7] To get this chrome extension, go to https://chrome.google.com/webstore/category/extensions?hl=en > search the store > "Google Docs Quick Create." The extension is offered by David Mihal. Click "Add to Chrome."
[8] Google Support, "Work with links, bookmarks, section breaks, or page breaks," (https://support.google.com/docs/answer/45893).

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Google Keep

Google Keep is a note-taking app and is available on the web and in a mobile app. You can record voice memos using the Google Keep mobile app. Keep will transcribe what you say into text and include the audio file. You can also use the app to take a photo to add directly to a note.

Google Keep Chrome Extension

The Google Keep Chrome Extension allows you to save webpages by clicking the Keep button in your Chrome toolbar to start a note.[9] Create a quick transcription of a record online. Later add the transcription to a Google Doc with the side panel. Easily save links to add to your research log.

Save and Annotate Images

Create a note with an image by uploading from your hard drive. Alternatively, you can use the Keep Chrome Extension to save images from the web. Right click on an image, then click "Google Keep Chrome Extension," then "save image to Keep." Type below images within the same note. Draw directly on images by clicking on the image and then clicking the paintbrush icon at the top right. If you import a photo with words on it, Keep can transcribe the text. Tap the photo to open it, and then tap the three-dot menu in the top right corner and select Grab image text.

Copy to Google Doc

Keep notes can be turned into a Google Doc or seamlessly added to a Google Doc using the side panel. Click on the three dots of the note and then click "copy to Google Docs."

Further Reading

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[9] To get this chrome extension, go to https://chrome.google.com/webstore/category/extensions?hl=en > search the store > "Google Keep Chrome Extension." The extension is offered by Google. Click "Add to Chrome."

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Online German Church Registers, Duplicates and Substitutes

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No genealogist with German-speaking ancestors avoids using church records, and the good news is that many more of them are coming online in digital form. It's important, however, to know whether you're looking at originals, duplicates or extracts from these records – this presentation will explain the differences.

1. **History of church records in Germany**

    a. Roman Catholics
    b. Lutheran
    c. Reformed
    d. Other faiths

2. **Most common types of church records**

    a. Baptisms
    b. Marriages
    c. Burials
    d. Confirmations
    e. Communicant records
    f. Family registers

3. **Sources of German church records online**

    a. FamilySearch.org
    b. Archion.de
    c. Ancestry.com
    d. MyHeritage.com
    e. Matricula.eu

4. **German-speaking people continued the same types of registers in America**

5. Terminology

a. **Original**
The contemporaneous register entries, usually separated by the type of pastoral act and ordered chronologically.

b. **Recopied**
A new handwritten version of the Original registers, scribed in the hand of a later priest, pastor or other official (usually to account for fading ink or other material defects in the Original).

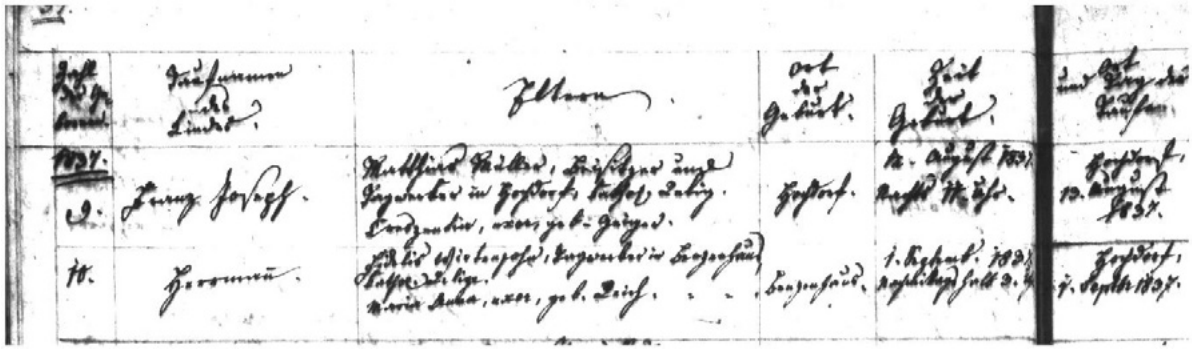
c. **Indexes**
Usually in the back (but occasionally found in the front) of the Original register and usually compiled at a later date. Sometimes only semi-alphabetical (e.g., all the listings for "A" surnames are arranged chronologically). Once in a while only the index to the record has survived!

d. **Duplicates**
Generally refers to the *Kirchenbuchduplikate* that many German states began requiring in the first half of the 1800s as an early form of civil registrations (i.e., a second set of baptism/marriage/burial records were required to be forwarded to the state for use as birth, marriage and death registers).

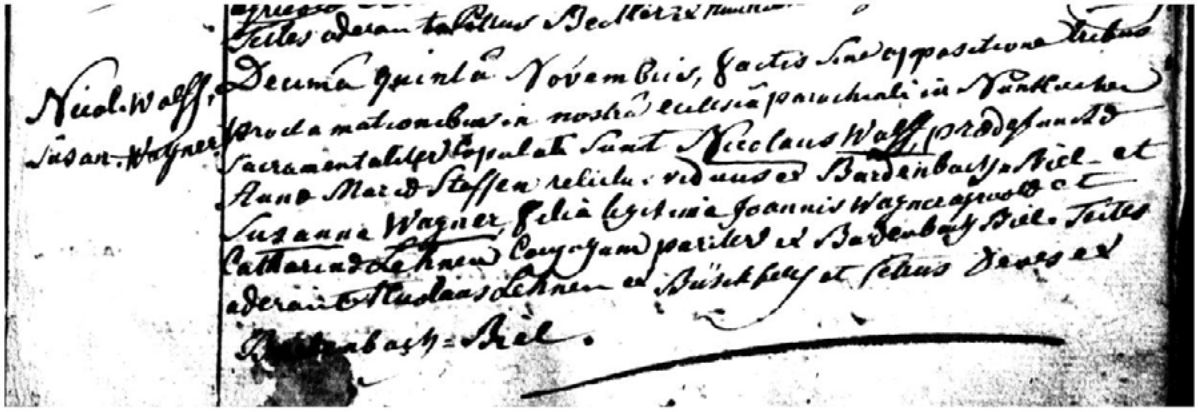
e. **Transcripts**
Sometimes are another name for Duplicates but the Transcripts might also be published; a true Transcript will be a word-for-word rendering of the Original register.

f. **Abstracts**
Often are published summaries of the Original registers, theoretically containing all useful genealogical information (and summarizing all the records in a particular register) but should be rigorously checked against the Original registers.

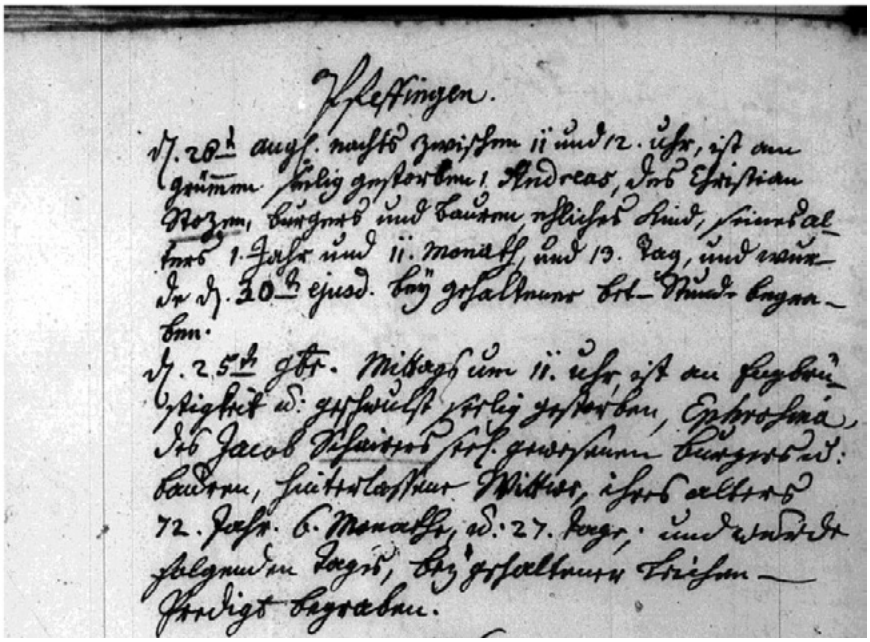
g. **Extracts**
Sometimes interchangeably used with Abstracts but may indicate that only a fraction of the records (say, of particular surnames or a particular time period) from a register are included.



A baptism from the records of Katholische Kirche Hochdorf (Waldsee), Württemberg.



A marriage from the records of Nunkirchen Katholische Kirche, Prussian Rheinland.



A couple of burials from Pfeffingen Evangelisch in Württemberg

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Uncovering Immigrant Origins Through Cluster Research

Board for Certification of Genealogists® Skillbuilding Lecture

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One of the most challenging aspects of tracing ethnic ancestors is finding their place of origin. If this information is not passed down orally or in documented records kept by the family, then finding them can be challenging. If your ancestor is one of those who had very little recorded about his/her origins, then you will need to be more creative and try cluster research and see if you can find the origin of those associated or related to your family who may have traveled from the same area or come with them.

Questions to consider when searching a persons origins

- Did they speak or read English?
- Did they live in a time or place when few records were created or have survived?
- Did they stow away to get here?
- Were they an indentured servant?
- Did they work on a ship as crew to pay for their passage overseas?
- Were they forced to come to the colonies for a crime they did or did not commit?
- Did they serve in the German forces during the Revolutionary War?
- Did they leave to escape military enlistment, famine, or persecution?
- Maybe they wanted to forget their time in their home country so they did not pass on any oral stories or their origins. Do any of the extended family or friends have details recorded about their voyage?
- How old were they when they arrived? Maybe they don't remember their home country or they were orphaned at a young age.
- Did they come by themselves or with others?
- Were they poor and unable to pay for a tombstone or obituary?
- Did they die in their prime instead of old age?

Tips for researching immigrants

- Understanding the circumstances of when they arrived as well as why they came might help.
- Tracing the origins of others with the same surname that were the same ethnicity and religion might help you find the record needed to tie them together if nothing exists in the U.S. records.
- Once you have exhausted all available records in the U.S. about your immigrant ancestor, look at the records of extended family, people with the same surname, friends who they work with, go to church with, or who are neighbors, and others of the same ethnicity who live in their same location and may belong to their same social or religious organizations.
- Make sure to check the records of the immigrant's children. They may have recorded their parents' origins in a biographical sketch, their obituary, death records, etc.
- Watch for sponsors or witnesses at baptisms and marriages. This is especially true if they are German. The godparents are usually someone closely connected to the family such as an extended family member or close friend. Researching for the origins of the sponsors or godparents might help you find the town of origin for your person.
- Search for their ship passenger list and see who traveled with them. Are any of them the same ethnicity? If so, track them and where they came from. Do a circular search surrounding that person's origins to see if your person is found in any of the town/church/vital records. If these records aren't online, hire someone overseas to obtain copies for you.

- If you use clues from online trees, be very careful. You don't know how much research the submitter did before posting the information online or how accurate it is. If they posted on your person, ask them for a copy of their sources and records. If they don't have anything, then search to see if you can find original records to confirm or refute the information contained in the online tree. Online trees can provide good clues, but just be very careful and don't trust anything.

Records that might provide clues to a person's origin:

- **Obituaries**: Many times obituaries will include the birth date and location for the deceased individual as well as the year of immigration, which you will need to find their hometown. They often list the cemetery and funeral home used.

- **Naturalization records**: These can sometimes provide valuable insight into the origin and ethnicity of the immigrant. It may contain detailed information such as the specific town name or the state in another country where they were born. Or it might only list the name of the Emperor or king they are renouncing to gain citizenship in America. The date of arrival, ship name, persons' birth date, or occupation sometimes is included. There are three steps to completing the naturalization process. Make sure to get a copy of all the records if they exist because they do not always contain the same information.

- **Ship passenger arrival and departure lists**: Ship passenger lists / manifests might provide helpful details such as the person's name, age, occupation, final destination, and if they traveled with other family members. Make sure to check for both the arrival and departure manifests (if they exist). Occasionally the town of birth or residence prior to emigration will be included. If your ancestor came from Germany, check for an auswanderungen record from the state in Germany they came from. These helpful records always provide either the birth location or the town of residence prior to emigration and can be key to finding your ancestor's origin overseas.

- **Death records**: If your ancestor died after the 1900s and has a death certificate issued by the state, there is a good chance the birthdate and location will be listed on it. Its accuracy is dependent on the informants' knowledge of the deceased persons origins. Rarely will the birth town be listed, but sometimes a more specific location such as the state within a country will be included. Later death records indicate the cemetery and funeral home used, which may lead to helpful clues not found in the death record.

- **Funeral Home records**: Funeral home records might provide a wealth of information different from what is contained in death or cemetery records. Check the funeral home records for other family members since families often used the same funeral home. Information about the deceased person's birth and (if you're lucky) their parents might be recorded in the file.

- **Cemetery records**: These don't often list the town of origin in their records, but can be key to finding other family members or friends who were also buried in the same location. Occasionally the town and country of birth are engraved on the tombstone.

- **Church records**: Church records in the United States might provide clues to a person's origins. Clues might be found in the baptismal, marriage or burial entries for the person or their children. Don't overlook church membership records or witnesses at baptisms who were often friends or relatives of the family. If your ancestor was Catholic in America, there is a good chance they were Catholic in their home country.

- **Family Stories**: Don't discount family stories and legends. Sometimes the stories might provide clues that help you break through your brick walls. Are there stories of any friends or associates who may have traveled with them or settled nearby? Once one relative was established in America, they would write home and encourage others to come and settle near them. Details on their voyage, landing in the United States and settlement in their new home might be passed down in the family oral histories.

- **Deeds**: Land records don't often provide details on the name of the town of origin, but they can be useful for finding extended relatives and friends who may have come from the same location. These records can also be useful to determine when they may have arrived if you can find their first land purchase.

- **Probate records**: Again these records rarely will list the town of origin, but they are very good for determining family relationships, which might provide needed clues to find them overseas. Make sure to look at all the records including the receipts not just the will or executor / administrator bonds.

- **Other vital records (such as marriage records)**: If your immigrant ancestor was married in America after 1900, there is a good chance their birth date and location was listed on the marriage application along with the name of his/her parents. If they had siblings who were born overseas and married here, check for their marriage record too.

- **Family Bibles**: If your family is lucky enough to have a family bible preserved, especially one from their home country, you might find a birth date for your immigrant ancestor. Sometimes these will be in another language. Many historical societies and the D.A.R. have bible records in their collections

- **Census**: These can be helpful in determining where the family lived. Keep in mind census records are notorious for having errors, but when used in conjunction with other records they can be helpful, and if you are lucky it might list the country of origin correctly.

- **Family photos**: If you can find photos in your personal or family collection, check for additional clues on the front or back of the photo or on the album scrapbook page. Names of extended family members or birth/death dates might be included. If your family took a trip back overseas to visit relatives, there may be a photo from their trip or from correspondence with their overseas relatives.

You've found the town of origin, now what?

Check to see if the records are online. Use the FamilySearch Wiki or catalog to find online records. Also check town or archive repositories where your town is located.

If the records are not online, consider hiring someone at the archive or who resides in or near your town to assist in copying these records. Use LinkedIn to find the names of researchers then use the filters to narrow down your search results to someone who lives in the area where you believe your ancestor resided.

Foreign language difficulties

So what do you do if your ancestor came from a non-English speaking country? Not only will the records be in another language, they will usually be in script, which can be difficult to read.

But I can't read the language! Luckily there are many resources to help you online and published in books. If all else fails, hire an expert until you can confidently read the records yourself.

- FamilySearch Wiki offers many tools to help you be successful researching in another country or records in another language. There are free downloadable word lists and letter writing guides. Many countries offer handwriting helps and some even have downloadable handouts with examples of words in print and script for that country as well as in English.

- FamilySearch's Learning Center offers free webinars to help with understanding foreign language documents, research, and reading the handwriting. They have a wide range of topics and levels of difficulty to aid you.

- Many companies and websites offer books to help with handwriting, vocabulary and gazetteers.

FamilySearch Wiki Word Lists
https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Genealogical_Word_Lists

Online helps for Reading Old English Handwriting (with links to several other European countries too)
https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Online_Helps_for_Reading_Old_English_Handwriting

Letter Writing Guides
https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Category:Letter_Writing_Guides

Handwriting tools
Sütterlin schrift handwriting tool: http://www.suetterlinschrift.de/Englisch/Sutterlin.htm

Old German script generator: http://www.deutsche-handschrift.de/adsschreiben.php#schrifftfeld

German script downloadable handouts https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Germany_Handwriting

French Handwriting: https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/French_Handwriting

BYU Script Tutorial (handwriting help for English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch and Latin documents): https://script.byu.edu/

Further reading

FamilySearch Wiki. (https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Tracing_Immigrant_Origins) "Tracing Immigrant Origins"

FamilySearch Wiki. (https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Tracing_Women_Using_Cluster_Genealogy_(National_Institute) "Tracing Women Using Cluster Genealogy (National Institute).

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Tesoro! Beginning Italian Research

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Italian family history is a thrilling and fascinating adventure. For centuries, Italians have been explorers of new lands, inventors and adventurers. Italian research can lead to true *tesoro* (treasure).

Italian Civil Registration

Stato Civile Napoleonico-SCN

Napoleon introduced civil record keeping in Italy as early as 1804 in some areas of Italy and it continued until he was taken out of power in 1815. Thus, the Napoleonic records, as a rule, span the time period 1804-1815.

- **Papal States -** In the area formerly known as the Papal States—which included from what is now Molise, Lazio, Umbria, and Marche to Emilia-Romagna—Napoleonic records cover the period of 1810 to 1815.
- **Veneto and Lombardia -** Napoleonic records began about 1806 and ended in 1814 or 1815.
- **Piemonte -** Napoleonic records cover 1804 to 1815.
- These records do not exist for areas that Napoleon never ruled such as Sardegna, Sud Tirol, and Sicilia.

Stato civile della Restaurazione- SCR, 1815/16-1865

These records are also called *Stato Civile Borbonico* (at least in the South) because it was the Bourbon king, Ferdinando IV of the Kingdom of Naples who dictated changes to Napleon's civil records and how they should be kept. Napoleonic style civil registration was introduced to the Kingdom of Naples in January 1809 by Gioacchino Murat and was reintroduced in the Kingdom of Naples in 1816 by the Bourbons. However, in Sicily it was not introduced until 1820.

- ***Regno di Napoli* - (**comprising most of southern Italy from Napoli and Campania down to Calabria and Puglia), Toscana, and the Abruzzo region – continued keeping records. *Beginning in 1809 in some areas.
- ***Ducato di Savoia*** - Piemonte area -1839
- ***Trento- Alto-Adige*** - parish priests recorded civil registers
- ***Sicilia* -** Sicily began civil registration in 1820 using a format nearly identical to the Napoleonic records.

Provinces were named differently in this time period, too. If you are looking for an ancestor in Salerno, it was known as *"Principato Citeriore."* For a list of administrative subdistricts of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies go here:
https://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suddivisione_amministrativa_del_Regno_delle_Due_Sicilie

One of the primary differences in civil registration in this time period is the inclusion of Catholic church baptismal and marriage information in a column to the right of the civil act. In a large city or a city with multiple parishes this can be an amazing lead to the parish an ancestor attended, opening a new avenue to extend a family line.

Stato Civile Italiano- SCI, 1866-present

The official civil records of the unified Italy began in 1866 and span to the present. This is the official year that *Stato Civile Italiano* (or records of the Italian government) began to be kept more uniformly throughout Italy and its islands. The records of Italy from 1866 to 1874 are generally in handwritten/paragraph style form because pre-printed forms were not always provided. Around 1875 pre-printed forms were prevalent and we see the change in many of the names of jurisdictions in Italy. The province of Rome did not begin keeping records until 1871.

Where to Find the Records

FamilySearch
https://familysearch.org/search/collection/location/1927178
https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog
https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Italy_Civil_Registration
(This includes links to translations of documents)

Portale Antenanti (Genealogy Portal- Italian State Archives)
Portale Antentati (English)
http://www.antenati.san.beniculturali.it/en
Portale Antenati (Italian)
http://www.antenati.san.beniculturali.it/

Ancestry.com

There are a few civil registration records unique to Ancestry.com. These are image-only collections (not indexed) and are accessible via their catalog.

- Belluno (1871-1938): https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1896/
- Casale Monferrato (1866-1938): https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1551/
- Gela (1866-1939): https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1889/
- Lodi (1866-1936): https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1589/

Research in Italian civil archives- *comune*
http://www.comuni-italiani.it/

Ecclesiastical Records

The Roman Catholic Church is the predominate religion in Italy. In 1563, reforms brought about by the Council of Trent required priests to keep records of baptisms, marriages, and deaths. This decree was reinforced by a Papal proclamation in 1595. Generally, church records begin during the mid- to late-1500s, but for some cities such as Palermo, the records begin in the 1300s.

Generally, parish records are held in the parish where they were created. After 1900, duplicate parish records may be found in the diocesan archives. Some diocesan archives, particularly in northern Italy have duplicate church records as early as 1820.

- *Battesimi* = Baptisms
- *Matrimoni* = Marriages
- *Morti* = Burials
- *Status Animarum* = State of the Souls

Selected Bibliography of Italian Reference Works

Archival Guides

D'Angiolini, Piero and Claudio Pavone. *Guida Generale degli Archivi di Stato Italiani*. Roma: Ministero per i beni culturali e ambientali, Ufficio centrale per i beni archivistici, 1981-1994. 4 vols. or http://www.maas.ccr.it/guida/hl/listaPDF.htm

Ecclesiastical Directories

Monachino, Vincenzo. *Guida degli archivi diocesani d'Italia*. Roma: Associazione Archivistica Ecclesiastica, 1990. 2 vols.

Annuario delle Diocesi d'Italia. Marietti, 1951. (Includes Indice delle Parrochie) (FHL microfilm #780,555-780,556).

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Parishes of Italy - www.parrochie.it
Parish maps - http://www.parrocchiemap.it/

History

Duggan, Christopher. *A Concise History of Italy.* Cambridge, NY: Cambridge University Press, 1994.
Hearder, Harry. *Italy: A Short History.* Cambridge, NY: Cambridge University Press, 2001.
Guicciardini, Francesco. *The History of Italy.* Princeton University Press, 1984.

Italian Genealogy Handbooks

Adams, Suzanne Russo. *Finding Your Italian Ancestors: A Beginner's Guide.* Provo: UT: Ancestry Publishing, 2009.
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Holtz, Melanie D. *The Family Tree Italian Genealogy Guide: How to Trace Your Family Tree in Italy.* Cincinnati, OH: Family Tree Books, 2017.

Locality Guides

Maps

https://www.tuttocitta.it/
https://www.oldmapsonline.org/

Atlases

Atlante Stradale d' Italia. Novara: Istituto geografico De Agostini, 1978.

Gazetteers

Annuario generale: comuni e frazioni d'Italia. Milano: Touring Club Italiano, 1980.
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Istituto Geografico de Agostini. *Citta e Paesi d'Italia: Enciclopedia ilustrata di tutti i comuni italiani*. Instituto Geografico de Agostini, Novara, 1966.

Surname Books

Fucilla, Joseph. *Our Italian Surnames.* Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1987.
Malossini, Andrea. *I Cognomi Italiani.* Milano: Vallardi, 1997.

RESEARCHING FAMILY ARTIFACTS TO SOLVE BRICK WALLS

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The dictionary defines an artifact as an object made by a human being, typically an item of cultural or historical interest. Genealogists should not overlook searching for artifacts left by their ancestors. Brick walls can't always be solved only by research online, in books, or in archives or repositories. Sometimes it is that family treasure saved by an ancestor or distant cousin that helps break through the brick walls.

INTRODUCTION

- CREATOR: Who wrote the document or made the artifact?
- CONTEXT: Where and when was it created?
- AUDIENCE: For whom was it made?
- PURPOSE: What was the intended use of the document or object?
- HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE: How does this object play into the family history?
- CITATION: How might the document or artifact be citied?

BRICK WALL #1 - Qui e'st le soldat dans les pantaloons rouges?

Who is the soldier in the red trousers? In 1966 Francine Keating's second cousin Shirley Leonard Haas gave her an oil colored tin type of their great grandfather Joseph Brent. Little was known about the Brent side of the family. The family left few clues about their past. Fortunately the portrait of great grandfather survived and has led to an incredible amount of information. For over fifty years the clues about Francine's family identity were in the picture. Those clues are now being woven into the larger picture of Francine's family history.

- Dating the colored tin type
- Provenance of the picture
- Family history & genealogy of the Brent family

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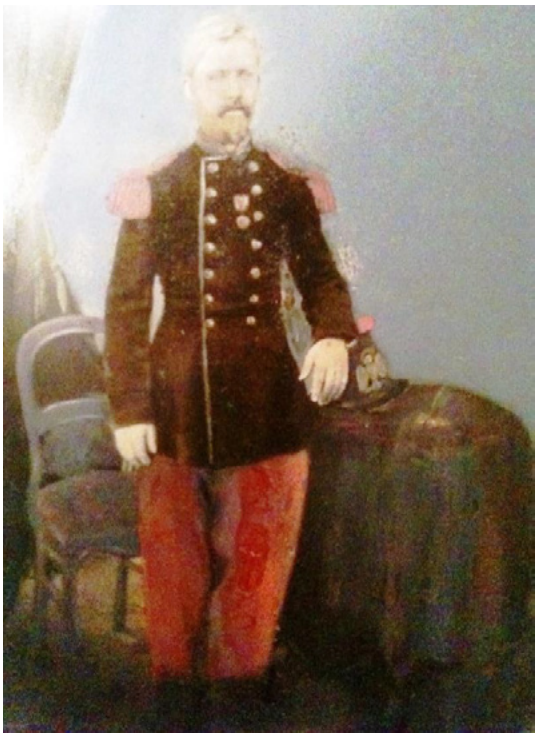
- Alsace Lorraine region – was the family French or German?
- Franco-Prussian War
- U.S. documents and records – birth/marriage death records, census, city directories, church, cemetery

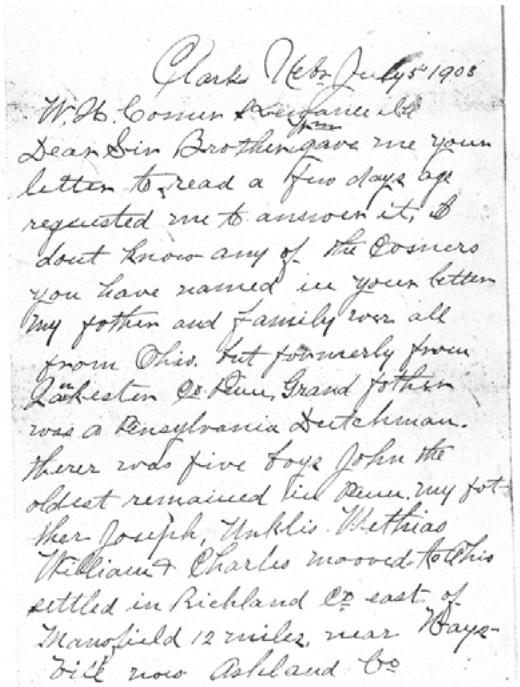


Ref. Colorized tintype c. 1870, French, owned by Francine Keating , Kennebunk, Maine.

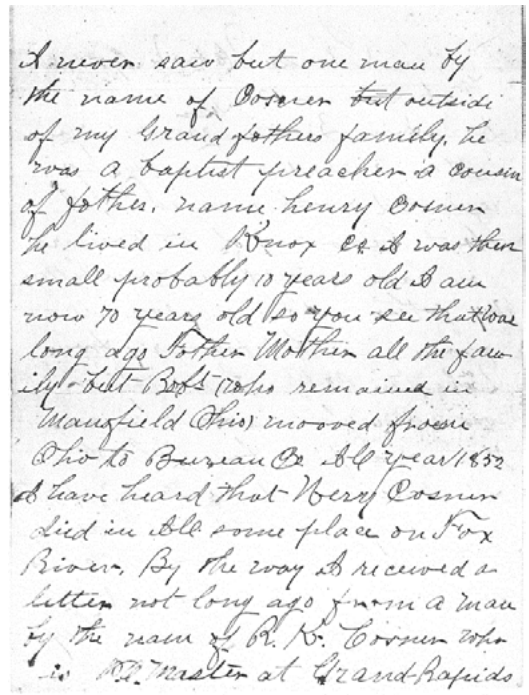
BRICK WALL #2

My Cosner brick wall came tumbling down when two artifacts were shared, evaluated and documented. A 1903 letter held by a distant cousin many times removed, and photocopies from an early 19th century bible along with some late 19th century photos shared by another distant cousin provides proof connecting my great great grandfather Joseph Cosner who died in Bureau County IL to his father Adam of Lancaster County PA and to his grandfather Philip Peter Cosner of Chester County PA and Hardy County WVA.

- **1903 Letter**



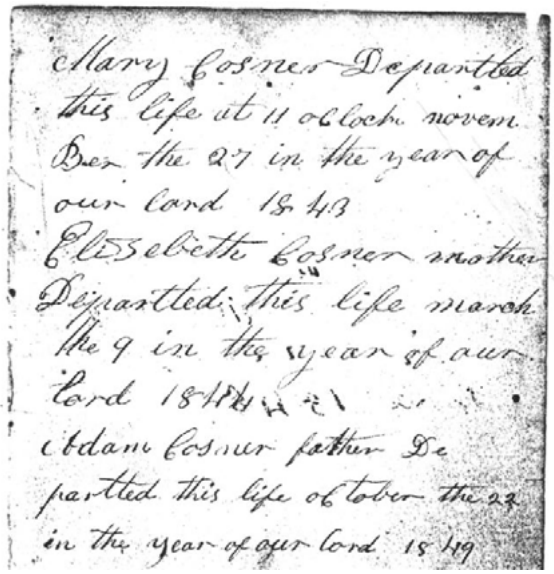
Clarks Nebr July 5th 1903
W. H. Cosner Kewanee Ill
Dear Sir Brother from gave me your
letter to read a few days ago
requested me to answer it, I
dont know any of the Cosners
you have named in your letter
my father and family were all
from Ohio. but formerly from
Lankester Co Penn, Grand father
was a Pensylvania Dutchman.
there was five boys John the
oldest remained in Penn. my fot-
ther Joseph, Unklis Methias
William & Charles mooved to Ohio
settled in Richland Co east of
Mansfield 12 miles, near Ways-
vill now Ashland Co



I never saw but one man by
the name of Cosner but outside
of my Grand fothers family, he
was a baptist preacher a cousin
of fothers. name henry Cosner
he lived in Knox Co I was then
small probably 10 years old I am
now 70 years old so you see that was
long ago Father Mother all the fam-
ily but Robt (who remained in
Mansfield Ohio) mooved from
Ohio to Bureau Co All year 1852
I have heard that Nerry Cosner
died in All some place on Fox
River. By the way I received a
letter not long ago from a man
by the name of R. K. Cosner who
is P.O. Master at Grand Rapids

Ref: 1903 letter from Adam Cosner of Clarks NEB, grandson of immigrant Adam, to William H Cosner of Kewanee ILL. Copy of letter given by Wm Cosner's great granddaughter Marilyn Cosner of Kewanee to Pam Stone Eagleson, 1980.

- **John Cosner's bible**



Mary Cosner Departted
this life at 11 oclock novem
Ber the 27 in the year of
our Lord 1843
Elisebeth Cosner mother
Departted this life march
the 9 in the year of our
Lord 1844
Adam Cosner father De
partted this life october the 22
in the year of our Lord 1849

Ref: John and Ann Cosner Bible records; loose photocopies given by Lois Thorpe of Elmer NJ to Pam Stone Eagleson, 2001. Thorp received photographs and John and Ann Cosner bible records from her third cousin Nora (Walker) Plank. Both Lois and Nora were great-great granddaughters of John and Ann Cosner.

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WEBSITES

AARP, "How to Date Your Old Photos", https://www.aarp.org/relationships/genealogy/info-11-2011/dating-old-photos.html
Cavalry Cemetery Holyoke, http://www.diospringfieldcemeteries.org/index.php?page=calvary-cemetery
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Departmental Archives of Meurthe-et-Moselle, http://archivesenligne.archives.cg54.fr/s/1/etat-civil/?
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Websites current as of 5 January 2020

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SATURDAY

Researching in A-Files: Where, Why, and How

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Background

Alien Files (A-Files) were created to streamline record-keeping within the INS. Since 1 April 1944, an individual A-File would hold all of the records related to the immigration and naturalization status of an alien with an active case. Prior to this point, it could have been that there were several files (perhaps in several places and accessed via several different indexes) all related to the same individual – a visa file, an AR-2, and a C-File, for instance. The INS began issuing non-citizens an A-number under the Alien Registration Program in 1940. These A-numbers would be the basis to create these individual A-Files.

An A-File should have been opened or consolidated for:

- All immigrants who on/arrived after 1 April 1944
- Immigrants who naturalized on/after 1 April 1956 (this is when the C-File series closed)
- Reopened cases of immigrants in-country registered under Alien Registration Act
- Immigration and/or law enforcement matters
    - Included in this category would be when an immigrant applied for a Certificate of Derivative Citizenship after 31 March 1956 to prove their derivative citizenship status (but they may have been a citizen for decades at that point)

A-Files were (and still are) for *active* immigrant cases. Prior to 1 April 1956, completed naturalizations would be filed as a C-File. As such, an immigrant who had an A-File opened, say, in 1947, but then naturalized in 1953, would likely exclusively have a C-File, not an A-File. However, there are some cases, especially for individuals who naturalized between 1944 and 1950, where a C-File was created, but a non-consolidated A-File also remains.

Contents of an A-File

Each A-File is as distinctive as its immigrant subject. Some are 3 pages; some are 300. No two A-Files are the same. At minimum, an A-File will contain an AR-2 (Alien Registration Form) and an address report card. Sometimes, they will contain applications, photographs, vital records, medical information, a consolidated Visa File, a consolidated Registry File, change of address cards, and other records. For immigrants who naturalized after 1 April 1956, they will also contain the naturalization paperwork – naturalization investigation, Petition for Naturalization, etc. Of interest for those with Italian, German, or Japanese ancestry: *Some* A-Files contain an Application for Certificate of Identification (which was required for nationals of these countries during WWII, when classified as enemy aliens). This includes a photo, and while similar to an AR-2, does contain some further information.

When an A-File was consolidated, any prior files normally in their own series with INS (now USCIS) moved into the A-File would no longer exist in their own series – e.g., Visa Files and Registry Files.

Where do I find an A-number (aside from a USCIS index search)?

- Bottom of naturalization index card or Petition for Naturalization (after 1941/1942)
- Original alien registration receipt card

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- Items within ancestor's other personal effects
- Note that an A-number which also corresponds to an AR-2 - i.e., the immigrant was resident in the U. S. between 1940 – 1944 – will have seven digits: i.e., A3 420 564 (AX XXX XXX); more recent A-Files (after the mid-1950s) number in the tens of millions, and so have 8 digits
- Remember: Just because an immigrant has an A-number doesn't mean they have an A-File

A-Files via the USCIS Genealogy Program

The Genealogy Program holds A-Files numbered below 8 million. This would relate to:

- Immigrants who arrived between 1 April 1944 and 1 May 1951
- Reopened cases of immigrants already residing in the USA who had registered between 1940 and 1944; as examples, this could be when –
    - An immigrant requested to replace a document
    - An immigrant changed or reported their address
    - An immigrant petitioned for an immigrant relative
    - Criminal investigations and/or other matters unbeknownst to the alien who was already residing in the USA and had registered between 1940 and 1944
- The actual A-number might be able to provide some clues, as seen in this table from USCIS' website at https://www.uscis.gov/history-and-genealogy/genealogy/alien-registration-forms-microfilm-1940-1944/.
- For information on obtaining an A-File via a USCIS Genealogy Program search, see https://www.uscis.gov/genealogy.
- See: https://www.uscis.gov/history-and-genealogy/genealogy/files-numbered-below-8-million
- Most A-Files of genealogical interest are likely still with the USCIS Genealogy Program. An immigrant who was already in the U. S. in 1940 for whom an A-File was created *should* be, and available via the $65 record request (+ $65 index search, if A-number unknown).

A-Files at the National Archives

A-Files of immigrants with a birthdate over 100 years ago *may* be with the National Archives at San Francisco or Kansas City. USCIS began retiring A-Files for immigrants born over 100 years previous to NARA in 2009. Currently, NARA has A-Files for *some* aliens born before 1915. At time of writing, NARA Kansas City had 1,005,386 catalogued A-Files, and NARA San Francisco had 245,257 catalogued A-Files. (NARA San Francisco holds records for some individuals who lived within the jurisdiction of the Reno, San Francisco, Honolulu, and Guam INS District offices. Records for immigrants residing in the rest of the country would be at NARA Kansas City.)

The easiest way to determine if an A-File has been retired to NARA is by searching their Catalog, here: https://catalog.archives.gov/. In addition to various spellings of the individual's name, you can also search by A-number, if known, but be sure to include the A prior to the number; i.e., A-number 5436789 would be searched as "A2727088" and NOT "2727088". The latter may bring up different results. If an item of interest is found, a contact email is within the catalog entry. And remember – just because a person was born 100+ years ago and NARA does not have their A-File DOES NOT mean that an A-File doesn't exist with USCIS (either the Genealogy Program or FOIA).

NARA Catalog entries and reference guides for A-Files:

- San Francisco: https://catalog.archives.gov/id/6105565
- Kansas City: https://catalog.archives.gov/id/4488912
- Reference Guide: https://www.archives.gov/research/immigration/aliens

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Note that over 60 million A-Files have been created, so only a small fraction are held with the National Archives. NARA retains nearly 1.25 million, meaning just 2.08% of the A-Files created. NARA receives new accessions from USCIS annually, so check back to see if your file of interest has been transferred.

To order an A-File held by the National Archives through the mail, procedures are as follows:

- A-File for individual born before 1889: $27
- A-File for individual born in/after 1890: $40
- An order form can be found here: https://www.archives.gov/files/research/order/afile-order-form.pdf – Form NATF 37
- Queries may also be sent to the relevant email address (Afileskansascity@nara.gov or sanbruno.archives@nara.gov)

To view an A-File onsite, get in touch at least 3 days in advance (though more than a week is preferable, as some sites only do runs once a week). The files need to undergo FOIA screening prior to release.

Note that, if an A-File is not found in the NARA catalog, it is not yet within the holdings of the National Archives. Do not reach out to NARA Kansas City or NARA San Francisco to "go fishing" – rest assured that as new files are accessioned, they'll be added to the Catalog.

A-Files via Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)/Privacy Act requests to USCIS

One can request an A-File for an individual numbered above 8 million via a FOIA request to USCIS. For a FOIA request, the individual must be deceased, and proof of death should be provided with the request. A living individual must request his or her own file via a Privacy Act request.

- In both cases, a Form G-639 can be utilized to make such a request, though the form is not required.
- A living individual can sign for the release of their records to another individual or to be sent to himself; in either case, the living individual named in the records *must* sign the request.
- A guide to making FOIA requests: www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/files/nativedocuments/USCIS_FOIA_Request_Guide.pdf
- FOIA requests can be made through email, via mail or fax, or online through MyUSCIS (their preferred method).
- See https://www.uscis.gov/about-us/freedom-information-and-privacy-act-foia
- Note that USCIS generally provides requested files back on a CD through the mail. Paper delivery, if preferred, should be specified in original application. Digital delivery is also now able to be requested via MyUSCIS, either during an online application or using information in the "acknowledgement letter" to an emailed, mailed, or faxed request.
- USCIS provides records via three tracks in a first in/first out system. Most genealogy-related requests would be Track 2. Expedited processing can be requested in matters of safety or urgent need to inform the public, but seemingly these would seldom apply in genealogy-related cases.
    - Track 1 = Simple request, i.e., one or two specific certificates within a file
    - Track 2 = Complex request, i.e., the entirety of a file
    - Track 3 = Accelerated track for individuals scheduled to appear before an immigration judge
- Generally, FOIA requests are free. If a fee needs to be levied, USCIS will inform the requestor. Requestors should not send money with the initial request.
- Certain information within a file may be redacted. See FOIA Request Guide, linked above, pp. 19-20, for further information on exemptions.

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Living Individuals within Files

In all cases (USCIS Genealogy Program, NARA, or FOIA/PA via USCIS), if a record is expected to contain information on an individual who was born less than 100 years ago (both USCIS options) or 75 years ago (NARA), include proof of death information for that individual (death record, obituary, SSDI, funeral memorial, photo of gravestone, etc.). This includes the person of interest, as well as their spouse and children who may be named in the file. If a proof of death is not received, information on individuals born less than 100 years ago (from USCIS) or 75 years ago (from NARA) will be redacted. For an unredacted document, a new request, with supporting death evidence, will often need to be made – usually with the accompanying fee. Generally, a requestor whose information is named in the file will not be redacted. However, information on siblings of that requestor would be redacted.

- For USCIS Genealogy program requests, proof of death can be uploaded in the record request process or e-mailed to Genealogy.USCIS@uscis.dhs.gov, along with the GEN-** case number.
- For USCIS FOIA requests, proof of death can be included in the original request, either in the mailed or faxed package, or to uscis.foia@uscis.dhs.gov.
    - Note, if a Social Security Death Index or Social Security Applications & Claims Index is used as a proof death, UCSIS requests that the Social Security Number be blacked out.
- For NARA requests, proof of death can be included in the original request to Afileskansascity@nara.gov or sanbruno.archives@nara.gov.

A-Files Index Notes

- The indexing system for A-Files was initiated in 1975. From the beginning, it should have contained A-numbers above 12 million (though there are some gaps), which usually relate to individuals who arrived or whose status was adjusted after 1960. It would also include files that were opened or became active after 1975, and files that were inventoried after 2000. It is for this reason that many A-Files for immigrants born over 100 years ago are not yet with the National Archives – they were likely made inactive before 1975, and have not yet been inventoried.
- A Date of Birth in an index entry as 1/1/**** (or perhaps (7/4/****) may be when an immigrant did not know his exact date of birth, or when only a year was provided. (This could also be when only an age was provided, and a year of birth was calculated.) The Date of Birth for the index was taken from the last sworn document in the file.
- The Port of Entry, when extant in an index entry, is usually the INS District Office location, not necessarily the actual port at which the immigrant arrived.
- The naturalization location and naturalization date (when extant) are usually the most misleading fields. The naturalization location usually relates to the location of the file, i.e., the INS District Office holding jurisdiction over the immigrant's place of naturalization. If the naturalization date was prior to 1 April 1956, it relates to the date of derivation of citizenship (i.e., date of parent's naturalization, date of woman's marriage, or date of woman's husband's naturalization).

Some Important Considerations to Remember

- Naturalized before 31 March 1956 = No A-File! (Usually!) (Look for a consolidated C-File)
- Never naturalized = A-File? (Only if immigrated in/after 4/1944 or case reopened)
- Starting 1 April 1956, all agency records, including naturalizations, filed in A-File
- A-Files may contain consolidated Registry Files or Visa Files
- Nearly all A-Files include a copy of the immigrant's AR-2

See: https://www.archives.gov/files/publications/prologue/2013/spring/a-files.pdf.

All URLs valid as of 27 January 2020.

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Getting the Most Out of Ancestry®

Crista Cowan, Ancestry Corporate Genealogist

Are you getting the most out of your Ancestry subscription? In this session we will review some basics about family trees, search, and the genealogy community. We will also share some of our top tips for helping you maximize your time on the site.

Is your family tree on Ancestry?

Have you taken an AncestryDNA test?

Family Trees

Ancestry has more than 100 million family trees.

- TREE PRIVACY:
  - Information about living people is automatically privatized by Ancestry.
  - You set privacy as public, private/searchable, or private/unsearchable.
  - You can choose to share your tree with anyone, they do not need an Ancestry subscription. You set the level of sharing – guest, contributor, or editor.
  - No one can add/edit any information in your tree unless you specifically invite them to do so and give them editor access.

- TREE STANDARDS:
  - Enter women by their maiden name only.
  - Enter dates as dd MMM yyyy.
  - Enter locations by selecting from the type ahead where possible.
  - Check relationships on the EDIT | Edit Relationships screen to make sure they are reflected accurately.

Record Hinting and Searching

Ancestry has more than 20 billion records.

- Review hints – remember they are just suggestions for exploration, use the hint evaluation tool to keep track of your thoughts
- Search from tree – the main purpose is to see what bubbles up to the top of the list that might not have been caught by the hint process
- Database specific searching – formulate a specific research question, make a list of records where you will likely find answers to that question. Then, use the Ancestry Card Catalog to see if those records are online. Search the specific database using the "less is more" methodology.
- Don't forget Fold3 and Newspapers.

AncestryDNA

- Make sure your test results are attached to the person in the tree who took the test.
- Create a system, based on your research goals, for creating custom groups.

Genealogy Community

- PERSONAL PROFILE: Add a photo and brief bio to encourage others to interact with you.
- MESSAGE CENTER: Read and respond to messages. Send message to other users.
- SOCIAL MEDIA: Follow Ancestry on Facebook and subscribe to our YouTube channel and blog to stay up to date on information, interact with other Ancestry members, and get your questions answered quickly.

Want more from Crista? Find past episodes of her weekly internet show, The Barefoot Genealogist, on the Ancestry YouTube channel at http://ancstry.me/TBGVids. Click SUBSCRIBE on that channel to receive notification each time a new video is uploaded.

You can also follow Crista on Twitter and Instagram @CristaCowan.

USING ONLINE SCANDINAVIAN CHURCH RECORDS

Jenny Hansen, AG®
hansen.jenny@gmail.com
http://www.MyFavoriteAncestor.com

Purpose: At the end of class, each student should:

-Appreciate the value of Scandinavian church records
-Understand the availability of online resources for Scandinavian research
-Know the costs associated with these resources
-Feel prepared to use the online record images at home

Lutheran Church

State Church implies that the church records are the state vital records.
Kept all vital records for the government

Family History Library Collection

Microfilm/fiche virtually complete collection of church records
Online images, indexes created with FamilySearch Indexing program
Warning concerning index issues for Scandinavia
- There is a high level of false positives.
- It is easy to miss the correct individual.

Online Aids for Scandinavia

Commercial databases—see website descriptions below
Research wikis on FamilySearch.org

Danish Church Records Online—sa.dk

Navigating the site
- Translation links on the front page (top right)
- Choose *Parish Registers* from the online record options (lower left)
- Drop-down menus for location/jurisdiction

Browsing the records
- No indexes available
- Images are taken from the microfilmed copies of church books.

Saving and printing images
- Use icon hints at top right of the display screen
- Save image files and edit using outside software

Free access

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Norwegian Church Records Online—DigitalArkivet.no

- Navigating the site
  - Translation links on the top right of front page
  - *Digital Archives* links to church books and census records
    - Choose *Get the Know the Digital Archives*
    - Then choose *Exploring the digitized archives*
    - Then choose *Church Books*
    - *Browse Norwegian Church Books* appears about half-way down the page
- Browsing the records
  - Drop-down menu at the left of the page helps with location/jurisdiction
  - Books images are divided into small groups of record types and years for easy browsing
- Saving and printing images
  - Create a user profile to save images
  - Source citation features built-in
  - Save a series of images, print as you wish
- Free access

Swedish Church Records Online—Arkivdigital.net or Riksarkivet.se

- Arkivdigital.net: online database for parish records
  - Full color images are more legible than black and whites offered elsewhere
  - Superior site navigation
    - Browsing history saved
    - Built-in bookmarks
  - Subscription options
    - Monthly or yearly options
    - Free use at Family History Centers
- Riksarkivet.se: Swedish National Archives
  - Navigating the site
    - Choose *Search the collections*
    - *Extended Search* provides lists of all record groups included
    - Choose *Church Archives* for a menu of all church books
  - Printing and saving images
    - Use shortcuts on the top right corner
    - Source information included in image download
  - Free access as of February 2018

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Conglomerate Site Offerings

Ancestry.com
- Growing collection of Scandinavian records
- Acquired Swedish church record database *Genline* in 2010
- Uses Ancestry search engines
- Some unique indexing included

MyHeritage.com
- Growing collection of Scandinavian records, especially Sweden
- Creating unique indexes
- Included as part of world-wide databases

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Websites

BYU Center for Family History: http://cfhg.byu.edu

Select *Script Tutorials* from the Current Project list. The German Script Tutorial will provide lessons for reading the tough Scandinavian handwriting.

Danish National Archives: http://www.sa.dk

Click on the *In English* link on the top of the page. This will redirect you to the genealogy pages, which include great online guides for research and reading the handwriting. All church records for Denmark are available in the online records section.

Danish Demographic Database: http://ddd.dda.dk

Transcription of Danish census records, with English translations.

Norwegian National Archives: http://www.arkivverket.no

The *Using the Archives* section includes all parish records and census records. See the following description for "Norwegian Digital Archives" for more details.

Norwegian Digital archives, including online record images: http://www.digitalarkivet.no

This is an extension of the Norwegian National Archives. Browse all church records for Norway by parish and year. Watch for the translation link on the front page to find the English version of the site. A few clicks are required to reach the church records.

Swedish National Archives: http://www.riksarkivet.se

As of February 2018, this site offers free access to the Swedish parish records. See navigation tips above.

Swedish parish record images: http://www.arkivdigital.net

This is a subscription-based service of Swedish parish records. Incredible, full-color images. Great user experience. You can have free access to the site at any FHL.

FamilySearch family tree collection and research wikis: http://www.familysearch.org

Search indexed record images and access research wikis, which include word lists and feast-day calendars.

Growing collection of indexed Scandinavian church records: http://www.myheritage.com and http://www.ancestry.com

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Staying Organized: Using Locality Surveys in Genealogical Research

Kelsee Walker

What are Locality Surveys?

Locality surveys are a tool used in genealogical research to not only organize available record sets for a particular time and place but also to simplify and consolidate these efforts for easier reference during research. Locality surveys also help a researcher to become familiar with the place of research and what records are available in that area.

One of the key purposes of locality surveys is to organize and create a research plan of records that are available *before* actual research begins. This way not only is it easier to keep track of what has already been searched, but it also keeps the researcher from spending unnecessary time redoing old searches for things like microfilm numbers or dates covered in a record set.

Important Information About Locality Surveys

Before a locality survey can be created, understanding jurisdictional boundaries is very important. Start by taking note of the jurisdictional boundaries usually classified in the area of interest. For example, jurisdictional boundaries in the United States are typically country, state, county, and town (though there are certainly others.)

Some record types may prove to have part of the record set held in one location and the rest of the collection at another location. It is the researcher's job to investigate where these different records are held (if they exist) and whether they are accessible to the public. This important step may involve searching on the internet, perusing card catalogs, visiting libraries, and contacting archivists. The goal is to accurately identify where each record set is located, how accessible it is, and what time period the record set covers. Make sure to note any important boundary changes, as this may affect which town, county, or state your ancestor lived in, even if they didn't move.

One important thing to note about locality surveys is that they work best when focused on one locality at a time. For example, if the ancestor of interest moved to three different places during his lifetime, it would be helpful to create three different locality surveys, one for each place in which the ancestor resided.

Locality surveys can consist of information beyond records such as (but not limited to) important historical and jurisdictional information about the place of research, key maps (both current and historical), known record loss, and important points from gazetteers. Noting important events that happened in the place and time period of interest can also bring out record types available for research.

A locality survey can be created in programs such as Google Docs, Microsoft Word, and Microsoft Excel. These surveys are highly customizable. For example, if the research project

takes place in Germany, the levels of jurisdiction will be different than American jurisdictional levels. Researchers should adjust the survey to cover important nuances in their research.

Flexible Outline for Creating a Locality Survey:

Step 1: Pick a person or family to research.

- Make a list of the different localities in which this person lived over the course of her life. Each locality will be its own survey, to be accounted for individually.
- If you are having a hard time accounting for the various places an ancestor lived in, try making a timeline of her life, noting the dates she lived in certain areas and when a move took place.

Step 2: Pick one of the localities the ancestor lived in.

- This can be recorded under the town, village, parish name or, if that is unknown, the county name. (The smaller the level of jurisdiction, usually, the more record types can be included in the locality survey.)

Step 3: Create a table in Microsoft Word, Google Docs, Microsoft Excel, or another word processor of your choice. List the names of possible record types to search for down the far-left column.

- In Microsoft Word, this can be done under the "Insert" tab, clicking on "table."
- Create a table that is several cells down (more cells can be added later) and five cells across.
    - Please feel free to tweak these numbers according to the number that will best fill the needs of your individual research.
- Put the words "Record Type" in the first row, first cell. Beneath it, list as many record types as you think will be relevant to your research. Add additional rows as needed.
    - Some common record types that can be listed for United States research are: federal census, special censuses (state, mortality, veteran, etc.), immigration (if applicable), birth, marriage, death, church records, cemeteries, military, probate, tax, newspapers, land records, and more as relevant to the ancestor's area.

Step 4: Fill in column heading in the first row.

- Column headings are largely going to be filled with information that is most relevant to your project.
- For this example, it was most useful to fill the next four cells on the first row with the following headings:
    - Jurisdictional level that holds the record
        - Is the record held on a country, state, county, town, or other level?
    - Relevant years the record set covers
        - Can be recorded as only the years the ancestor lived in the area or the span of years covered for the entire collection.
    - How the record can be accessed
        - Microfilm, library reference, website address, etc.
    - Other Notes

Step 5: Make note of any boundary changes in the area.

- Boundary changes and when they happened are important to making sure you check all relevant jurisdictions and therefore, all relevant record sets.
- When doing research in the United States, it is very important to make note of when the county you're researching was first created and take note of any areas that were later annexed into other counties. If the county you're researching was not an original county of that state, it may also be important to research the previous county (or counties) to which it belonged.
- Using websites like the Atlas of Historical County Boundaries from the Newberry Library (https://publications.newberry.org/ahcbp/) can help with figuring out boundary changes for United States research. Another helpful website, https://www.mapofus.org/, also helps with boundary changes. The FamilySearch Wiki may note any important boundary changes as well.
- Example: Lebanon, Windham County, Connecticut
    - Windham County was first created from Hartford County and New London County in 1726. Lebanon became an incorporated town in 1700. Boundary changes took place in 1786, 1824, 1827, 1881, and 1885. The only boundary change that affected the town of Lebanon was the 1824 change which switched it from being in Windham County to New London County.

Step 6: Look for where the records are held.

- Using the boundary changes as a reference, determine which jurisdiction could hold each record type. As an example, probate records are usually held at the **county** level.
- Using the FamilySearch Wiki (https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main_Page) to find available record sets and where those records are held, may also help with filling out the locality survey.
- This step may involve searching through online card catalogs or contacting archives where records are not available online or on microfilm. Make note of difficulties in finding where certain records are held.

Step 7: Fill out the rest of the locality survey chart, based on findings in Step 6.

- Make note of relevant years covered in a record set, and where you can access the records (online, microfilm, on-site, etc.). It may be useful to make note of any indexes to the record sets of interest as well as noting any record loss.
- Use the locality survey to keep track of research, even if a record set is searched to NIL results. (A locality survey can be used in conjunction with a research log.)

Step 8: Add any relevant historical, jurisdictional, geographical, or other information that may impact research.

- Use online (and other) resources relevant to the area of interest to learn about its history. Make note of things that may give insight to the time and place such as, economic depressions, the burning of county courthouses, and major occupations in the area.
- This information can be added in pages after the records chart (if a records chart is used) and can be presented in whatever format the researcher finds most useful.

Locality Survey Records Chart Example

Ancestor's Name(s):

Locality:

Any relevant boundary changes:

Record Type	Held on Country, State, County, Town or other level?	What years does it cover?	Microfilm number, reference number, website address, etc.	Notes
Special Censuses (State, Mortality, Veteran, etc.)				
Immigration				
Birth				
Marriage				
Death				
Church Registers				
Cemeteries/ Headstones				
Probate Records				
Military Records				
Newspapers				
Other:				

RECORDS OF NEW YORK CITY'S EMIGRANT INDUSTRIAL SAVINGS BANK

© Katherine R. Willson (https://SocialMediaGenealogy.com)

All links accessed on 20 January 2020

ABOUT THE BANK

- The Irish Emigrant Society was founded in 1841 in New York City out of concern for, and the protection of, Irish immigrants (disbanded in 1936).
- The Society members founded the Emigrant Industrial Savings Bank in October 1850 as a safe place for Irish & other immigrants to keep their money and for sending remittances to relatives back home.
- The bank was first located on Chambers Street in Manhattan, facing New York City Hall. Most Irish immigrants were living in this working-class district (in 1850, it contained 11,000 Irish-born men & women) so the location was convenient, and initial hours were convenient to the working class (open Monday through Saturday, from 5pm to 7pm).
- In 1925, the bank was the largest savings bank in the U.S.
- The bank is still in operation as the oldest savings bank in New York City and the largest privately-held savings bank in the U.S. (they dropped the word "Industrial" from their name in 1967).

ABOUT THE CUSTOMERS

Although 74% of customers were from Ireland, records indicate additional nationalities:

- 11% from Germany
- 7% from Great Britain (English, Scottish, Welsh)
- 6% born in the U.S.
- As well as Polish, French, Italian, Swiss, Russian, Danish, West Indian, Canadian

ABOUT THE RECORDS

Many immigrants couldn't read or write and many customers had similar names, so the bank collected personal information to help differentiate customers with the same name. This information was copied into Test Books, and if a customer's passbook was lost or stolen, the customer needed to provide the clerk with matching information. Additionally, many records reference customers' (and family members') illnesses, , deaths, and executors of their wills.

Questions asked:

- What is your address?
- What is your occupation?
- Where were you born?
- When did you arrive in the U.S.?
- On which ship did you sail?
- Who are your parents (including mother's maiden name)?
- Have you siblings? Where do they live?
- Other relatives' names and locations?

RECORD TYPES

- Index Book (contains depositor's name, account number, record date, and reference to entry in Test Book or Transfer, Signature, and Test Book)
- Test Book (covers 1850 through 1868; contains depositor's name, account number, record date, occupation, residence, relatives' names, immigration information, and/or birth or residence information in Ireland)
- Transfer, Signature, and Test Book (covers 1850-1853, recording changes to accounts such as new signature, address change, account holder change; contains account holder's signature, account number, record date, account holder's residence, occupation, birth year/place, and relatives' names)
- Deposit-Account Ledger (arranged by account number, contains individual's account history including deposits & withdrawals)
- Real Estate Books (includes Bond & Mortgage Records, Bond & Mortgage Ledgers, and Real Estate Loans Ledgers)
- Minutes of the Board of Trustees

ACCESSING THE RECORDS

- New York Public Library's Archives & Manuscripts: https://DigitalCollections.NYPL.org
  Search keywords: Emigrant Savings Bank
  (See finding aid at http://Archives.NYPL.org/mss/925)
- FamilySearch (https://www.FamilySearch.org) > Search > Catalog > Keyword: Emigrant Savings Bank
- Ancestry (https://www.Ancestry.com) > Search > Card Catalog > Title: New York Emigrant Savings Bank Records
- WorldCat (https://www.WorldCat.org) > Everything: Emigrant Savings Bank

KNOWN ISSUES

- Handwritten records can be difficult to transcribe (KJ Rich & team did a phenomenal job)
- Depositors were mostly illiterate and place names were spoken with distinct regional accents which were creatively recorded by clerks
- Years of birth and arrival may have been estimates, or may be dates of major holidays, used as frames of reference for events happening days or months before/after holidays.
- Indexing errors within Ancestry database

AFTER LOCATING NAMES IN THE RECORDS

Continue to research ancestors or collateral lines in New York:

- Vital record indices of New York City (https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/New_York_City,_New_York_Genealogy#Vital_Records
- Federal & state census records (https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/New_York_Census#New_York_State_Censuses_Online)

SATURDAY

- City directories (https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/collections/new-york-city-directories#)
- Newspapers (https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/New_York_City,_New_York_Genealogy#Online_Digital_Newspapers)
- Land records (https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2078654)
- Fire insurance & property maps (https://www.nypl.org/collections/nypl-recommendations/guides/fire-topo-property-maps)

Make note of recorded names and locations of other family members (siblings, cousins, in-laws, etc.) - while your immigrant ancestor may have left the state of New York, his/her family may have stayed. And if you're unable to find your specific family, continue to look for those with a same/similar surname for clues to name distributions as well as possible collateral lines.

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VISUALIZING A NEIGHBORHOOD USING SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE MAPS, CENSUS RECORDS, AND CITY DIRECTORIES

Ari Wilkins
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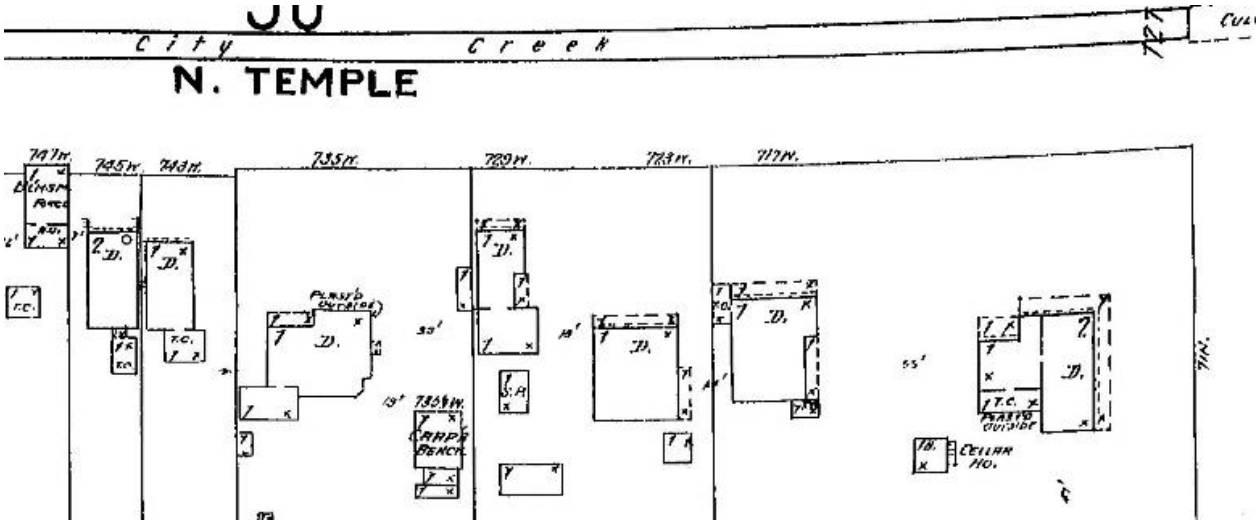
Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

Sanborn Maps were used by insurance agents to determine the risks of insuring specific buildings. Insurance agencies began creating the maps as early as 1846 for thousands of cities and towns. Originally, fire insurance maps documented more business districts than residential communities. By the 1950's, the Sanborn Map Company had mapped most of the communities in the United States with a population of 2,500 or more. These detailed maps show specific streets, addresses and lots. They also reflect the size, shape and construction of buildings and homes.



1898 Sanborn Map
Salt Lake City, Utah

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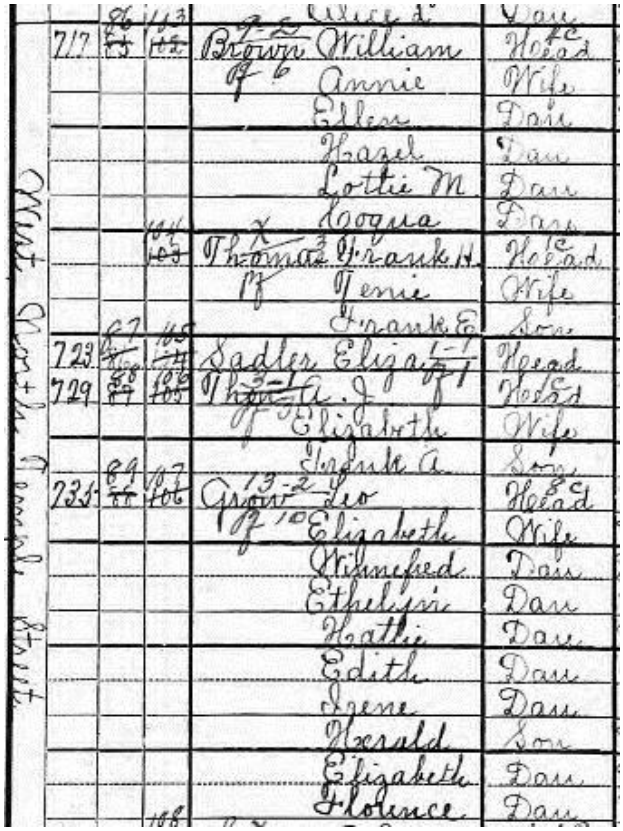
https://www.loc.gov/collections/sanborn-maps/

Census Records

The United States Federal Census counted individual people from every state, county, city and town. Taken every ten years, census records are available from 1790 – 1940 (excluding 1890). Census takers were instructed to canvass a neighborhood starting at one corner of a city block, and moving to the right to make a full city block. This method created a detailed view of a neighborhood in order by address.



1900 Federal Census
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https://www.census.gov/history/www/through_the_decades/census_instructions/

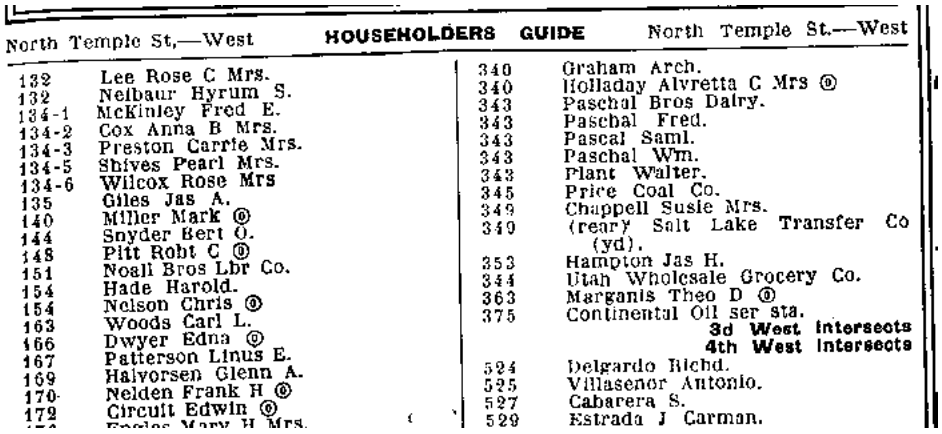
Stephen Morse's website
Website contains census enumeration and block maps, changed street names, and census enumeration district descriptions
https://www.stevemorse.org/

SATURDAY

City Directories

City directories have been around long before telephone books. Published as early as the 18th century, they were created for salesmen, merchants, and others interested in contacting residents of an areas. City directories provided an alphabetical listing of individuals, generally by head of household. They sometimes included names of spouses, marital status (widow), and the name of the employer. Published on an annual basis, these directories can work as a census substitute and also trace ancestors between census years.

Street and Avenue Directories (also known as Street and Avenue Guide, Street Directories, or Householders Guide) are a separate section usually located at the end of the city directory. This section lists properties by address. Streets are listed in alphabetical order with intersecting streets shown. Each building on the street is listed in house number order with the name of the occupant, homeowner, or tenant. Street directories are helpful in getting an idea of our ancestor's neighborhood.



North Temple St.—West **HOUSEHOLDERS GUIDE** North Temple St.—West

132	Lee Rose C Mrs.	340	Graham Arch.
132	Neibaur Hyrum S.	340	Holladay Alvretta C Mrs ⓦ
134-1	McKinley Fred E.	343	Paschal Bros Dairy.
134-2	Cox Anna B Mrs.	343	Paschal Fred.
134-3	Preston Carrie Mrs.	343	Pascal Saml.
134-5	Shives Pearl Mrs.	343	Paschal Wm.
134-6	Wilcox Rose Mrs	343	Plant Walter.
135	Giles Jas A.	345	Price Coal Co.
140	Miller Mark ⓦ	349	Chappell Susie Mrs.
144	Snyder Bert O.	349	(rear) Salt Lake Transfer Co (yd).
148	Pitt Robt C ⓦ	353	Hampton Jas H.
151	Nosll Bros Lbr Co.	344	Utah Wholesale Grocery Co.
154	Hade Harold.	363	Marganis Theo D ⓦ
154	Nelson Chris ⓦ	375	Continental Oil ser sta.
163	Woods Carl L.		3d West Intersects
166	Dwyer Edna ⓦ		4th West Intersects
167	Patterson Linus E.	524	Delgardo Richd.
169	Halvorsen Glenn A.	525	Villasenor Antonio.
170	Nelden Frank H ⓦ	527	Cabarera S.
172	Circuit Edwin ⓦ	529	Estrada J Carman.

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City Directories

Online Historical Directory
https://sites.google.com/site/onlinedirectorysite/

Telephone and City Directories in the Library of Congress
https://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/telephon.html

SATURDAY

Google Earth

Google Earth is a free software tool that allows one to pinpoint an ancestor's community in present day time. The software enables the user to view current and historical maps, streets, street views and buildings in 3D. It allows the user to overlay historical maps on top of current maps, add photographs and other genealogical information.

I. Using Historical Maps
II. Creating and Manipulating Overlays
III. Compiling Information
IV. Adding Photographs

Google Earth
https://www.google.com/earth/

Step-by-step directions in Google Earth Help
https://support.google.com/earth/?hl=en#topic=7364880

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Additional Sources

Personal address books
Newspapers
Property records (deeds, tax records …)
Historic Photographs (check your library's photograph collections)

TIPS

- Pay attention to the cross streets.
- Read all legends and columns. Know what each symbol means.
- Consider that the streets may have been renumbered or renamed.
- Check the newspapers.
    - Search by the address or neighborhood.
    - What if a murder occurred in your ancestor's neighborhood?
- Look at state censuses.
- Look for alternative resources.
    - "Suburbanite Economist," Quadrennial Real Estate Assessment, 31 July 1963

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Family Locket Genealogists

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Your Texas ancestor might have received land from Spain, Mexico, the Republic of Texas, or the State of Texas. Learn how to locate the records needed to enhance your research.

History of Land Ownership in Texas and Types of Land Records

The earliest land grants in Texas came under the rule of Spain as missions and presidios were established in east Texas beginning in 1690. A presidio was a fort build of adobe or logs and provided protection for the mission as well as a place for soldiers and officers to reside. The spread of missions and presidios in Texas was designed to gain control over the region and to teach Christianity to the native people.

Private land grants began in the 1750s with Spanish royal commissioners surveying and distributing the land in south Texas. The land was distributed based on seniority – original, old, or recent settlers. Because of the importance of irrigation water, the lots were set off on long thin strips of land (porciones) with a narrow frontage on the river. These grants were recorded in the *Acts of the Visit of the Royal Commissioners* and generally went to influential citizens.

In other areas of Texas, informal agreements with local officials resulted in families receiving a portion of land. As more settlers moved into the region, these settlers sought to formalize their grants. The number of inhabitants in Texas remained small, so in 1820 the Spanish government opened Texas to any settler who would respect the laws of the land. In 1821, Mexico obtained Independence from Spain and land settlement entered a new era.

In 1821 Moses Austin obtained permission for bringing 300 families to the Brazos River region of Texas. With his death that year, his son, Stephen F. Austin, moved forward with the idea of settlement. "Austin's Colony Records" at the Texas General Land Office Archives represents a huge collection of

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documents such as contracts, land titles, correspondence and more, dating from 1823-1841 (bulk 1825-1835). https://www.glo.texas.gov/history/archives/collections/index.html#item/91. Two indexes are available online which name the head of household, age, state of emigration, and household information.

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From 1823-1830 Mexico established a colonization policy providing land for immigrants to settle under empresarios such as Stephen F. Austin. Each colony had its own land office. For a small fee, the heads of the families could obtain as much as a league of grazing land (4,428.4 acres) and a labor of cropland (177.1 acres). If a settler did not use the assistance of an empresario he would receive an additional labor of land. *An Abstract of the Original Titles of Records in the General Land Office* names the settler, the date of the title and the quantity of land granted by league and labor.[1]

Mexico's colonization policy resulted in a flood of American emigration to Texas. By 1835, more than 30,000 Americans lived in the region. Most of the settlers came from the southeastern United States and many brought their slaves with them – establishing a culture of slavery that would persist in the area until emancipation. Most of these settlers were of the Protestant faith but had to swear an oath of Catholicism to own land in Texas under Mexican authority.

The number of U.S. settlers made revolution a given and in 1836 the Republic of Texas was born. Upon gaining independence, the Republic required all previous land transactions to be submitted to the newly formed General Land office.

From 1836-1842 headright grants (4,605.5 acres per family; 1,476.1 acres per single man) were issued. The records were filed and indexed by time periods called classes:

- **Class 1.** Settlers who arrived prior to 2 March 1836 and had not received a Mexican land grant: heads of families were eligible for one league and one labor of land; single men 1/3 of a league; those with a previous grant could augment the land up to the allowed amount.
- **Class 2.** Arrivals from 22 March 1836 to 1 October 1837: heads of families were eligible for 1,280 acres and single men 640 acres; required to reside in the Republic for 3 years.

[1] May Lewis Ulmer, *An Abstract of the Original Titles of Record in the General Land Office,* (Austin, Texas : Pemberton Press, 1964); digitized by *FamilySearch International.*

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- **Class 3.** Arrivals from 1 October 1837 to 1 January 1840 : heads of families were eligible for 640 acres and single men 320 acres; required to reside in the Republic for 3 years.
- **Class 4**. Arrivals from 1 January 1840 to 1 January 1842: same as for class 3 but settlers had to cultivate at least 10 acres; filed under the class 3 heading.

With its entry into the United States on 19 February 1846, Texas retained control of land distribution, making it a "state land state." Land grants continued under a variety of acts with the intention of building a tax base and encouraging settlement.

- **Preemption Grants** 1845-1854: settlement of up to 320 acres of vacant public land; an 1854 act reduced the amount to 160 acres. After the program's closure in 1856, the grants were reinstated from 1866-1898. Qualifications included living on the land for three years and making improvements.
- **Colony Grants** 1841-1844: filed under the class 3 heading and included four empresario colonies established under contracts with the Republic of Texas: Peter's, Fisher and Miller's, Castor's, and Mercer's.

Spain granted land to military veterans and the tradition continued with the Republic and State of Texas.

- **Military Headrights** 1836: filed under Class 1 heading; granted to volunteer soldiers from 2 March 1836- 1 August 1836.
- **Bounty Grants** 1837-1888: granted to soldiers who had provided military service to the Republic prior to 1 October 1837.
- **Donation Grants** were awarded for participation in specific battles of the Texas Revolution. Most certificates were issued for 640 acres.
- **Veteran Donation Grants** 1879-1887: granted to veterans of the Texas Revolution and signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence through an act of the Texas legislature.
- **Confederate Scrip Grants** 1881-1883: granted to permanently disabled Confederate veterans and widows of soldiers who died in service.

Texas Land Survey System

Because Texas is a state land state, it does not use the federal land survey system of section, township, and range. Instead the land has a unique system often measured in Spanish units of measurement. A "vara" is a unit of length and is Spanish for rod or pole. It measures roughly a yard or 33 1/3 inches. A "labor" is a measurement of area and is used to equal 1 million square varas. A labor equals about 177.1 acres. A "league" is also a measurement of area and equals 25 million square varas or 4,428.4 acres.

The state of Texas is first divided into twelve railroad districts based on Spanish grants using the metes and bounds system of measurement. Counties are contained within the railroad districts, but the following measurements are not required to follow county boundaries as these were original measurements before county lines formed: townships and sections (South Texas), blocks (West Texas), or Leagues and Labors (North and East Texas).

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Finding the Records

The Texas General Land Office (https://glo.texas.gov/index.html) is the place to start the search for an ancestor's land grants. The Land Grant database currently has over 800,000 records. Start with the Surname Index (https://glo.texas.gov/history/archives/surname-index/index.html) or go straight to the Land Grant Search (https://s3.glo.texas.gov/glo/history/archives/land-grants/index.cfm). The entire land grant packets are being digitized and are available online free of charge. If the record you are seeking is not yet digitized, it can be viewed onsite at the Texas General Land Office in Austin, Texas.

The FamilySearch Catalog is another source for locating various materials relating to the Texas Land Grants. Search by Keyword > Texas Land Grants; or search by Place > Texas and select "Land."

The Ancestry collection "Texas, Land Title Abstracts, 1700-2008," contains abstracts of the original land titles located at the Texas General Land Office. If an ancestor is located here, be sure to use the Land Grant database to view the original record. https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/5112/.

After the original land grant was issued, further land transactions took place at the county courthouse. Many of these have been digitized by FamilySearch. Use the FamilySearch Catalog to locate them. https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog. Use the Place field: United States, Texas, [county]. Do not use the word "county" in the search. Under the topic "land and property" select "deeds." Many of these records are available to view at a Family History Center or the Family History Library.

Using the Land Records as Evidence

Some of the details that could be revealed in a land record are the place of emigration, the date of arrival in Texas, evidence of a wife and children, residence, associates, and military service. Using land records in conjunction with census, tax, court, and other records, a more complete picture of an ancestor's life can be formed. Create a timeline of the life events and records of the ancestor to discover additional avenues for research and separate him from men of the same name. Study the laws and acts that resulted in the ancestor receiving land.

Take advantage of historic maps to learn more about the land. The Texas General Land Office website hosts a Land/Lease Mapping Viewer. This application displays original Texas land survey boundaries and more. https://gisweb.glo.texas.gov/glomapjs/index.html

For Further Study

1. "History of Texas Public Lands," PDF, Texas General Land Office https://www.glo.texas.gov/history/archives/forms/files/history-of-texas-public-lands.pdf.
2. "History of Texas Public Lands – Appendices," PDF, Texas General Land Office https://www.glo.texas.gov/history/archives/forms/files/appendices-history-of-texas-public-lands.pdf
3. "Land Grants for Immigration to Texas." TXGLP. https://www.glo.texas.gov/history/archives/forms/files/glo- headright-military-land-grants.pdf.

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MyHeritage Advanced Features and Technologies

By: Daniel Horowitz - Daniel@MyHeritage.com - Tweeter: @MyHChiefGen - Instagram: horowitz_daniel

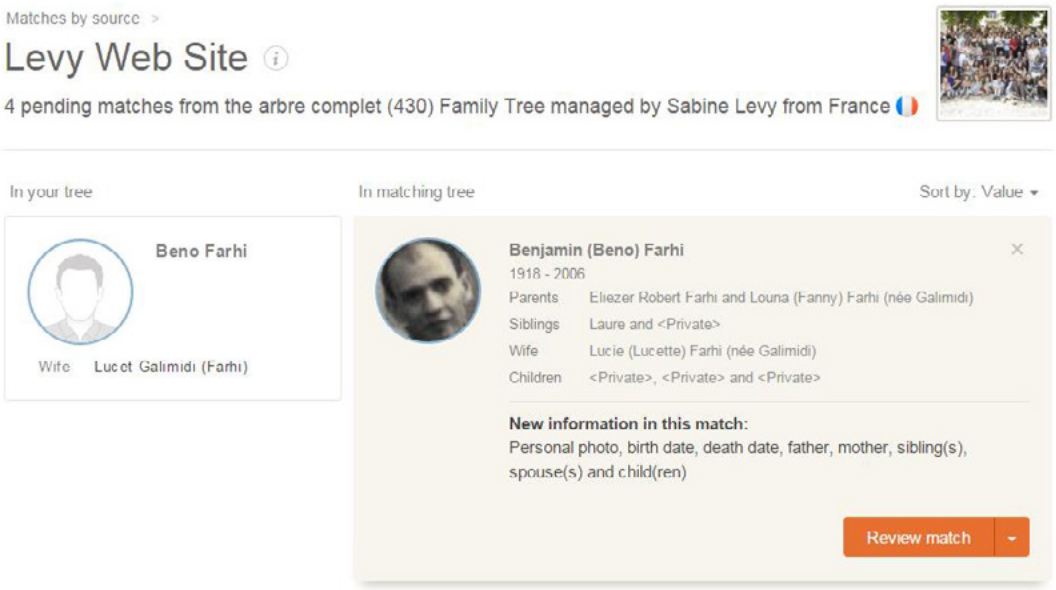
MyHeritage is a family history network helping millions of families around the world discover and share their legacy online. Pioneers in making family history a collaborative experience for the entire family, MyHeritage empowers its users with innovative social tools and a massive library of historical content. Its tools are available in 42 languages.

Discoveries pages provide a unified experience for all matches, organizing them into two main pages: Matches by People and Matches by Source. Now you can look at all matches that were found for a particular individual in your family tree, or all matches found in a particular collection of historical records or matching family tree. Whatever you choose to use, the new pages combine Smart Matches (matches with trees) and Record Matches (matches with records) into the same unified and consistent interface.

Smart Matching, a unique technology that matches between the individuals in your family tree and billions individuals in MyHeritage family trees. The matching technology is sophisticated and bridges across differences in spelling, phonetics and relationships that may exist between the trees.

Each time you add or edit an individual in a family tree, it tries to connect that individual or any of relatives to millions of people in other family trees published by other MyHeritage users, thereby comparing millions of names, facts and connections intelligently.

When a match is found, both owners are informed, and benefit from both collaboration and learning from each other. See your tree and the matching tree side-by-side to spot similarities and differences. Behind the scenes, new algorithms were added to cover spelling and phonetic variations, understand nicknames, handle synonyms and deal with ethnic variations. Additionally, a brand new interface has been added for viewing any two matching trees side-by-side, to help tree owners quickly spot what they may learn from the other tree.



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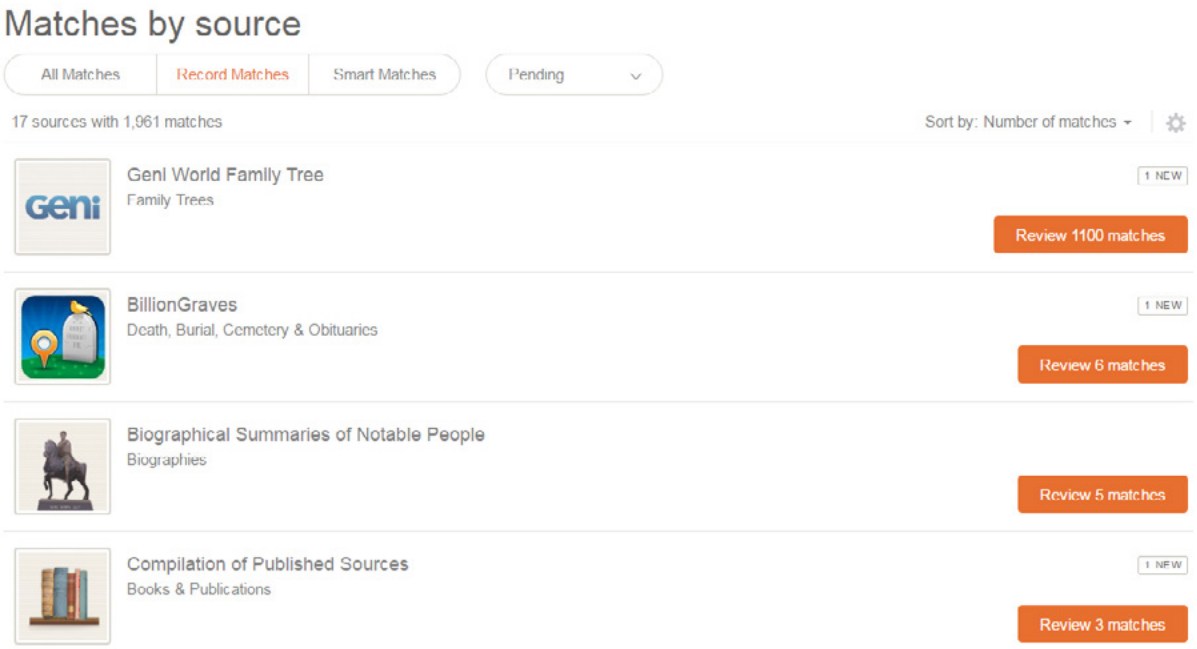
The enhanced Smart Matching allows users to confirm or reject any match, and the platform distinguishes between matches that were confirmed or rejected by each respective tree owner. Users also have the ability to start discussions about matches, encouraging dialogue between researchers and family members about discoveries and the exchange of noteworthy information on mutual relatives.

Record Matching is designed to be a discovery-finder and a time-saver, as it automatically researches every individual in your MyHeritage family tree in our growing collection of billions of records, newspaper articles, books and other documents; consolidating all the relevant historical records found in one interactive report, which the user can then go over systematically. Automatic research is not a substitute for manual research, but it can certainly make discoveries that many users will not have the time or luck to find on their own.

Record Matching is the first technology to translate names between languages, to find documents for you even in languages different than the one your family tree is in. The technology is particularly good with synonyms and phonetics, so you can expect matches ranging from the obvious (William in record vs. Bill in the family tree) to the subtle (Alessandro in record vs. Sasha in the family tree).

Each match has a Confidence Score, ranging from half a star to five stars, indicating the likelihood that the historical record found correctly belongs to the associated individual in the family tree.

Record Matching runs periodically in order to cover new individuals recently added or edited in the family trees, and to cover new data collections of historical records that we keep adding.



The Record Detective works by turning a single record, which until now was often a dead end, into a door to more records. The technology effectively turns historical records into smart

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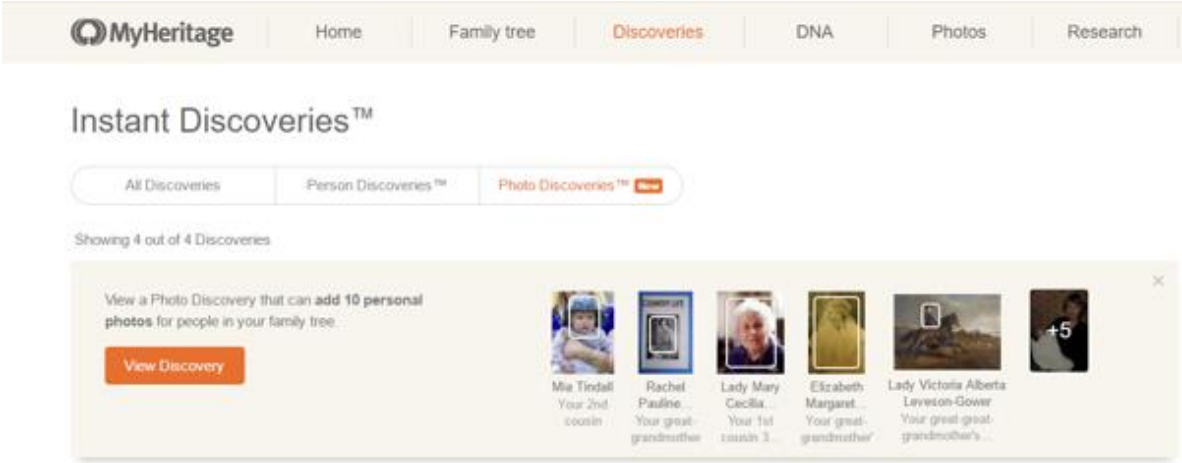
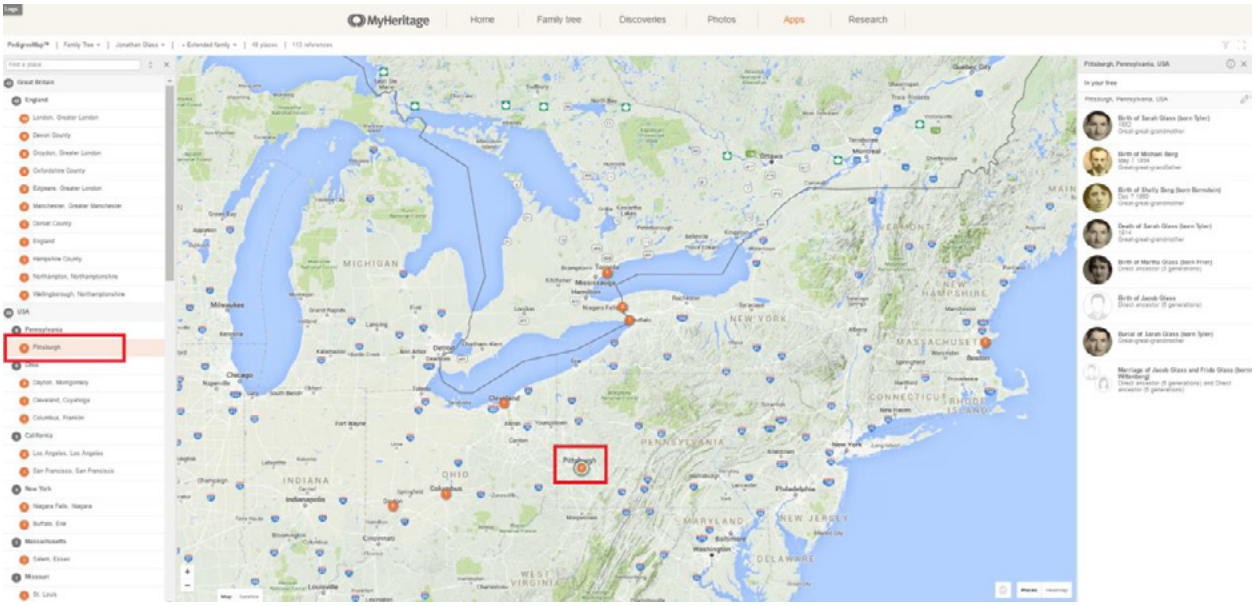
objects that know which people they are about, including a summary of additional records and individuals in family trees relating to it, providing links and equipping users with new information and clues to take their research to new directions.

Photo Discoveries is a unique feature as a new type of instant discovery. How does this magic happen? We look at all of your Smart Matches, focus only on photographs, and offer you photos that you don't have in your family tree. Photos that are offered come from other family trees that have granted permission to share with other users.

Applying Photos Discoveries to your tree will add color and faces to your tree.



PedigreeMap displays all your photos and events grouped by country and location, allowing you to easily filter the map to view it by person, family group, event type, and time period. You will be able to pan and zoom with your fingers, and enjoy the maps tremendously.



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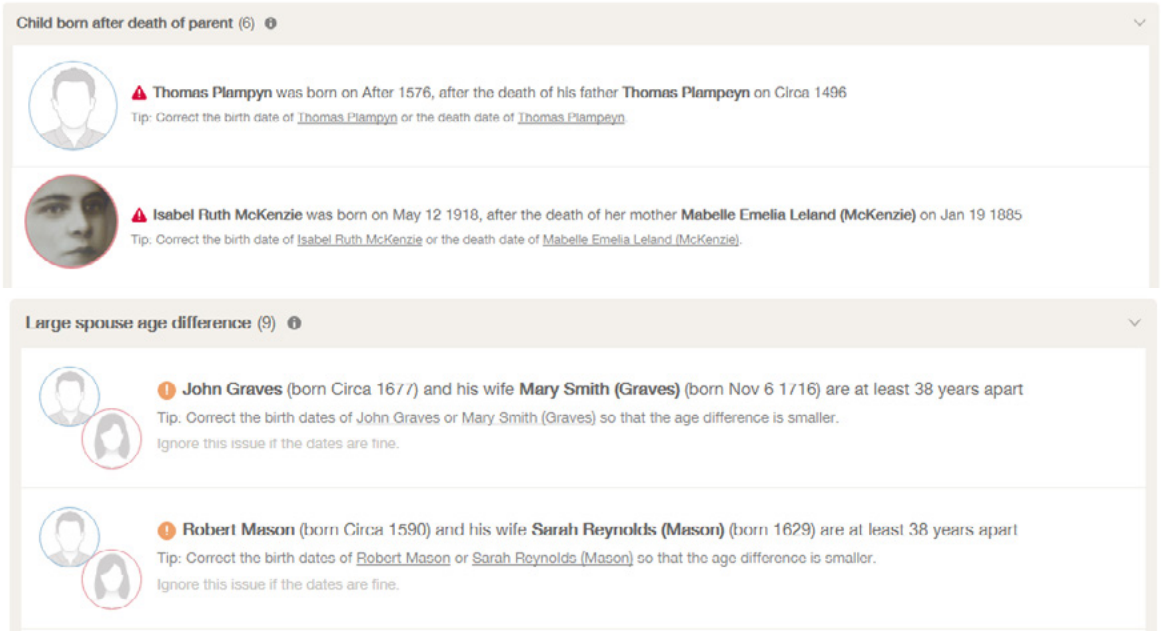
PedigreeMap displays every place name referenced in your family tree or your photos on the map. The main screen shows the embedded map. On the left-hand side, there is a list of all places that appear in your family tree. The numbers on the list correspond to the number of references to each place in your family tree. The map shows pins for each location.

Consistency Checker for online family trees at MyHeritage scans your family tree and identifies potential mistakes and inconsistencies in 36 different checks in your data so that you can quickly make the necessary changes in your tree, improving its overall quality and accuracy, ranging from the obvious (e.g., a person was born before their parent, or when the parent was too young to be a parent) to the subtle and hard to find (e.g., two full siblings were born 5 months apart, which is impossible). Some of the issues it finds are factual mistakes (e.g. wrong birth date entered), some are bad practices (e.g. birth year entered as 22 instead of 1922, or prefix entered as part of the first name instead of in the prefix field).



Some issues listed can be fixed directly from the Consistency Checker, with the click of a green quick-fix button. For many issues, there may be more than one way to correct an issue, and your judgement or input is required. Consistency Checker Settings allow you to edit, disable any checks you wish to exclude from the report, or re-enable them. You can also configure the threshold for some of the warnings.

Little School on the Prairie: Nineteenth Century Frontier Teaching

Prairie Center Sod School House, District #57, Custer County, Nebraska. Photo from Library of Congress. Public Domain.

Presenter: Lori Thornton, MLS * lorithornton@gmail.com

Rules for Teachers - 1872

While widely published and variously attributed, no authoritative source for this list has been found.

1. Teachers will fill the lamps and clean the chimney each day.
2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's sessions.
3. Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual tastes of the pupils.
4. Men teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings a week if they go to church regularly.
5. After ten hours in school, the teachers may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.
6. Women teachers who marry or engage in improper conduct will be dismissed.
7. Every teacher should lay aside from each day's pay a goodly sum of his earnings. He should use his savings during his retirement years so that he will not become a burden on society.
8. Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, visits pool halls or public halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop, will give good reasons for people to suspect his worth, intentions, and honesty.
9. The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five cents per week in his pay.

Professional Records

Teacher certification records are often found in state historical society or state archives collections. For example, Minnesota Historical Society's collection for Cottonwood County date back to 1873.

School superintendents' records often include records relating to their supervision of teachers. These records sometimes contain biographical information, grades, certification information, and experience. For example, Wisconsin Historical Society's collection for the superintendent of Eau Claire County's schools date back to 1873 with this type information dating to 1874. The school district's records go back to 1855 and sometimes include teacher contracts.

Laws

Territorial and state codes included state education laws. These laws regulated things like the school year, teacher certification, and more. Many 19th century codes may be found in digital collections at state universities, state libraries, and law libraries, as well as in digital collections such as *Internet Archive*, *Google Books*, and *HathiTrust*. For example, *The Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri* (1835) is available at *Internet Archive*. The section on "Schools and School Lands" begins on page 561. (See https://archive.org/details/revisedstatuteso00miss/.) The section relating to education was often also published as *School Laws of the State of . . .*

Teacher Diaries and Letters

Many archives, university special collections, museums, and other historical institutions hold diaries and letters written by teachers. *NUCMC* (https://www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc/) and *ArchiveGrid* (https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/) provide a good starting place for locating these, but many smaller institutions or institutions with limiting funding may not participate. Be sure to check any finding aids at the institution. Some of them may not be online.

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Many states published a periodical for their teachers. It usually included information on happenings in their state, significant things happening in education elsewhere, teaching tips, materials they might wish to include in the classroom, book reviews, and even obituaries. Examples include *The Illinois Teacher* (1854-1871) and *The California Teacher* which began in July 1863.

DEFINING HOPE:
SEPARATING MEN OF THE SAME NAME

Rebecca Whitman Koford, CG®, CGL℠ • rwk.genealogy@gmail.com
Board for Certification of Genealogists® Skillbuilding Lecture

Ancestral Identifiers

Identifying the differences between men of the same name can be a challenge. We must remove the ambiguity of their currently known identity with research that resolves conflicts and contextualizes each person. Basic identifiers that help distinguish between men of the same name are included in the list below. With these we uniquely distinguish each and compare and contrast between them.

- ☐ Location
- ☐ Occupation
- ☐ Military service
- ☐ Social & economic status
- ☐ Handwriting & literacy
- ☐ Family & community
- ☐ Religion
- ☐ Timing of events

Proof & Analysis

Familiarize yourself with the Genealogical Proof Standard (described at the Board for Certification® website). Points 3 and 4 discuss thorough analysis & correlation and the resolution of conflicting evidence. Point 5 covers one of the most underused methods and one of the most useful: writing.

Research Strategies

Researching men of the same name takes more effort, for the simple reason that if you have two, three, or six men of the same name, you have that many more people to research. Be patient and pay attention to details. Organization is key – take time to log your searches and analyze findings.

- **Research logs** – stopping to write & cite is conducive to analysis.
- Compare dates & locations carefully – use **comparative tables**.
- Consistently update **timelines** for your ancestor – conflicts and connections become more visible.
- **Recheck** starting-point facts and listed sources for additional clues and interpretation. Confirm all uncited facts – find original records.
- **Read. Every. Word.**
- **Compare and contrast facts in writing** (narrative or report-style).
- **Embrace conflicts** – solving them often leads to valuable information.
- **Challenge** your own theories: work to prove and to disprove.

Tear it up! *Re-write your research log and put it back together in a new way – such as organizing by record type or by location.*

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Writing: A Most Powerful Tool

Write as you research. Start writing your research logs and in comparative tables and timelines. As research continues, write a narrative about the proof you have discovered and the evidence that backs it up. It does not need to be formal at first, pretend you are telling the story of your research to a friend and modify it later. Include source citations to identify where the evidence and information come from. The process of writing and citing as you explain your theories and findings will open your eyes. You may find connections, discover holes, and see how to resolve conflicts more clearly.

Comparative Tables

Use tables to compare addresses, occupations, vital events, locations, military service, signatures, and more. Keep your citations as part of your table – citations are a solid part of the evidence you are comparing. When examining your facts, try re-analyzing with other items taken out or put into the table – shake it up. A comparative table is a tool: not just for answering questions, it's for asking them as well.

Research the Location, Culture, and Time Period

Clues into how the ancestor fit into his or her community may be key to knowing what to look for next. Use these resources common to techniques for urban research.

- ☐ **City histories** are more common than you might think, however, they usually list residents who are in business or are political leaders. They are still an important research tool to understanding the development, events, and temperament of the community over time.
- ☐ **Neighborhood histories** are usually included in county histories or county mug books. Occasionally a special neighborhood history will be published, especially for a historic suburb that was since subsumed into a larger jurisdiction. Some neighborhoods centered on a particular culture or religion.
- ☐ **Personal histories and ephemera collections** are little-used because they so often are unindexed or unorganized. The places you may find collections like these with some kind of inventory are at historical societies, state archive special collections, local museums, and university libraries. Look for memoirs, letters, and donated family collections.
- ☐ **Newspapers should feature in *all* the research conducted for your ancestors**, whether researching their church, military experience, vital events, occupations, probate, land transactions, or anything. In the absence of television, phones, internet, or faster modes of travel, the newspaper was the dominant force in a community's communication.
- ☐ **Business records or occupational lists** are an often-overlooked genealogical source. Many of our ancestors spent at least half of their waking hours working or transacting business. We should check not only the records of where they worked, but also records of other businesses they may have worked with, such as local banks and shops.
- ☐ Many of our ancestors joined **social clubs and lineage societies**. These were a regular part of society through today, but much more popular before the 1940s. Search databases of national societies such as the Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons (or Daughters) of the War of 1812, or Mayflower Society.

Research Planning:

Planning your research is more than sitting down to make a list of what you will do next. It is research into the how, why, and where of records created in the ancestor's time and place. Delve into descriptions of record groups, finding aids, and published case studies.

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Signatures

Collect as many of your ancestors' signatures and those of people of the same name. This can be a valuable identifier, but be aware of issues with signatures: ❶ clerk's copies of signatures are not the original, ❷ common forms of handwriting (ex: Copperplate or Spencerian Script) can produce similar signatures, ❸ signatures may change over time (older hands shake more, etc.) and, ❹ look for special symbols or initials for illiterate ancestors who preferred not to sign their mark as X.

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Research Checklist of Genealogical Sources

Ancestor Name: _____ *Dates*: _____ – _____

Personal & Family Records

- ☐ Personal Interview
- ☐ Family Bible
- ☐ Oral history/tradition
- ☐ Journals/diaries
- ☐ Biography
- ☐ Letters & Scrapbooks
- ☐ Photos
- ☐ Family Group Sheets
- ☐ Personal histories
- ☐ Heirlooms
- ☐ Lineage books
- ☐ Personal papers

Vital Events

- ☐ Birth certificates
- ☐ Death certificates
- ☐ Marriage lisc. application
- ☐ Marriage license
- ☐ Marriage bond/banns
- ☐ Marriage certificate
- ☐ Marriage minister's return
- ☐ Marriage invitations
- ☐ Divorce papers
- ☐ Adoption

Federal & State Censuses

Year – Location

- ☐ _____ _____
- ☐ _____ _____
- ☐ _____ _____
- ☐ _____ _____
- ☐ _____ _____
- ☐ _____ _____
- ☐ _____ _____
- ☐ _____ _____

Newspapers

- ☐ Published indexes
- ☐ Birth notices
- ☐ Death notices
- ☐ Marriage notices
- ☐ Divorce
- ☐ Anniversaries
- ☐ Obituaries
- ☐ Accidents
- ☐ Advertisements
- ☐ Announcements
- ☐ Society pages
- ☐ Removals & travel

Lineage Societies

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

Church Records

- ☐ Birth
- ☐ Christening
- ☐ Baptism
- ☐ Catechism
- ☐ Confirmations
- ☐ Ordinations
- ☐ Marriage
- ☐ Banns
- ☐ Annulments
- ☐ Death
- ☐ Burial
- ☐ Removals
- ☐ Membership lists
- ☐ Donations
- ☐ Ministerial records
- ☐ Meeting minutes
- ☐ Reprimands
- ☐ Excommunications

Burial Records

- ☐ Monuments
- ☐ Plot deeds
- ☐ Sexton records
- ☐ Office files
- ☐ Memorials
- ☐ Plot neighbors
- ☐ Cemetery removals

Military Records

- ☐ Service Records
- ☐ Muster & Pay Rolls
- ☐ State Pensions
- ☐ Federal Pensions
- ☐ State Bounty Land
- ☐ Federal Bounty Land
- ☐ National Guard
- ☐ Selective Service
- ☐ Service medals
- ☐ Citations/commendations
- ☐ Draft Registrations
- ☐ Regimental histories
- ☐ Battlefield museums
- ☐ Battlefield cemeteries
- ☐ Prisoner of War
- ☐ Civilian Claims
- ☐ Photo collections (NARA II)

City Directories

Year – City

- ☐ _____ _____
- ☐ _____ _____
- ☐ _____ _____
- ☐ _____ _____
- ☐ _____ _____
- ☐ _____ _____
- ☐ _____ _____
- ☐ _____ _____

Probate Records

- ☐ Wills
- ☐ Administrations
- ☐ Inventories
- ☐ Bonds
- ☐ Settlements
- ☐ Renunciations
- ☐ Disbursements
- ☐ Depositions
- ☐ Docket books
- ☐ Guardianships
- ☐ Copies in other jurisdictions
- ☐ Death records/lists

Land & Property Deeds

- ☐ Deeds
- ☐ Mortgages
- ☐ Surveys
- ☐ Patents/Grants
- ☐ Leases
- ☐ Quit Claims
- ☐ Personal Property sales
- ☐ Slave sales
- ☐ Slave manumissions
- ☐ Right of Way
- ☐ Water Rights

Court Records

- ☐ Justice of the Peace
- ☐ Dockets/Minutes
- ☐ Equity/Chancery
- ☐ Criminal
- ☐ Jury Duty
- ☐ Suits of Trespass
- ☐ Libel
- ☐ Theft
- ☐ Orders/decrees
- ☐ Sheriff summons
- ☐ Police censuses
- ☐ Petitions
- ☐ Bastardy
- ☐ Voter Registration
- ☐ Hunting license
- ☐ Firearms license
- ☐ Motor vehicle license
- ☐ Bankruptcy/Insolvency

Tax Records

- ☐ Poll Tax
- ☐ Personal Property
- ☐ Real Estate
- ☐ School /Poor Rate
- ☐ Income Tax
- ☐ Business Tax
- ☐ Slave Tax
- ☐ Military Assessments
- ☐ Federal Assessments
- ☐ Local repair taxes

Immigrant Records

- ☐ Passenger Lists
- ☐ Passports
- ☐ Visas
- ☐ Crew lists
- ☐ Log Books
- ☐ Naturalizations
- ☐ Citizenship papers
- ☐ Customs records
- ☐ Immigrant Aid Societies
- ☐ Deportment
- ☐ Alien Registration

Employment/Business

- ☐ Indentures
- ☐ Apprenticeships
- ☐ Termination/ Disciplinary
- ☐ Business licenses
- ☐ Pensions/ Retirement
- ☐ Service Awards
- ☐ Personnel records
- ☐ Social Security Applications
- ☐ Social Security Indexes
- ☐ Retirement
- ☐ Unions
- ☐ Business Clubs
- ☐ Company Histories

School Records

- ☐ Diplomas
- ☐ Awards
- ☐ Transcripts & report cards
- ☐ Yearbooks
- ☐ Alumni organizations
- ☐ Scholarships

Federal Records

- ☐ US Serial Set
- ☐ Congressional Private Acts
- ☐ Statutes at Large
- ☐ American State Papers
- ☐ Territorial Papers
- ☐ Official Register
- ☐ OSS Applications
- ☐ Federal Court Cases
- ☐ Political Office
- ☐ Patents/Inventions

Publications & Collections

- ☐ PERSI
- ☐ State Gen. Soc. Journals
- ☐ Local Gen Soc. Newsletters
- ☐ Surname files
- ☐ Univ. Special Collections
- ☐ County Histories
- ☐ _____
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Austria, Poland, Russia, or Prussia? Making Sense of Central and East European Historical Geography

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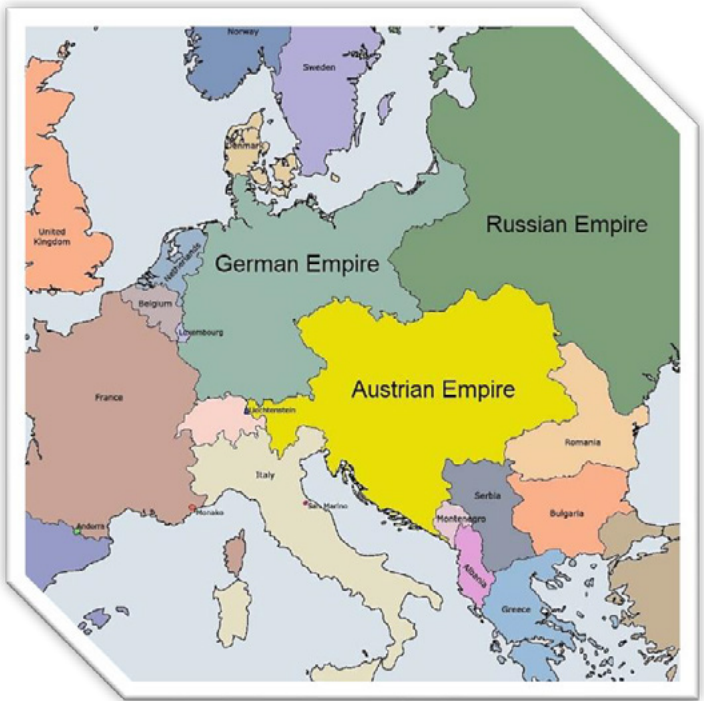
Overview: *Why might a census say a Polish ancestor was from Russia or a passenger list say that a Ukrainian was Austrian? What was Prussia? Learn about the historical geography of Central and Eastern Europe and tools and methods for navigating the shifting ancestral landscape through turbulent times.*

Border Changes

When discussing this region, we often hear the vague generalization, "the borders changed back and forth a lot." But what *specifically* were the changes? What more can we learn to help us to understand and trace our heritage?



Central and Eastern Europe 1914
Image modified from original © Niuseretset (CC BY-SA 3.0) (https://bit.ly/2OjSTTh).

Geographic Definitions

Eastern Europe—Definitions vary, but this region often refers to European countries that were behind the "Iron Curtain," including the former Soviet Union (Belarus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, and Ukraine), other former Warsaw Pact nations (Albania, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia) and the former Yugoslavia (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia).

Central Europe—Also inconsistently defined, much of this region is also considered part of Eastern Europe. Often includes Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Switzerland. A broader definition includes the Balkan countries of Albania, Bulgaria, Romania and the former Yugoslavia, while some even include the Baltics—Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

These are definitions are fuzzy and more useful for categorizing areas of interest for modern study than for tracing heritage, as our ancestors did not associate with these terms. Rather, they identified more by their ethnicity and the sovereign nations they were subject to.

Historical Background

As the vast majority of Central and Eastern European immigrants came to the United States in the 19th to the early 20th century, we will focus on this period. A bit of history will help us better understand the background for this period of migration.

From the 16th century, three powers began to emerge that would eventually dominate Central and Eastern Europe: **Austria (with Hungary)**, **Prussia (later Germany)**, and **Russia**. Meanwhile, the **Ottoman Empire (Turkey)**, which had been expanding into the Balkan Peninsula for two centuries before, came into conflict with these powers, especially Austria-Hungary. Napoleon's short-lived empire (1804-1815) weakened the Ottoman Empire, leading to its decline in Europe over the next century, losing territory to Austria and Russia and to new independent nations in the Balkans—Albania, Bulgaria, Montenegro, Romania, and Serbia.

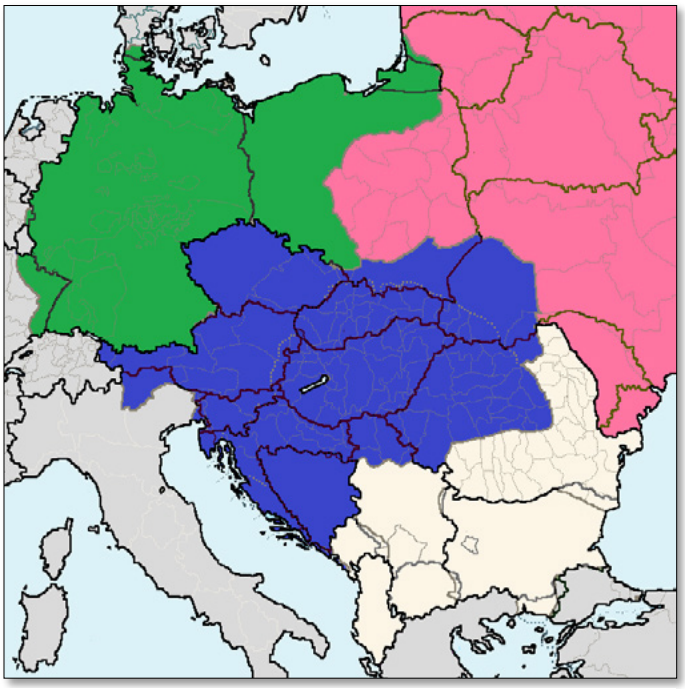
Another major power in this region, largely forgotten to history, was the **Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth**, which controlled a vast area between the Baltic and Black Seas from the 14th–18th centuries, rivaling Russia and keeping Prussian and Austrian expansion in check. Poland-Lithuania lost territory on the Black Sea to the Ottoman Empire in the 16th century. Two centuries later, Austria, Prussia, and Russia erased Poland-Lithuania from the map in the **Partitions of Poland**, 1772-1795. A remnant of Poland made a brief recovery in 1807 under Napoleonic rule but was lost to Russia in 1815.

Europe 1815-1914

From Napoleon's defeat in 1815 until World War I (1914-1918) Austria, Germany (Prussia), and Russia ruled nearly all of Central and Eastern Europe. Here is a primer on these three empires.

Austria-Hungary

In 1867, after the Austro-Prussian War, the Austrian Empire and the Kingdom of Hungary, jointly ruled by the Habsburgs since the 16th century, officially merged to form Austria-Hungary—also known as the Austro-Hungarian Empire. By World War I, Austria included the territory of present-day Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic (Bohemia and Moravia), Slovenia, and parts of Italy (Tyrol), Poland (Galicia), and Ukraine (Galicia). The Hungarian portion included Hungary, Slovakia, and parts of Romania (Transylvania), Serbia (Vojvodina) and Ukraine (Carpathian Ruthenia). Austria-Hungary also included Bosia-Herzogovina.



Austria-Hungary in 1914 (Overlaid on Modern Borders)
Image modified from original posted by Areat (https://bit.ly/37Mue1n).

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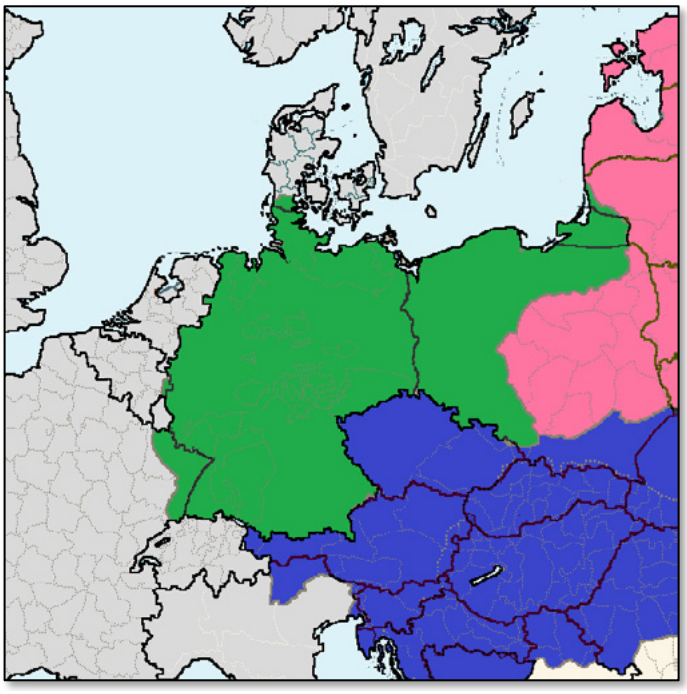
Germany (Prussia)

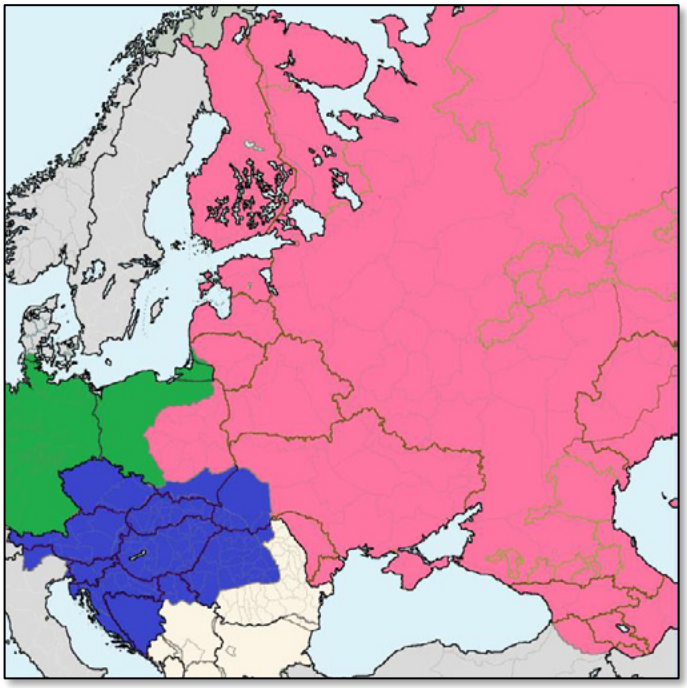
Before 1871, Germany consisted of separate kingdoms, duchies, etc. By the 19th century, Prussia had become the largest and most powerful of these. Prussia devised a plan to unify Germany by provoking wars with Denmark (1864), Austria (1866), and France (1870-1871) and building defensive alliances with other German states that culminated in the formation of the German Empire in 1871. By 1914, the empire included modern Germany and parts of France (Alsace-Lorraine), Belgium (East Cantons), and Denmark (Schleswig). Also, much of modern Poland and parts of Lithuania (Memel) and Russia (Kaliningrad) were part of Prussia in Germany.



German Empire in 1914 (Overlaid on Modern Borders)
Image modified from original posted by Areat (https://bit.ly/37Mue1n).

Russia

The Russian Empire was founded in 1721 by Peter the Great. Previously known as the Tsardom of Russia, it arose from the Duchy of Moscow, successor to the medieval Kievan Rus'. Having already expanded north and eastward across Eurasia, it began to extend its territory in Europe to the west and south, conquering lands formerly held by Sweden, Poland-Lithuania, and the Ottoman Empire. At its furthest extent, it included not only Russia, but also the modern European countries of Belarus, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, most of Ukraine, and eastern Poland (Congress Poland), in addition to Asian territories in the Caucuses and Central Asia.



Russian Empire in 1914 (Overlaid on Modern Borders)
Image modified from original posted by Areat (https://bit.ly/37Mue1n).

Russian Poles and Hungarian Slovaks

Understanding these specific boundary changes, it is easy to see how one could be Polish and listed as Russian, Ukrainian and recorded as Austrian, or Hungarian when actually Slovakian.

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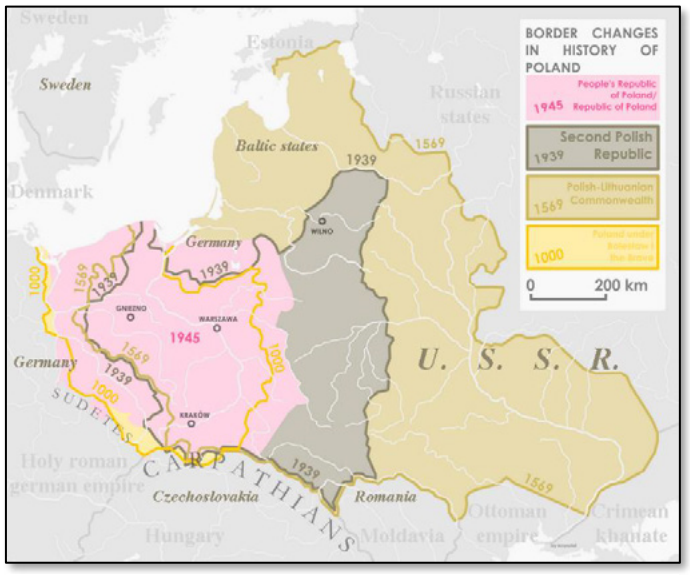
Poland Reborn

Following World War I, Poland regained independence from Russia and gained territory from Germany. During the Polish-Soviet War (1919-1921) it regained more of its former territory from the U.S.S.R.—in Belarus, Lithuania, and Ukraine. The borders of Poland from 1921-1939 are outlined in grey here. Following World War II, Poland lost these territories again to the U.S.S.R. while gaining former territories of the German Empire to the west. The modern Polish boundaries, since 1945, are shown in here in pink.



Border Changes in the History of Poland
Image © Krzysztoflew (CC BY-SA 3.0) (https://bit.ly/2S2EknQ).

Keeping it all Straight

An awareness of specific changes to the map of Central and Eastern Europe is very helpful in understanding the historical context of ancestral origins. Armed with this information, one can narrow down the place of origin of an ancestor. For example, if they were listed as being from Hungary, but spoke Ruthenian, their village of origin is likely in Slovakia or the Carpathian region of Ukraine. But how is one to remember all this? Atlases, geographical dictionaries, maps, and encyclopedias are a tremendous help, whether in print or online. Explanations and visual representations of the smallest historical principalities and the most obscure ethnic, linguistic, and religious groups are readily available for you to discover. You may also consult volumes of history and scholarly articles to learn more. Don't be afraid to use Google and Wikipedia but beware of the potential for inaccuracies, omissions, and bias and be sure to verify information by checking sources, just as you would with other genealogical facts.

Select Resources for Central and East European Historical Geography

Arcanum. *Mapire*. https://mapire.eu/

Encyclopedia Britannica, online ed. https://www.britannica.com/

Euroatlas-Nüssli. "History of Europe." *Euratlas.com* https://www.euratlas.net/history/europe/index.html

Foundation for East European Family History Studies. "Map Library." *FEEFHS.org* https://feefhs.org/map/library

Magocsi, Paul Robert. *Historical Atlas of Central Europe*, 3rd rev ed. (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2018).

When It Takes a Village:
Applying Cluster and Collateral Research Techniques

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Abstract: Sometimes tracking one's ancestors tests all one's research acumen Identifying subject ancestors, their origins, and parentage; tracking them through time and space; and constructing biographies to place them in their social context is best approached by broadening one's research to include family members, associates and neighbors. This presentation will outline a program for solving genealogical problems via cluster and collateral research techniques. Topics will include: appropriate application, commonly used resources and documents, and case studies successfully tracking individuals despite seemingly meager clues, overcoming name and residential changes and using DNA evidence.

What is Cluster Research?

It is the technique of broadening our research to include people beyond direct line ancestors. One researches and includes ancestors' siblings, aunts and uncles, cousins, spouses and other family members, friends, neighbors and acquaintances.

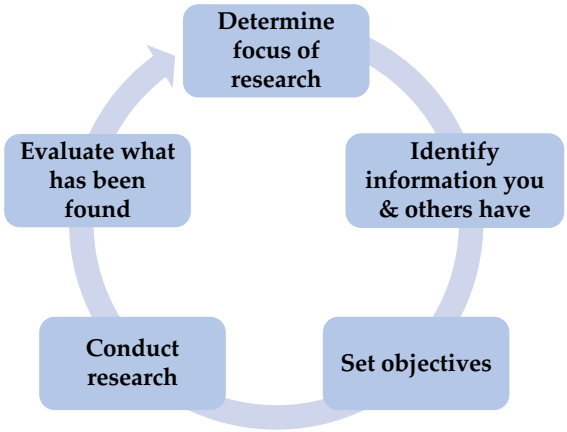
Why Cluster research?

- Identify the correct individuals in records;
- Provide records and information perhaps not left by one's ancestor;
- Additional support for accurate research conclusions;
- Understand the context of our ancestors' lives.

Additional Benefits of Cluster Research

- Neighbors may actually be relatives;
- Help with brick wall problems;
- Broadening one's perspective on our ancestors' lives;
- Understand geographical origins and migration patterns;
- May be the most effective and efficient method of following your ancestors.

Research Process



- Document what you know with a time line, map and/or family group sheet
- Document the FAN club (Family, Friends, Associates and Neighbors)
- Ask who, what when, where and how questions
- Correlate evidence
- Challenge assumptions

Things to consider along the way:

- ID others on records (witnesses, lodgers, those left behind, neighbors, etc.)
- Exhaustively research FAN club members
- Squeeze records until they hurt!
- Evaluate intensity of interactions:
    - Frequency – often/occasionally/once
    - Diversity – multiple kinds of contacts/interactions
- With DNA analyses, understand genetic relationships among known relatives before comparing them with unknown.

Tools to track research and do analyses:

- Research log – choose format that works for you and your research question(s)
    - Blog
    - Table
    - Report
- Family tree programs on your computer
    - Link facts to information in records (citations and images)
    - OK to put unattached people (islands) into your tree
- Spread sheets (or tables)
    - Time lines
    - Comparison of data among individuals
- Maps

References

Bettinger, Blaine T. *The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy*. Cincinnati: Family Tree Books, 2016.

Bettinger, Blaine T. *Shared cM Project*. September 2018. International Society of Genetic Genealogy. https://isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA_statistics#Chart

DeGrazia, Laura Murphy. "Problem Analyses & Research Plans." Elizabeth Shown Mills, editor. *Professional Genealogy: Preparation, Practice & Standards.* Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2018. Chap. 13, pp. 293-316.

"Ellis Island Gold Form (1892-1924)," *One-Step Webpages*. http://stevemorse.org/ellis2/ellisgold.html

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Foulk, Beth. "Problem Solving with FANs." 19 Feb 2016.

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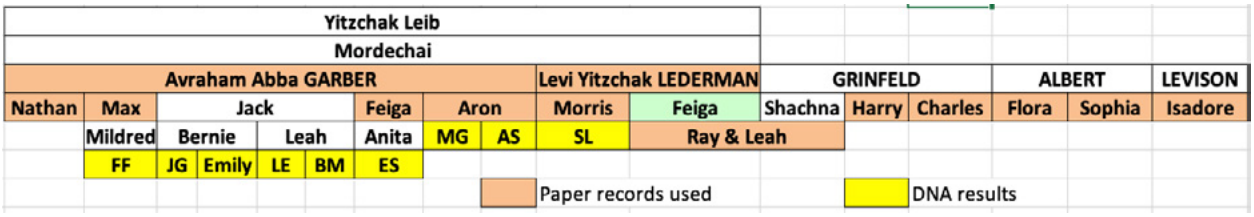
FANs who helped flesh out the Feiga Grinfeld's family tree



Avraham Aba	FF
Levi Yitzchak	JG
Nathan	Emily
Max	LE
Feiga Garber	BM
Aron	ES
Morris	MG
Ray	AS
Leah	SL
Harry	
Charles	
Flora	
Sophia	
Isadore	
Feiga Grinfeld	

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Drama in the Wills
1790 - 1866

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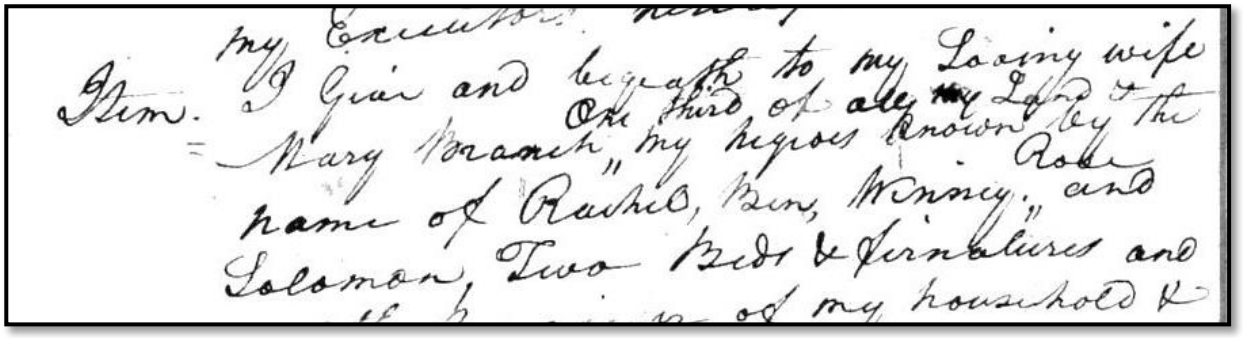

Item. I Give and beqath to my Loving wife
Mary Branch " One third of all my Land & my Negroes known by the
Name of Rachel, Ben, Winny. Rose and
Solomon, Two Beds & furnatures and…

If you want to know something about life among a group of people in a given area and time, start by reading their wills. The will is an expression of a person's final wishes for the disposition of earthly possessions, but its contents reveal far more than the distribution list of assets to recipients. Viewed in broad terms, the will is a reflection of prevailing law, community mores and values and socio-economic status. Further, if examined in a more family-specific context, careful analysis reveals that the will is a reflection of the dynamic relationships that exist between all who are named in the will, whether heir or chattel.

This presentation is based on an examination of the wills of a single family and its human chattel over a 76-year time period between 1790 and 1866. The wills, resulting probate and the full variety of documents in the probate packages reveal how so many lives, often in multiple generations, were changed by the impact of the deceased person's will and probate.

The earliest Branch family member in this examination is John Branch of Northampton, North Carolina who filed his will in 1790 dividing his assets among his wife and children. The drama begins when he dies in 1791 and two of the devisees, unmarried daughters, died before the distribution could be finalized. Who gets the daughters' considerable share of Branch's estate? This question is complicated by the fact that the daughters' portion of the estate consists of

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human chattel. Branch's family members waited to learn of the disposition of assets and their enslaved waited to learn of the disposition of their family.

In following the wills forward in time, the wills and probate were found to be fraught with human drama and upheaval. The wills revealed relationships between family members and between family members and their slaves; they uncovered conflicting emotions and demonstrated conflicted values. The contents of the estate inventories told much about how the deceased person lived. The wills also demonstrate how researchers can use wills and probate to track the movement of enslaved family members through generations.

Learning Outcomes

- Analyze wills to discover details of the values, customs and lives of the testator, his/her family and associated slave families.
- Identify the socio-economic and psychological impacts of wills and probate on family members and associated slave families.
- Use wills and related probate documents to reconstruct testators' families and enslaved families.

Resources

Familysearch Research Wiki. United States Probate Records https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States_Probate_Records. Accessed online 30 March 2018.

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Unsung Immigration Records of NARA: Contextualizing Recent Immigrant Ancestors

Rich Venezia
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www.richroots.net

INS Case and Correspondence Files, c. 1906 – 1957

- Subject and Policy Files of the Immigration & Naturalization Service (INS): Record Group 85, Entry 9 (National Archives I [NARA I] at Washington, D. C.)
- https://catalog.archives.gov/id/559947
- Covers all facets of the Immigration & Naturalization Services (INS)' operations – nearly half of all 700,000+ records in this series relate to individual immigrants
- Includes deportation cases, Board of Special Inquiry appeals, Applications for Removal to Native Country, files for those who wished to expedite permission to immigrate, other correspondence, and many other records
- Correspondence files were opened for all individual cases that necessitated a decision from the Central Office in Washington for cases before April 1944.
- Subject (NOT NAME) index: *Subject Index to Correspondence and Case Files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 1903 – 1952* [actually 1903 – c. 1957] is a NARA microfilm, T458; entries indexed by subject, though names can also be found within the index; available online at: http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1946
    - May also include references to Entry 26 (see below) records and other records held by USCIS Genealogy Program
    - Don't forget the sub-index under subject "Index"
- USCIS has a Master [Name] Index – not accessible to public; a USCIS Index Search Request may also be conducted to find the file number (www.uscis.gov/genealogy)
- Also partly indexed in Name Index, ca. 1893 - ca. 1932 (RG 85, Entry 4) (https://catalog.archives.gov/id/4709010) – mostly physical records at NARA I, partially digitized on NARA catalog
    - Two separate indexes – somewhat obsolete pre-1903
- Also partly indexed in Subject Index to Correspondence Files, ca. 1893 – 1932 (RG 85, Entry 5) (https://catalog.archives.gov/id/1561441) – physical records at NARA I
    - Both above indexes (Entries 4 and 5) also *partially* index the earlier record set "INS Letters Received, 1882 – 1906" (https://catalog.archives.gov/id/1564919)
- NOTE: Not every entry indexed in the above indexes is still extant.
- See www.uscis.gov/history-and-genealogy/genealogy/genealogy-notebook/quick-guide-finding-ins-case-and-correspondence-files-related-specific-individuals

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Bureau of Naturalization Correspondence Files, c. 1906 – 1944

- Administrative Files Relating to Naturalization: Record Group 85, Entry 26 [and some other entries: 26-A, 26-C, 27, 30, 31, 33, 34] (National Archives at Washington, D. C.)
- https://catalog.archives.gov/id/563066
- Includes CORRESPONDENCE to Bureau of Naturalization until 1944; after this point, individual immigrant correspondence was filed in an immigrant's A-File
- Correspondence may be from individuals with questions about their naturalization [natz] status or lost citizenship paperwork, or from officials re: fraudulent naturalizations
- Includes (for example) correspondence re: requests for certificate of arrival to prove age for pensions, requests for a copy of a naturalization certificate contained within a Homestead land entry file, queries about derivative citizenship status, etc.
- Does not include correspondence from all naturalized citizens, nor does all correspondence come from naturalized individuals (e.g., letters appear from concerned citizens, attorneys, or elected representatives on behalf of an immigrant)
- Organized by coded system – prefixes indicate the subject; some common subjects:
    - 8 – Certificates of Arrival
    - 15 – Loss of citizenship through residence abroad within 5 years of natz
    - 23 – Miscellaneous inquiries related to naturalization
    - 72 – Renunciation of American citizenship under Act of 22 September 1922
    - 77 – Sundry requests for certificate of arrival [c/a] on or after 1 July 1924
    - 3920 – Sundry correspondence with AGO relative to soldiers' certificates of naturalization
- Further organized underneath subseries (theoretically):
    - 77/1 or 77/Gen is the policy file that contains official correspondence related to said subject (i.e., look here to find the context); in this case, the policy file about requests for a certificate of arrival on or after 1 July 1924
    - 77/2 – 77/8114 are individual files related to requests for certificates of arrival on or after 1 July 1924
- Subject (NOT NAME) index, as above: NARA microfilm, T458; available online at: http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1946
- [Incomplete] Name Index to Bureau of Naturalization Correspondence Files, 1906-46; NARA microfilm A3388 – available at NARA I Microfilm Room and NARA Chicago; as of now, this index is not available online
    - Entries might also reference a file currently held with USCIS Genealogy Program (e.g., file numbers that begin with letters A, P, C, D)
    - Not all files indexed are extant
    - There is much crossover between A3388 and T458, but always check both
    - See https://www.uscis.gov/node/44635
    - Finding Aid to microfilm: twelvekey.files.wordpress.com/2015/12/a3388.pdf
- See https://www.archives.gov/files/research/naturalization/naturalization-files.pdf

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WWII Alien's Personal History and Statements (D. S. S. Form 304)

- Alien men of service age (18 – 45) who were U. S. residents may have filled out additional paperwork during WWII, such as an Alien's Personal History and Statement (Department/Director of Selective Service [DSS] Form 304) or an Application by Alien for Relief from Military Service (DSS Form 301). Note these would have been in addition to a World War II draft registration card.
- Men classified by local draft board as Class I-A, I-A-O, I-B, and I-B-O [generally, men fit and available for service] had to fill out DSS Form 304.
- These files generally relate to alien men born 17 February 1897 – 29 March 1929
    - American-born Japanese-Americans also completed these forms (and Form DSS 304a, Statement of U. S. Citizen of Japanese Ancestry)
- These forms asked a great deal of personal information, including birthdate and birthplace, residences within the past 5 years, physical description, citizenship status, entry into the United States, relatives abroad and in the U. S., education, previous military service, A-number, and occupation, among dozens of other questions
- There is still much unknown about these records, but some patterns have developed:
    - Men may have been exempted from DSS Form 304 if they had already filed a Declaration of Intention or were amidst the process of naturalization
    - Some states, such as New York and Pennsylvania, have many additional forms and correspondence related to the alien of interest within these files
- Below, numbers following state name is National Archives Identifier [NAID]
    - Input into "Description Identifier" field: catalog.archives.gov/advancedsearch
- Records for Arkansas (576612), Louisiana (576614), Oklahoma (576616), and Texas (576580) available on *Ancestry.com*: search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=2498
- Indexes for Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota (2629635), Missouri (2629638), Nebraska (2629639), and North Dakota at archives.gov/research/immigration/aliens
    - Files for Iowa (2629629) and North Dakota (2629641) online at NARA Catalog
    - Indexes to New Jersey (1067460), New York State (2564203), New York City (2564218), and the U. S. Virgin Islands (5753063) at https://italiangen.org/search-databases-2/?db=alien
- Records known to exist for following states at various branches: Alabama, Arizona (23812302), California, Colorado (1143076), Connecticut, Delaware (6171948), Hawaii, Idaho (633955), Illinois, Indiana, Kansas (2629633), Kentucky, Maine, Maryland (563320), Massachusetts (5558068), Montana (1491221), Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico (1145523), North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon (633954), Pennsylvania (568126), Rhode Island, Tennessee, Utah (1145525), Vermont, Virginia (568129), Washington (633956), Washington, D. C. (301657), West Virginia (568132), Wyoming (1145526); other states (Alaska, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, South Dakota, Wisconsin) may exist but may not yet be catalogued
- Most (though not all) extant files currently held at NARA St. Louis, even if the associated NARA Catalog entry says otherwise – check with the appropriate regional branch or with NARA St. Louis

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A-Files (Alien Files): 1 April 1944 forward

- A-Files are individual alien files created to streamline record-keeping within INS' files
- A-Files were opened or consolidated for:
    - All immigrants arriving after 1 April 1944
    - Immigrants naturalized after 1 April 1956
    - Reopened cases of immigrants in-country who had registered under the Alien Registration Act of 1940
    - Immigration and/or law enforcement matters
- Most A-Files still with USCIS; either with Genealogy Program (https://www.uscis.gov/genealogy) or via FOIA (https://www.uscis.gov/node/41609)
    - Living individuals must submit a request through the Privacy Act.
- A-Files usually include at least an Alien Registration Form and address report card; sometimes include applications, photographs, affidavits, vital records, a consolidated Registry file or Visa file, Application for Certificate of Identification, etc.
- The National Archives began receiving retired A-Files in 2009. A-Files of immigrants with a birthdate over 100 years ago *may* be with NARA. Currently, NARA has A-Files for *some* aliens born before 2015 (about 1.25 million as of time of writing).
    - Note that over 60 million A-Files have been created, so only a small fraction are held with the National Archives.
    - Some A-Files in San Bruno (NAI 6105565); most in Kansas City (NAI 4488912)
    - See https://www.archives.gov/research/immigration/aliens
    - Search NARA catalog http://www.archives.gov/research/catalog/ for name
        - If you have A-number, search "A5778420", not just "5778420" (i.e., use A*******) – otherwise, you may get a different result.
    - If an item of interest is found, a contact email is within the catalog entry.
- Important to Note:
    - Naturalized before 31 March 1956 = Likely no A-File! (Look for a C-File)
    - Never naturalized = A-File? (Only if immigrated after 4/1944 or case reopened)
    - Starting 1 April 1956, all INS records, including naturalizations, filed in A-File
    - See http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2013/spring/a-files.pdf

Further Reading

http://www.archives.gov/research/naturalization/naturalization.html
https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/USCIS/History%20and%20Genealogy/Our%20History/INSPolicyAndCorrespondenceRecords.pdf
https://www.uscis.gov/node/46046
https://www.uscis.gov/node/42249
https://www.uscis.gov/history-and-genealogy/genealogy/genealogy-notebook/researching-deportation-records

All URLs valid as of 27 January 2020.

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Using the Online Bureau of Land Management Tract Books

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Genealogy Tip of the Day

http://www.genealogytipoftheday.com

Digital copies microfilmed copies of the tract books of the Bureau of Land Management are online at *FamilySearch.* These books are for states where property was originally in the Federal domain and these books track those transactions transferring real property to private ownership through the various mechanisms employed by the Federal government (military bounty land, homesteads, timber claims, cash sales, etc.). Books for Alaska and Missouri are not extant and not a part of this collection, but twenty-eight Federal land states are included these materials.

Participated in Federal land process

- Sales between private people aren't federal records
- Family traditions may not be true
- Homestead confusion?
    - Federal definition of land obtained via Homestead Act
    - This our "family homestead" where we first settled—not a federal homestead
    - Homestead exemption for certain property tax purposes—not a federal homestead

What the federal tract books are

- Maintained by the General Land Office to facilitate administration of land claims.
- Geographic index of claims that have been filed—allowing for search of case files at National Archives—*that's the goal: the case file at NARA*.
- Minimize filing of duplicate claims.
- Track claims that were:
    - Completed
    - Abandoned
    - Contested

Why use the tract books?

- **Incomplete claims are listed**—they didn't generate a patent and hence are generally unindexed—incomplete claims can contain as much information as complete ones

- **Dates of claim filing are in the tract books**—those can help with possible names of associates and suggest group travel and settlement
- **Additional detail may be in the tract book**—particularly if the claimant died before claim was complete
- Can **see who filed claims for adjacent/nearby properties**—*even ones that were not completed*
- Using patent indexes **searches only patented claims**.

Get the legal! Manual search requires it

- Patent is logical place to look for patented claims
- For neighborhood searches, neighborhood location legal description needed for manual search
- Keep a record of areas searched—maps helpful for this.

Do you know the name of the land office?

- The tract books for some states are separated by state land office—generally eastern states.
- The digital copy of a patent on the BLM site will tell you the land office related to the location of interest—do a search for property in the area of interest to get it.

Need to determine correct tract index book for the property location

- Generally in Eastern States—books organized by land office.
- Western States—statewide series of volumes—land office not necessary.
- Need volume for specific location—from the legal description.
    - http://searchtip.genealogytipoftheday.com/?p=922 has links to the inventory of books and the FHL page with links to actual book images
- Nebraska has an online index to the tract books (including cancelled claims)—more details at http://searchtip.genealogytipoftheday.com/?p=856

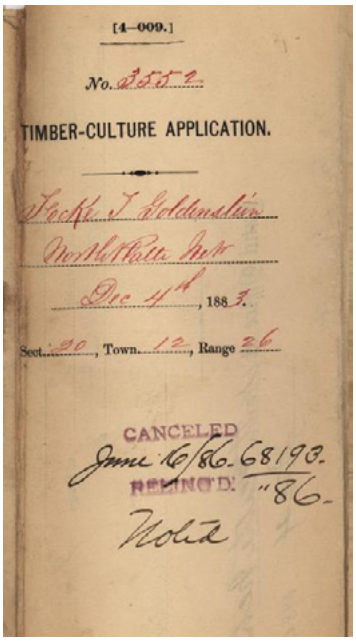
When in a certain book

- Congressional Township numbers are used. No townships are named.
- Arranged sequentially by township and range numbers and then sections within a township.

Examples

Thomas Rampley—federal land purchase

- Coshocton County, Ohio, at Zanesville Land Office—Military Tract
- W ½ nw ¼ Section 5


[4—009.]

No. 2552.

TIMBER-CULTURE APPLICATION.

Jacob T. Goldenstein

North Platte Neb

Dec 4th, 1883.

Sect. 20, Town. 12, Range 26

CANCELED

June 16/86 68193.

REJECTED "86-

Holt

Goldenstein/Ehmen Homesteads

- Dawson County, Nebraska, Township 11N-25 West, SE ¼ section 12
- Statewide tract book—land office not needed
- Search for general area located several homesteads by members of this extended family—some were incomplete and extremely detailed
- Contested claims may provide significant details.

Cancelled claims—generate no patent

John Ufkes-incomplete homestead

- Franklin County, Nebraska
- Nebraska—land office not needed
- In section 4 township 3—15W
  - Ufkes and two others had same claim and cancellation dates (Claim date more significant than cancellation date as some were done in batches.)
- Ufkes' incomplete claim included naturalization information

SATURDAY

William Newman—cash sale-Indiana

- Tipton County, Indiana
- Indianapolis Land Office
- NE ¼ of NW ¼ In section 29-township 22N 5E
- Cash sale—not usually informative and most information is in tract book—sometimes signatures can be helpful from case file.

Military Land Warrant to James Kile

- Section 35 in Mercer County, Illinois
- 13 N 5 W
- Dixon, Illinois, land office

Reminders:

Search the tract books for the location where any relative patented property—there may be relatives or others who settled nearby. Pay particular attention to entry dates. Claims made for relatively close locations on the same day may have been done by ancestral associates.

Have township maps so that it is clear what sections and townships border or are near to the property in question. Use these maps as a research log to track sections of the tract book that have been searched manually.

Contested claims can be particularly helpful. Claims where an estate is mentioned have the potential to contain more information. Claims where the original claimant died while the claim was in process may be particularly helpful.

References:

Kenneth Hawkins, comp. Research in the Land Entry Case Files of the General Land Office. NARA Reference Information Paper 114 < https://www.archives.gov/files/publications/ref-info-papers/rip114.pdf>

Tackling the "Born in Pennsylvania" Problem

James M. Beidler
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Pennsylvania's the "Keystone State" and many researchers need strategies to work around records that say "born in Pennsylvania" without additional information.

I. Brief history of Pennsylvania
II. Outmigration history and geography
III. Methodologies / sources for tracing back to PA
    a. 1840 U.S. Census
    b. "Ungarbling" garbled names
    c. Humphrey's PA Births collection
    d. PA Septennial Census
    e. PA counties' tax records

Resources

Repositories / Societies

State Library of Pennsylvania, Forum Building, 607 South Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17120-0600 (717) 783-5950; Website: https://www.statelibrary.pa.gov/pages/search.aspx

Pennsylvania State Archives, 350 North St., Harrisburg, PA 17120-0090; (717) 783-3281; Websites: ARIAS (military records), http://www.digitalarchives.state.pa.us/ ; regular, https://www.phmc.pa.gov/archives/pages/default.aspx

Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1300 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA 19107 (215) 732-6200; Website: www.hsp.org

National Archives, Mid-Atlantic Region, 14700 Townsend Road, Philadelphia, PA 19154-1096; (215) 305-2044; Website: www.archives.gov/philadelphia

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Department, 4400 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213 (has library of **Western PA Genealogical Society**). (412) 622-3154; Website: https://www.carnegielibrary.org/research-overview/genealogy/

Blair County Genealogical Society, 431 Scotch Valley Road, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648 Phone: (814) 696-3492; Website: http://bcgslibrary.org/

Blair County Genealogical Society, 431 Scotch Valley Road, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648 Phone: (814) 696-3492; Website: http://www.bcgslibrary.org/

Books

Bell, Raymond Martin. *Mother Cumberland: A Genealogical Guide to 10 Counties.* Alexandria, VA: Hearthside Press, 1989. (Fourth printing, with corrections, 2003)

Bell, Raymond Martin. *Searching in Western Pennsylvania.* Detroit: Detroit Society for Genealogical Research, 1968

Crawford-Oppenheimer, Christine. *Lost in Pennsylvania? Try the Published* Pennsylvania Archives. Philadelphia: GSP, 1998 (also includes helps for *Colonial Records* series).

Crist, Robert Grant, editor. *Penn's Example to the Nation: 300 Years of the Holy Experiment.* Harrisburg: Pennsylvania Council of Churches, 1987.

Dructor, Robert M. *Guide to Genealogical Sources at the Pennsylvania State Archives.* Harrisburg: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1988.

Freilich, Kay Haviland. *Research in Pennsylvania,* second edition. Arlington, VA: NGS, 2007.

Hodge, Ruth E. *Guide to African American Resources at the Pennsylvania State Archives*. Harrisburg: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 2000.

Humphrey, John T. *Pennsylvania Births* series, 16 volumes covering 15 counties. Washington, DC: Larjon & Company, various years.

Iscrupe, William L. and Shirley G.M., compilers. *Pennsylvania Line,* fourth edition. Laughlintown, PA: Southwest Pennsylvania Genealogical Services, 1990.

McCracken, George E. *The Welcome Claimants: Proved, Disproved and Doubtful With an Account of Some of Their Descendants.* (reprint, Bowie, MD: Heritage Books, 1985)

Munger, Donna Bingham. *Pennsylvania Land Records.* Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, 1991.

Strassburger, Ralph B. and William J. Hinke. *Pennsylvania German Pioneers: Original Lists of Arrivals in the Port of Philadelphia from 1727 to 1808.* (reprint, Camden, ME: Picton Press, 2001)

Websites

Pennsylvania GenWeb site www.PAGenWeb.org
Has Webpages for each county in PA

Fold3.com www.fold3.com
Free in its PA-specific collections is entire run of the published *Pennsylvania Archives*

Ancestry.com www.ancestry.com

PHMC partnership includes databases of:

- PA Death Certificates, 1906-1964
- Veterans Burial Cards, 1777-1999
- County birth registers, 1852-1854
- Land warrants / applications, 1733-1952
- Oyer & Terminer Court Papers, 1757-87
- Spanish War Compensation, 1898-1934
- Naturalizations, 1794-1908
- War of 1812 Pensions, 1866-1879
- Land Warrants, 1733-1987
- Civil War Border Claims, 1868-1879
- County marriage registers, 1852-1854
- County death registers, 1852-1854
- Records of Marriages, 1885-1889
- Tax and Exoneration, 1768-1801
- Septennial Census, 1779-1863
- WPA Church Archives, 1937-1940
- Veteran Compensation Applications, WWII, 1950

HSP partnership includes "Pennsylvania and New Jersey, Church and Town Records, 1708-1985"

FamilySearch.org www.familysearch.org

PA databases include:

- Births and Christenings, 1709-1950
- County Marriages, 1885-1950
- Eastern District Naturalization Indexes, 1795-1952
- Eastern District Petitions for Naturalization, 1795-1931
- Marriages, 1709-1940
- Obituary and Marriage Collection, 1977-2010
- Philadelphia Case Files of Chinese Immigrants, 1900-1923
- Philadelphia City Births, 1860-1906
- Philadelphia City Death Certificates, 1803-1915
- Philadelphia Marriage Indexes, 1885-1951
- Philadelphia Passenger List Index Cards, 1883-1948
- Philadelphia Passenger Lists Index, 1800-1906
- Philadelphia Passenger Lists, 1800-1882
- Philadelphia Passenger Lists, 1883-1945
- Philadelphia, Seamen's Proofs of Citizenship, 1791-1861
- Pittsburgh City Deaths, 1870-1905
- Probate Records, 1683-1994

PA vital records

1680s – William Penn decreed keeping of vital records, but only a few marriage licenses remain.

1852-55 – Counties tasked with keeping registers of births, marriages, and deaths. Estimated 10 percent compliance.

1860 – Philadelphia begins keeping birth, marriage and death registers.

1870s – Some larger PA cities begin keeping registers.

1885 – All PA counties begin keeping marriage licenses. Always considered public records.

1893-1905 – All PA counties keep birth and death registers. Estimated 90 percent compliance.

Beginning 1906 – Birth and death certificates kept on state level. Become public records after 105 years for births and 50 years for deaths.

SATURDAY

Pennsylvania Courthouse Research Summary

Register of Wills and Clerk of Orphans Court

1. Estate documents (filed either by estate or by type of record)
    a. Wills
    b. Administrations
    c. Orphans Court petitions
    d. Inventories
    e. Partitions
    f. Accounts
2. Orphans Court dockets
3. Marriage licenses (1885-present)
4. Births and deaths (1852-1855, 1893-1906)
5. Delayed birth certificates

Recorder of Deeds

1. Deeds, filed by when recorded
2. Assignments
3. Miscellaneous Deeds
4. Sheriff's Sales
5. Mortgages
6. Commissions

Prothonotary and Clerk of Courts

1. Criminal and civil complaints
2. Criminal – formerly Quarter Sessions
3. Civil – formerly Common Pleas
4. Divorces
5. Naturalizations
6. Professional registers (Medical, dental, midwife, optometrists, veterinarians)
7. Tavern licenses
8. Negro and Mulatto Slaves – returns and birth registers

Tax Assessment

1. Historic real and personal property tax lists – assessments, returns, appeals
2. Aerial mapping of real property

Commissioners

1. Bridges and road petitions
2. Meeting minutes
3. Election dockets and voter rolls
4. Burials of veterans and widows
5. Justice of the peace dockets
6. Almshouse accounts and minutes

Buried Treasure for the Colonial Southwest (Nueva España)

Debbie Gurtler, AG®

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The archives of the world are becoming more and more accessible from the comfort of home. This class will demonstrate how to use the PARES *Portal de Archivos Españoles* and other websites to locate the records of Hispanic ancestors who lived in Northern New Spain and Mexico.

NORTHERN NEW SPAIN

Where is it? The southern section of North America including much of the lower United States. This included, at varying times, the states of Florida, Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Arizona, Nevada and California. Mexico was also part of New Spain until its independence in 1821.

Some early Spanish settlements are now within the boundaries of the United States. Jamestown and Plymouth were inserted for reference.

1559 Pensacola (Florida)
1565 St. Augustine (Florida)
1588 Founding of El Paso del Norte (western Texas)
1598 San Juan de los Caballeros (New Mexico)
1607 Jamestown
1608 Santa Fe (New Mexico)
1620 Plymouth Colony
1690 Mission San Francisco de la Espada (present-day San Antonio)
1692 Mission San Xavier del Bac (near present-day Tucson)
1769 San Diego (California)

PARES: PORTAL DE ARCHIVOS ESPAÑOLES

PARES is a master inventory of many archives in Spain and some in Latin America. The inventory includes cataloged information and digitized records. PARES was created in order to give free access to anyone interested in historical documents of Spanish archives, including many documents that pertain to New Spain. The website is in Spanish. In order to translate it into English:

- Open the website in Google Chrome.
- Right click on an empty portion of the website.
- Select **Translate to English** from the list of options.

Censo-Guía de Archivos

The Censo-Guía is a guide to the archives, providing three different types of searches:

1. ***Directoria de Archivos*** (File Directory) gives the location, contact information, collection description, and policies of a specific archive.
2. ***Fondos Documentos*** (Documentary Funds) shows the types of records stored at different archives.
3. ***Autoridades*** (Authorities) shows information about the persons or institutions that created the documents within PARES.

To access the Censo-Guía from http://pares.mcu.es/ click on ***Censo-Guía de Archivos*** under *Enlaces de Interés* (Links of Interest) on the bottom-right side of the screen.

Simple Search

- http://pares.mcu.es/ParesBusquedas/servlets/Control_servlet?accion=0
- Search by key words and date ranges.
- Use quotation marks to search exactly what you type into the search bar.
- Search all the records, not just digitized records. Results for non-digitized records still include a record summary and information on how to obtain the records.

Advanced Search

- http://pares.mcu.es/ParesBusquedas/servlets/Control_servlet?accion=100
- Search options are the same as in Simple Search.
- Filter by archive collections, catalog number, or descriptive terms.
- Search all the records, not just digitized records. Results for non-digitized records still include a record summary and information on how to obtain the records.

ARCHIVO GENERAL DE INDIAS

The *Archivo General de Indias* holds all Spanish records created that regard overseas territories. The online collection contains many digitized records, including passenger lists to New Spain, migration licenses, and court records from New Spain. Many of the records have been indexed and can be searched.

- Use the Advanced Search in PARES and filter by ***Archivo General De Indias***.
- Search by full name, last name, and locality.
- Browse the collection by clicking ***Inventario Dinamico*** (Dynamic Inventory), select ***Archivo General de Indias*** (General Archive of the Indies), and clicking the plus arrow next to the collection name. The digitized passenger lists and licenses are under the ***Casa de la Contración***, and ***Pasajeros a Indias.***

DOCUMENTARY RELATIONS OF THE SOUTHWEST

https://uair.library.arizona.edu/item/79579n

The University of Arizona compiled a name-index of persons mentioned in thousands of documents created between the first contact between Spanish explorers with indigenous people in the 1500s until Mexico`s independence from Spain in 1821.

- **Biofile Name List** is a list of almost 20,000 persons who frequently appear in the historical records of northern New Spain.

- **Biofile Resident List** is a list of all the people mentioned within the records of the people in the Biofile Name List. Many are household members or relatives of the person from the Biofile Name List.

PANES: PORTAL DE ARCHIVOS DE NUEVA ESPAÑA http://panes.info/

Website with resources for Cuba, Spain, Guatemala, Mexico and the Hispanic United States. They are capturing images of documents not found on any other sites. Has links to archives and in some cases directly to their digital collections. Includes some early census records. This is a work in progress. Check back often to see what has been added.

ARCHIVO GENERAL DE LA NACIÓN MÉXICO

https://archivos.gob.mx/GuiaGeneral/GuiaGeneral.html

The *Archivo General de la Nación México* has thousands of documents pertaining to the time Mexico was part of New Spain. The *Guía general de los fondos* (General Document Guide) provides access to catalog information and digital images of many documents.

EARLY CALIFORNIA POPULATION PROJECT

http://www.huntington.org/Information/ECPPlogin.htm

Mission records from Baja and Alta (Upper) California 1769-1850. Create a free account to access the search engine.

MISSION 2000 https://www.nps.gov/tuma/learn/historyculture/mission-2000.htm

Searchable database of Spanish Mission Records for southern Arizona and northern Sonora, Mexico sponsored by the National Park Service. An ongoing project which includes names of all associated with a given record. Includes extracts of early marriage records from the Cathedral of Culiacan.

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY http://lib.nmsu.edu/depts/archives/rghc.shtml

Rio Grande Historical collections which include indexes for:

- *Archivos General de Notarias de Durango* (General Notarial Archive of Durango)
- *Archivos Históricos del Arzobispado de Durango* (Historical Archive of the Archdiocese of Durango)
- *Archivos Históricos del Estado de Durango* (State Historical Archive of Durango)

GUADALAJARA DISPENSAS http://www.guadalajaradispensas.com/

Searchable database of marriage dispensations from the archdiocese of Guadalajara. Marriage dispensations are rich sources of genealogical information. Searchable by name of place and the names of the bride and groom. For parishes included, see the map on the website. Years included are 1600-1899. The microfilm link connects to images from FamilySearch. Use the image number from the website to find the corresponding image in FamilySearch.

NUESTROS RANCHOS http://www.nuestrosranchos.com/

Collection of resources and information for the states of Jalisco, Zacatecas and Aguascalientes. This site is available in English or Spanish and includes 17th century notarial records indexes from the State Archive of Zacatecas.

FAMILYSEARCH CATALOG

Many of the resources available through the above listed resources are also available at the Family History Library and online at FamilySearch.org.

TIPS FOR EXPLORING WEBSITES

Explore and click on each link. Search on a page or file using Ctrl + F. Return to visit websites frequently. Look for more websites using Google (See instructions below). Share what you find in the FamilySearch Wiki and on social media

Google

Search for other sites using Google and some of the following search terms, for example: *Genealogía* + surname and/or place, *Archivo de* + place name, or *Archivo histórico de* + place name. Search in Spanish if possible.

OTHER IMPORTANT COLLECTIONS

Many of these universities and organizations have collections that focus on New Spain. While many of these records have not been digitized, the university staff may provide copies of the documents, or books may be requested through an interlibrary loan to a library near you.

- Louisiana Digital Library.
  - Search using the word Spanish and then filter results by date range desired. https://www.louisianadigitallibrary.org/
- New Mexico Genealogical Society
  - See e-Research for a list of online resources. https://www.nmgs.org/
- New Mexico State University, Border & Latin America Information
  - http://nmsu.libguides.com/border
- Tulane University, New Orleans, Latin American Library
  - http://lal.tulane.edu/
- University of Arizona. Special Collections.
  - See Arizona & Southwest and Borderlands. https://speccoll.library.arizona.edu/collections
- University of California, Berkeley, Latin Americana Collection
  - http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/collections/latinamericana.html
- University of Florida, George A. Smathers Libraries.
  - Latin American and Caribbean Collection. https://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/lac/Index.aspx
- University of Texas, Austin
  - Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection. http://www.lib.utexas.edu/benson/
  - Briscoe Center for American History. http://www.cah.utexas.edu/
- University of Texas, El Paso
  - Guide to Microfilm Collections. https://digitalcommons.utep.edu/guides/
- Yale University, Latin American Collection
  - http://www.library.yale.edu/latinamerica/internet.html

For further information and a short bibliography, see the FamilySearch Wiki Article “New Spain.” https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/New_Spain

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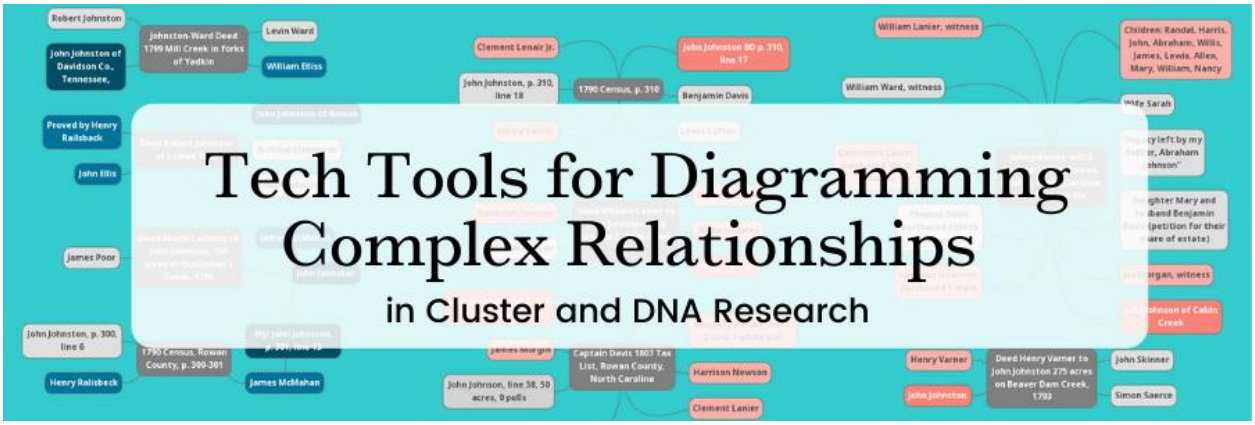

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Researchers can solve tough problems by visualizing relationships of extended families, neighborhoods, and DNA matches. Learn how to create custom charts to spot connections.

Diagramming Complex Relationships

Creating diagrams to show complex relationships can be useful in cluster research and visualizing DNA matches.

Cluster Research

Cluster research may be used to solve problems like separating same name individuals and identifying elusive individuals. This approach involves finding the records left by a person's associates, extended family, friends, and neighbors.[1] Cluster research is part of reasonably exhaustive research, as outlined in *Genealogy Standards,* Standard 17, Extent: "…Thorough research gathers sufficient data to test—and to support or reject—hypotheses concerning identities, relationships, events, and situations. Acquiring sufficient data may require broadening the research beyond the person, family, event, or situation in question."[2] As we include more data in our research, it can be helpful to visualize how associates and neighbors are connected to research subjects with a diagram or chart.

DNA Research

When using DNA evidence in our genealogical research, it is helpful to visualize the hypothesized relationship between a test taker and their matches. A diagram showing the common ancestral couple and their descendants is the most common type of chart in DNA research. Sometimes DNA

[1] "Cluster genealogy," *Wikipedia* (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cluster_genealogy : last edited 30 November 2019, at 20:37 (UTC).
[2] Board for Certification of Genealogists, *Genealogy Standards,* 2nd ed. (Nashville: Ancestry, 2019) 14.

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matches are related to the test taker in more than one way, as in double cousins. These relationships can be shown with a custom diagram to illustrate the additional connection.

Standard 52 of *Genealogy Standards* states: "Genealogists use analytical tools, statistical data, and reasoning to interpret DNA test results and reach conclusions about relationships or the absence thereof. They select valid tools to analyze test results and define genetic groups. … They also address all relevant factors that might affect determining a genetic relationship. Those factors can include eight variables: [1] accuracy, completeness, and depth of each pedigree included in the analysis, [2] the possibility of more than one common ancestor for each pair of DNA test takers, [3] reported and typical amounts of shared DNA…" and so forth.[3]

DNA match diagrams help genealogists compare the probable relationship between test takers with statistical data about typical amounts of shared DNA, as highlighted in variable #3 above. Descendancy charts help determine the cousin relationship which can then be compared with the Shared cM Project tool by Blaine Bettinger at *DNA Painter.*[4] For example, you chart your own descent from your 2nd great-grandparents, then chart a DNA match's descent from that same couple. The match is two generations lower on the chart. You can easily see that you and the match are third cousins twice removed. The Shared cM Project says third cousins twice removed typically share 0-116 cM of DNA. This is consistent with the 28 cM of DNA you share with the match.

Tech Tools for Diagramming

What programs do genealogists use for creating diagrams? From the costliest to least costly, here are four possible choices.

PowerPoint ($129 or $6.99 per month)

Microsoft PowerPoint is a well-known desktop app for creating slides and presentations. Using the SmartArt Hierarchy graphic allows you to build a family tree easily showing descendants of a common ancestral couple.[5] SmartArt does not allow much customization. However, it is simple, user-friendly, easy to learn, and fast. There is no dragging shapes. Microsoft Office costs $129 or $6.99 per month for a Microsoft Office 365 subscription. Learn more: https://www.office.com/

Lucidchart ($5.95 per month)

Lucidchart is a web-based program for creating professional looking diagrams. You can customize the chart any way you like – with different shapes, styles, and formats. Drag shapes, add connecting lines, type in the shapes, add notes, and more. The free version allows you to try the program but has a limit of 3 documents and 60 objects per document. The basic subscription is $5.95 per month. Lucidchart integrates with Google Drive, allows for collaboration, includes a large library of

[3] Board for Certification of Genealogists, *Genealogy Standards,* 2nd ed. (Nashville: Ancestry, 2019) 30.
[4] Blaine T. Bettinger, "The Shared cM Project 3.0 tool v4," August 2017, *DNA Painter* (https://dnapainter.com/tools/sharedcmv4 : accessed 28 January 2020).
[5] For a step-by-step tutorial, see Wendy Russell, "Create Family Trees Using PowerPoint Organization Chart," 3 January 2020, *Lifewire* (https://www.lifewire.com/use-organization-chart-to-make-family-tree-in-powerpoint-4178570 : accessed 28 January 2020).

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templates and shapes including a family tree template, and is free for students. In Lucidchart, you can add links to documents or DNA match profiles. Get started at https://www.lucidchart.com/.

Draw.io (Free)

Draw.io is a web-based open source diagramming tool for creating professional diagrams, similar to Lucidchart. Draw.io is free forever with no subscription model. You can use Draw.io online in a browser or offline with the desktop app for Windows, macOS and Linux. No registration is required. Draw.io integrates with Google Drive. Learn more at https://about.draw.io/

MindMup (Free)

MindMup is a free, open source mind mapping program that you may want to consider using. It is not as fully customizable as LucidChart or Draw.io, but it does offer features and templates that are especially useful for grouping clusters of neighbors and associates in cluster research. It's also a simple way to create descendancy charts, when using the "top down" map theme. Learn more at https://www.mindmup.com/.

Case Studies

Identifying John Johnson

Who was the father of John Johnson, who died about 1808 in Rowan County, North Carolina? With four men named John Johnson on the 1790 census in Rowan County and seven men on the 1800 census, extensive research was needed to differentiate the research subject from other men of the same name before research on John's origins could begin.

Land, tax, census, and probate records were located for the John Johnsons of Rowan County. By listing the associates of John Johnson in a mind map, connections appeared among neighbors and witnesses of deeds. Color coding the diagram helped two separate Johnson families emerge.

William Johnson's Origins

William Johnson died in 1719 in Isle of Wight, Virginia. With few records and many men of the same name, locating his family of origin was difficult. A comparison of signatures and marks of William Johnson in Isle of Wight gave conflicting evidence about whether they were made by the same person. Four land grants in Isle of Wight county claimed headrights for men named William Johnson from 1666-1701. Whether transported from England, as many Virginia company headrights were, or from Scotland, as the client believed, little information was available on William Johnson's origins.

Research among the friends, associates, and neighbors of William Johnson was essential. William's will revealed that he was a blacksmith, had a wife named Sarah, sons John, William, Thomas, and Benjamin, and a "beloved friend" named Hardy Council. Hardy Council witnessed the will along with Robert and James Council. Research into the Council family revealed a complex web of relationships. Mapping these relationships helped find several connections between William Johnson and the Council family. The Council family was also connected to John Hardy, whose second wife, Alice, was the grandmother of a man named John Johnson. The Hardy and Council families came to Isle of Wight from Jamestown. Research into the Hardy and Council families led to

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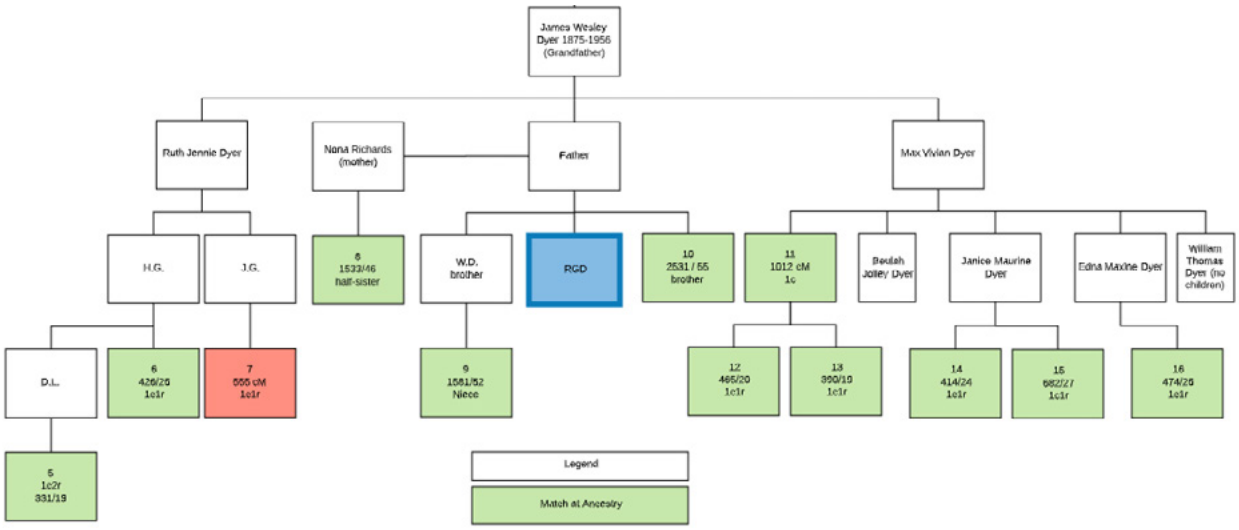
a new hypothesis that William Johnson was the son of John Johnson of James City County, who was the son of John Johnson, Ancient Planter, of Jamestown Island.

Descendants of William Keaton and Katy Gresham

Who were the parents of Lucinda Keaton, who was born in 1805 in South Carolina and married George Welch? A Lucidchart diagram helped display matches that confirmed the genetic relationship between Lucinda Keaton and her 3rd great-granddaughter, Diana, the autosomal DNA test taker. Additional matches in the same genetic network as the first match were found descending from Lucinda's hypothesized parents, William Keaton and Katy Gresham.

Descendants of John Robert Dyer and Barsheba Tharp

Who were the parents of John Robert Dyer, who married Barsheba Tharp and died in 1879 in Hawkins County, Tennessee? John's 2nd great-grandson, Robert, took an autosomal and Y-DNA test to help solve this research question. A Lucidchart diagram was created to show cousin matches in DNA testing databases and how they descended from common ancestors.



Part of the Dyer Descendants Lucidchart diagram

Further Reading

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Stitching Together Family History: Finding Women in the Textile Arts

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Wikipedia notes "Textile arts are arts and crafts that use plant, animal, or synthetic fibers to construct practical or decorative objects."["Textile arts." *Wikipedia*. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Textile_arts]. Our women ancestors were, for the most part, practical, so the textile arts were perfect for them, although at the time most of them did not think of themselves as creating art - they were creating useful items for their family and home. The textile arts include creating the thread, yarn, cloth, etc. to the making of the item through weaving, crochet, sewing, etc. to the embellishment via embroidery, beading, dyeing, etc.

Basic Research First

A. Who are you looking for?
B. Where did they live and work?
   Create a timeline.
   Create a research plan.

Finding Historical Context

A. Read, Read, and Read some more.
B. Put your ancestress in her cultural, historical, and geographical context.

Interviews, Biographies, Pioneer Sketches, Family & County Histories, Diaries

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2. "Family History Books." *FamilySearch.* https://www.familysearch.org/library/books [This collection of digitized genealogy and family history publications includes family histories, county and local histories, etc.]
3. "Finding Aids: Collection Number: 04007 – Southern Oral History Program Collection, 1973-2015." *University of North Carolina*. https://finding-aids.lib.unc.edu/04007/
4. Google Books. *Google.com*. https://books.google.com
5. *Internet Archive*. https://archive.org/ [Non-profit; digital library offering free access to books, archived web pages, and more.]
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8. *Project Gutenberg*. http://www.gutenberg.org [Over 60,000 free ebooks.]
9. Van Remoortel, Marianne. "Threads of Life: Matilda Marian Pullan (1819-1862), Needlework Instruction, and the Periodical Press." *Victorian Periodicals Review*, Vol. 45, No. 3 (2012): 253–276. *JSTOR.* https://www.jstor.org/stable/41638147

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Newspapers, Periodicals, and Trade Publications - Articles concerning the companies, unions, and guilds might include photographs, involvement in mill activities and/or strikes, insight into the life of your female ancestor, etc. Look also for news on church, society organizations & community projects; legal notice and estate settlements; local and state agricultural fairs' prize lists; etc.

10. Barber, Phil. *A Brief History of Newspapers.* http://www.historicpages.com/nprhist.htm
11. Beine, Joe. *Historical Newspapers and Indexes on the Internet - USA: A Genealogy Research Guide.* http://www.researchguides.net/newspapers.htm
12. "Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers." *Library of Congress*. https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov
13. "Search the World's Historical Newspaper Archives." *Elephind.com*. https://elephind.com
14. "United States Newspaper Program." *National Endowment for the Humanities.* https://www.neh.gov/us-newspaper-program [This was a national effort to locate and then preserve U. S. newspapers on microfilm.]

Photographs - Look for photographs of the mills and companies, your ancestress performing her "craft", your ancestress proudly showing her creations, etc.

15. "Digital Collections." *Library of Congress.* https://www.loc.gov/collections/ [Provides more than 100 collections and more than 9 million individual items.]
16. *Dead Fred Genealogy Photo Archive*. https://deadfred.com [A website for storing and sharing photos, family stories, and recipes.]
17. *Family Chronicle's Dating Old Photographs 1840-1929*. Ontario, Canada: Moorshead Magazines Ltd, 2000.
18. *Google Image Search*. https://www.google.com [Click on "Images". Great place for looking for photographs.]
19. "Prints & Photographs Online Catalog." *Library of Congress.* http://www.loc.gov/pictures/ [Consists "of more than 14 million items".]
20. "Research Our Records." *National Archives and Records Administration* (US NARA). https://www.archives.gov/research [Includes photographs.]
21. Taylor, Maureen A. *Family Photo Detective*. Cincinnati, Ohio: Family Tree Books, 2013.

Companies, Unions, and Guilds - Look for the company, union, and guild, if they are still extant. Look for their records at all levels – local, county, regional, and state repositories. Use the resources of Historical and Genealogical Societies and public and private, museums, archives, and libraries. Look for account ledgers (wages and customers), employee lists, patterns used, correspondence, outworkers, etc.

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23. English, Beth. "'I Have... a Lot of Work to Do': Cotton Mill Work and Women's Culture in Matoaca, Virginia, 1888-95." *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 114, No. 3 (2006): 356–383. *JSTOR.* https://www.jstor.org/stable/4250329
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25. Leavitt, Thomas W. "The Merrimack Valley Textile Museum." *History News*, Vol. 22, No. 10 (1967): 208–210. *JSTOR.* https://www.jstor.org/stable/42646860
26. Loxton, George R. *Davisville, Rhode Island: A History of the Textile Mill Village of Davisville, North Kingstown, Rhode Island, Since the Arrival of Joshua Davis in 1694.* Baltimore, MD: Gateway Press, Inc., 2001.
27. Ragan, Robert Allison. *The Textile Heritage of Gaston County, North Carolina 1848—2000: One Hundred Mills and the Men Who Built Them.* Charlotte, NC: Loftin & Company Printers, Inc., 2001.

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28. Robinson, Harriet H. *Early Factory Labor in New England. [From the Fourteenth Annual Report of the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labor, for 1883]*. Reprint. Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., 1889. *Hathi Trust Digital Library*. https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/100371180

Scrapbooks, prize ribbons, memorabilia - Did your ancestress quilt, embroidery, knit, crochet, weave (cloth, baskets, etc.), make lace, etc.? Look for memorabilia – and the items themselves. They may have been entered in – and won – at local, county, and state fairs.

Training Schools - Many schools were started by women providing classes in the "arts" – including the textiles. But don't neglect researching the schools started and run by men.

29. Dooley, W. H. "New York City Textile High School." *The School Review*, Vol. 30, No. 4 (1922): 281–287. *JSTOR.* https://www.jstor.org/stable/1078099
30. *Pickout: The Year Book of the Lowell Textile School*. Lowell, MA: Lowell Textile School. InternetArchives.org. https://archive.org/ [1906–2017 with years missing.]
31. "Primary Source Reading: Lowell Mill Girls." *OER Services*. https://courses.lumenlearning.com/suny-ushistory1ay/chapter/primary-source-reading-lowell-mill-girls/
32. "The Mill Girls of Lowell." *National Park Service*. https://www.nps.gov/lowe/learn/historyculture/the-mill-girls-of-lowell.htm
33. Walls, Nina De Angeli. "Art and Industry in Philadelphia: Origins of the Philadelphia School of Design for Women, 1848 to 1876." *The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 117, No. 3 (1993): 177–199. *JSTOR.* https://www.jstor.org/stable/20092797

Estate and Tax Records - Look for tax records, wills, property inventories, and estate sales for your ancestor; they might provide clues to their involvement in a cottage industry or a mill business. Look also for the records of the deceased owner of the mill your ancestors worked in; they may be listed in a receipt, account ledger, etc.

34. Carter, Fran. *Searching American Probate Records*. Bountiful, UT: American Genealogical Lending Library, 1993.
35. Ingle, Cyndi. "Wills & Probate." *Cyndi's List*. https://www.cyndislist.com/wills
36. Powell, Kimberly. "How to Use Wills and Estate Records to Learn About Your Ancestors." *ThoughtCo.* https://www.thoughtco.com/probing-into-probate-records-1420839
37. Rose, Christine, editor. *Courthouse Research for Family Historians: Your Guide to Genealogical Treasures.* San Jose, CA: CR Publications, 2004.
38. Smith, Kenneth L. *Estate Inventories: How to Use Them*. Columbus, OH: Privately printed, 1984.

National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMC) - In manuscript collections you may find, and have access to, company records, biographies, autobiographies, letters, photographs, papers, etc.

39. *National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections*. http://www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc/ [An index to manuscript collections. Free cataloging program operated by the Library of Congress. Includes the author, title, description, notes, subjects, repository, etc.]
40. Moss, Tyler, editor. "Archival portals to Locate manuscripts." *Family Tree Magazine.* December 2012, pp. 62-63.
41. OCLC Research. *ArchiveGrid*. https://www.oclc.org/research/home.html

Census – Population, Agriculture, and Manufacturing - We usually first look in the Federal Census population schedules, but don't neglect looking in other schedules taken at the same time:

Agriculture Schedules (1850-1880)
Industry/Manufacturing Schedules (1850-1880)

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42. "Agriculture Schedules 1850 to 1900." *U.S. Census Bureau*. https://www2.census.gov/prod2/decennial/documents/33398096v5ch9.pdf
43. Beine, Joe. *U.S. Census Records: Tips, Resources & Online Records* https://www.germanroots.com/index.html
44. Dollarhide, William. *Census Substitutes & State Census Records*. 3 volumes. Second Edition. Bountiful, UT: Family Roots Publishing Co., 2016 [Vol. 1: Eastern States, Vol. 2: Central States, Vol 3: Western States and National.]
45. Hinckley, Kathleen W. *Your Guide to the Federal Census for Genealogists, Researchers, and Family Historians.* Cincinnati, Ohio: Betterway Books, 2002.
46. Szucs, Loretto Dennis and Matthew Wright. "Census Records." Loretto Dennis Szucs and Sandra Hargreaves Luebking, editors. *The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy*. Third edition. Provo, Utah: Ancestry Inc., 2006. Chap. 5, pp. 157-218.

City Directories - Normally lists residents in alphabetical order by surname with addresses and occupations. The wife's name may be given in parentheses; occasionally all household members will be named. You may also find a "yellow pages" of advertisers.

47. "U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995." *Ancestry.com*. https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2469/
48. "Using Directories for Genealogy." *Genealogy.com*. https://www.genealogy.com/articles/research/00000284.html

Work Projects Administration (WPA) - Originally named the Works Progress Administration, it started on 6 May 1935 with its' primary purpose being to employ people during the depression. One of the projects was sewing – not only teaching women to sew, but also putting them to work.

49. Heisey, John W. *Works Projects Administration: Sources for Genealogists*. Indianapolis: Heritage House, 1988.
50. "American Life Histories: Manuscripts from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936 to 1940." *Library of Congress*. https://www.loc.gov/collections/federal-writers-project/articles-and-essays/industrial-lore/

More Resources

51. Carmack, Sharon DeBartolo. *A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Female Ancestors: Special strategies for uncovering hard-to-find information about your female lineage*. Cincinnati, OH: Betterway Books, 1998.
52. Gillis, Carole and Marie-Louise Nosch. *Ancient Textiles: Production, Crafts and Society.* Oxford: Oxbow Books, 2007.
53. Gordon, Beverly. *Shaker Textile Arts.* Hanover, NH: UPNE, 1980.
54. Harris, Jennifer. *Textiles, 5,000 Years: An International History and Illustrated Survey.* New York: H.N. Abrams, 1993.
55. Howard, Constance, editor. *Textile Crafts.* New York: Scribner, 1978.
56. Kierner, Cynthia A. *Virginia Women: Their Lives and Times, Volume 2.* Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2016.
57. *Linkpendium*. http://www.linkpendium.com [Similar to CyndisList, except that it is broken down to USA Localities and surnames. Within those links, however, are thousands more.]
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59. Rossbach, Ed. *Baskets as Textile Art.* New York: Van Nostrand Rheinhold Co., 1973.
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Her Sixth Matrimonial Venture: Tracing Women's Multiple Marriages

Board for Certification of Genealogists(R) Skillbuilding Lecture

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Marriages and divorces can cause a woman to seemingly disappear from records, but researching her family members, residences, and records between censuses can reveal her name changes.

Compare information from all records you find

- Extract all information from the records you use. Small or subtle clues can be important.
- Correlate data to show patterns, identify discrepancies, and find changes in residence. Tables or spreadsheets can help you compare similar evidence across records.

	1900 census	1907 marriage	1910 census
Name	Ida N. Campbell	Ida May Campbell	Ida Hooker
Birthplace	Missouri	St. Louis, Mo.	Iowa
Born	July 1865	Abt. 1869	Abt. 1867
Spouse	Joseph Campbell	Archibald H. Hooker	Archibald H. Hooker
Married	Abt. 1896	15 August 1907	Abt. 1907 (Ida's 3rd marr.)
Father BP	Ohio	Cleveland, Oh.	[blank]
Mother BP	Ohio	Michigan	England

Location matters!

Understanding a woman's places of residence and migrations can help you find records.

- Where did the couple likely live when they married or divorced? Did both live in the same place? Do those place(s) still exist? Have the place names changed, or are they now in a different county? Charting event places on a map may identify possible migration routes, interim residences, or nearby places where events may be registered.
- Have you found a marriage or divorce record? If not, consider these questions.
    - Were records being kept in the couple's place(s) of residence or marriage? If so, what events were recorded, and who recorded them (town, county, state, churches, courts, etc.)? Do relevant event records still exist? Where are they held? Are they online, or held at a local town or county office, archive, or society?
    - If marriages were not recorded or if records no longer exist, are there other records that might show the woman's name change, such as family bibles, newspaper mentions, children's vital records, directories, or probate records?
    - Could the woman have married or divorced somewhere other than where she lived? Consider her previous places of residence, spouse and family residences, nearby large cities, and well-known marriage locations (e.g. Las Vegas).

SATURDAY

Research Family, Associates, and Neighbors (FAN Principle)

Note *every* name mentioned in records for your ancestor. Research a woman's spouses, the couple's family members, marriage witnesses, and ministers or other officiants. All can provide vital clues to your ancestor's identity. For an overview of the FAN principle, see:

- Elizabeth Shown Mills, *QuickSheet: The Historical Biographer's Guide to Cluster Research (The FAN Principle)* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2012).
- Elizabeth Shown Mills, "QuickLesson 11: Identity Problems & the FAN Principle," *Evidence Explained: Historical Analysis, Citation & Source Usage* (https://www.evidenceexplained.com/content/quicklesson-11-identity-problems-fan-principle: 11 January 2020).

Be creative when searching for names

- **Initials**: Nineteenth-century newspapers often used initials in place of full names (e.g., J. R. Kilpatrick, W. G. Stewart). Searching for initials with and without intervening spaces may produce different search results.
- **Truncated and abbreviated names**: Search for shortened versions of names, such as Arch, Archie (Archibald); Chas (Charles); Jos., Joe (Joseph); Geo. (George), Jno (John).
- **Nicknames**: Consider nicknames such as Jim (James), Dick (Richard), Ted (Theodore), Patty (Martha), or Molly (Mary). If your research uncovers nicknames that are unrelated to a given name (such as W.G. "Mickey" Stewart), research those as well.
- **Titles**: Try titles in place of given names (e.g. Dr. Hooker, Judge Campbell).
- **Middle names**: William G. Stewart's 1860 U. S. census entry identifies him as "George W. Stewart." When known, middle name searches may help you locate relevant records.
- **Anglicized names**: If your ancestor was born in another country, think about how their name might have been spelled at birth, or what their surname means in English. For example, John Henry Carpenter may have been born Johann Heinrich Zimmerman.
- **Spelling variations**: Consider using tools like wildcards or phonetic searches to find alternate spellings. For example, Stewart may appear as Stuart or Steward; Beeks could be Beekes or Beaks. Keep track of the name variants you've found and search for all of them, even if it requires separate searches in the same web site or source. Note when a name variation was used and where it was found, which could suggest other records.

Name	Init.	Truncations	Nicknames	Spelling	Titles
Archibald H. Hooker	A. H.	Arch, Archie		Hocker	Dr. Hooker
William G. Stewart	W.G.	Will	"Mickey"	Stuart, Steward	
James R. Kilpatrick	J. R.	Jas	Jim, Jimmy	Milpatrick	

SATURDAY

Use multiple online search strategies

Learn about and use advanced web site search features.

- **Keyword search**: Enter first and last names into specified name search fields. This works best for records which are indexed by name, such as vital or military records.
- **Phrase searches**: Searching for names as phrases can produce excellent results in digitized full-text sources such as books and newspapers. On most web sites, enclose names or multiple words in quotation marks (e.g. "W G Stewart"). Phrase searches match the exact text you enter, so try multiple searches using different versions of a name, such as "William G Stewart," "W G Stewart", "Wm Stewart", and "Wm G. Stewart."
- **Proximity searches:** Some sites allow you to search for terms that appear within a few words of each other. This can help you find nineteenth-century death notices for women whose names may appear in relation to their husbands. A search for "Susanna Andrews" won't find a death notice for "Susanna, the wife of the late James Andrews," but a search for the terms "Susanna" and "Andrews" within 10 words would probably locate it.

Digital record search tips

- **Search for the same records on multiple web sites**
  Indexing matters! Index quality can be impacted by the clarity of the original scanned image or the methods used to create the index. Sites that allow users to add alternate text may have higher quality indexes than those that rely only on character recognition.
- **Browse online records by location**
  Looking at records by location can help you find relevant sources that don't include the place name in the title. Tools that show sources by location include the FamilySearch Catalog and the "Explore by Location" section of the Ancestry Search page.
- **Understand the source**
  It's important to know what information is included in and is missing from the collection you're searching. Don't rely only on a database title — browse the database options and read the introductory material to see what a collection or source contains. Although a title may suggest that the database covers a range of years and locations, some important records may be missing.
- **Search AND browse images**
  Computer indexing can result in garbled, incomplete, or unindexed text. After you've searched a database, browse the online index or images. This is a useful way to find a newspaper issue where you expect a known or likely event to be mentioned. Newspapers often place vital event or divorce notices on specific pages. Once you learn a paper's format, you can quickly browse to the page in each issue where notices appear.
- **Re-Search!**
  Many online record collections, particularly newspapers, are updated frequently. If you don't find your ancestor's name where you expect it, search the same collection again later. You may find a mention in a newly added issue or updated index.

Newspapers

Newspapers are excellent sources for tracing changing names and identities. Check newspapers in the cities, counties, and states where your ancestors and their family members lived, including past places of residence. If they lived or worked near a major city or close to a county or state line, check newspapers for the expanded area, since nearby newspapers sometimes contain overlapping coverage. Use newspaper mentions as finding aids to locate related original records.

Selected Digital U. S. Newspaper Resources

To find digital newspapers for U.S. locations, try these tools.

Free sites

- **Chronicling America** (https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/): This Library of Congress web site provides digitized images from a growing collection of U.S. newspapers published between 1789 and 1963. For a list of known newspapers by location, check the "US Newspaper Directory, 1690-Present": (https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/search/titles).
- **Cyndi's List** (https://www.cyndislist.com/newspapers)
- **Elephind.com** (https://elephind.com)
- **Google Newspaper Archive** (https://news.google.com/newspapers): Check the list of titles for relevance, or visit The Ancestor Hunt to see Google News Archive titles organized by state.
- **The Ancestor Hunt** (https://www.theancestorhunt.com/): Digitized newspapers are organized by publication place within a state, making it easy to locate local papers.
- Various local, county, and state organizations maintain newspaper collections and/or indexes. Check the web sites of libraries, archives, and genealogical and historical societies in the area where your ancestors lived for digital or print newspaper resources. If appropriate, also seek out religious, university, or foreign language newspapers.

Fee sites

- **GenealogyBank** (https://www.genealogybank.com/).
- **NewspaperArchive** (https://newspaperarchive.com/): Available by subscription and at Family History Centers.
- **Newspapers.com** (https://www.newspapers.com/): Articles can be linked to Ancestry trees.
- **Nineteenth-Century U. S. Newspapers**: Available through institutional subscriptions at many university libraries, and to New England Historic Genealogical Society members through American Ancestors (https://www.americanancestors.org).
- **ProQuest Historical Newspapers**: Institutional access at many university libraries.
- Large genealogy web sites such as American Ancestors, Ancestry, Find My Past, Fold3, and MyHeritage provide indexed newspaper collections.

For details on this research, see Sharon L. Hoyt, "Her Sixth Matrimonial Venture": The Many Marriages of Ida May Chamberlain," *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 106 (September 2018): 217-238.

DOCUMENTING, ORGANIZING AND ANALYZING PLANTATION SLAVES

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Keeping track of hundreds of slaves with oftentimes only first names or nicknames can be an overwhelming task. Organizing enslaved persons into spreadsheets and genealogical software can help to add layers to your research, view and analyze data in a multitude of ways.

I. Organizing slave data in spreadsheets will help to:

- Transcribe data and names
- Electronically search
- Recognize valuable patterns and name changes, and identify different (post-war) surnames
- Identify family groups
- Compare and contrast data in one document or workbook
- Construct time lines

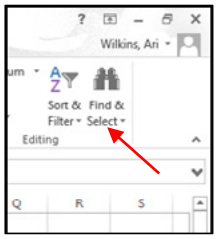
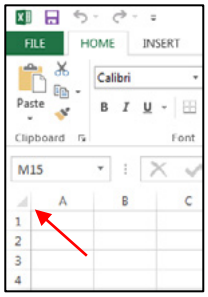
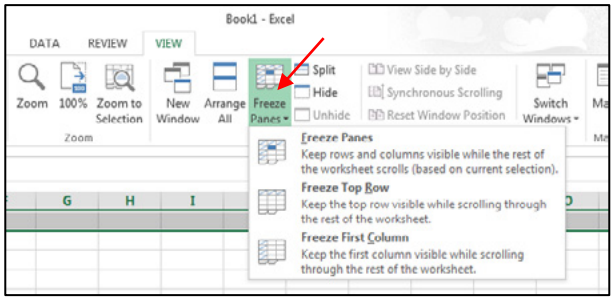
II. Types of documents you may want to include

Population Census and Slave Schedules	Freedmen's Bureau Records
Conveyance Records	Freedman's Bank Records
Slave Inventory Lists	Cohabitation and Marriage Records
Wills and Probate Records	Military Records
Slave Birth Records	Slave Narratives

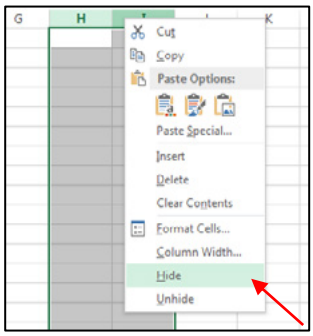
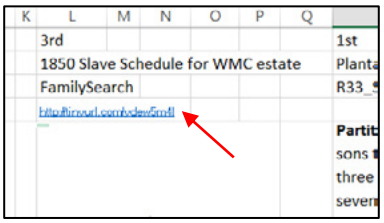
III. Setting up a spreadsheet - Considerations and tips in spreadsheets

- Consider how you want to use the data
- Customize your spread sheet
  - Vary font and cell fill colors to highlight patterns and distinguish differences
  - Include a legend – so that you understand what the colors represent
- Don't use a spreadsheet to replace genealogical software
- Don't try to build out family trees in a spreadsheet
- Use multiple worksheets or files to maintain original data
- Assign an ID number to each enslaved person
- For slave research, remember that names are fluid and ages are approximate
  - Work in +/- 5 year ranges
- Think carefully about adding infants ages in fractions
  - Enter the add as '0' and then the fractional age in 'Notes' Section
- Format the fractional age as 'Text'

IV. Popular tools in spreadsheets

	Control Keys	Buttons, Wayfinding, and Examples
Find Key Searches for text or numbers within a workbook	Control + F	
Select All Selects all data in an entire worksheet	Control + A	
Freezing Panes Allows you to maintain certain headers (columns or rows) in your view while scrolling		

SATURDAY

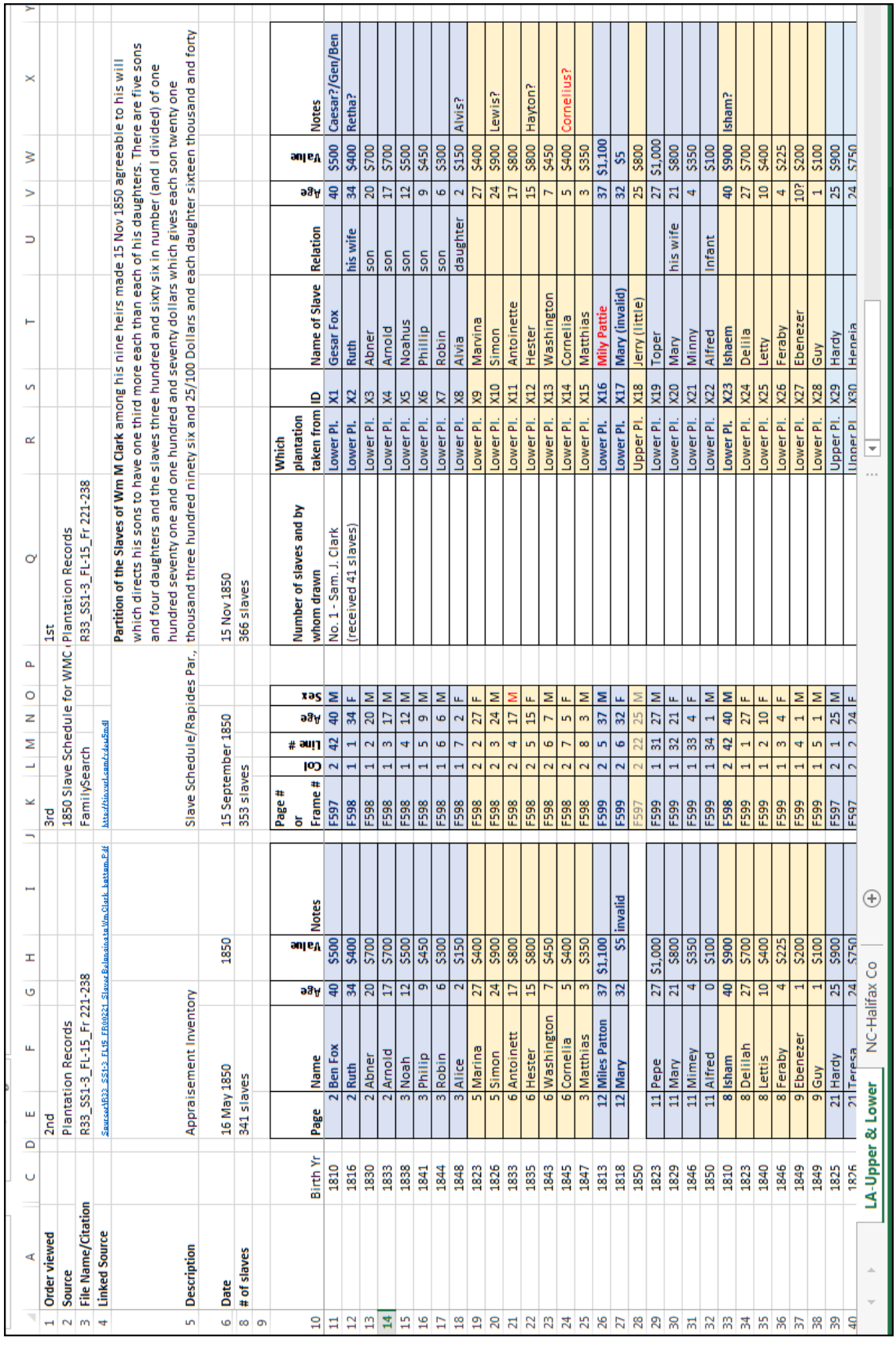
Hiding Panes Allows you to temporarily hide columns, rows, or ranges from your view	Right click on the row or column	
Adding Hyperlinks Will help you quickly link to a document online or in your files	http://tinyurl.com/ Will shorten long URL links	
Writing Equations Useful in formatting cells to calculate birth years or ages		Absolute reference - use the **$** symbol to reference fixed matter (the same cell) no matter where you copy and paste it For example, =I$5-H174
Sort and Filter		Be careful with the Sort and Filter! • Use Custom Sort – "Select All" • Select "My Data Has Headers"

V. Other Helpful Tools

Beyond Kin Project
https://beyondkin.org/
A method for using traditional genealogical software to organize enslaved persons while still maintaining an attachment to a slave holder.

SATURDAY

SAMPLE SPREADSHEET



	A	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y
1	**Order viewed**			2nd						3rd					1st									
2	**Source**			Plantation Records						1850 Slave Schedule for WMC					Plantation Records									
3	**File Name/Citation**			R33_SS1-3_FL-15_Fr 221-238						FamilySearch					R33_SS1-3_FL-15_Fr 221-238									
4	**Linked Source**			Source:R33_SS1-3_FL15_FF00221_SlaveRaplanoInv.WmClark_Isetam.Pdf						https://thinyurl.com/y6ao5md														
5	**Description**			Appraisement Inventory						Slave Schedule/Rapides Par.,					**Partition of the Slaves of Wm M Clark** among his nine heirs made 15 Nov 1850 agreeable to his will which directs his sons to have one third more each than each of his daughters. There are five sons and four daughters and the slaves three hundred and sixty six in number (and I divided) of one hundred seventy one and one hundred and seventy dollars which gives each son twenty one thousand three hundred ninety six and 25/100 Dollars and each daughter sixteen thousand and forty									
6	**Date**			16 May 1850			1850			15 September 1850					15 Nov 1850									
8	**# of slaves**			341 slaves						353 slaves					366 slaves									
9																								
10		Birth Yr		Page	Name	Age	Value	Notes		Page # or Frame #	Col	Line #	Age	Sex	Number of slaves and by whom drawn	Which plantation taken from	ID	Name of Slave	Relation	Age	Value	Notes	
11		1810		2	Ben Fox	40	$500			F597	2	42	40	M	No. 1 - Sam. J. Clark	Lower Pl.	X1	Gesar Fox		40	$500	Caesar?/Gen/Ben	
12		1816		2	Ruth	34	$400			F598	1	1	34	F	(received 41 slaves)	Lower Pl.	X2	Ruth	his wife	34	$400	Retha?	
13		1830		2	Abner	20	$700			F598	1	2	20	M		Lower Pl.	X3	Abner	son	20	$700		
14		1833		2	Arnold	17	$700			F598	1	3	17	M		Lower Pl.	X4	Arnold	son	17	$700		
15		1838		3	Noah	12	$500			F598	1	4	12	M		Lower Pl.	X5	Noahus	son	12	$500		
16		1841		3	Philip	9	$450			F598	1	5	9	M		Lower Pl.	X6	Phillip	son	9	$450		
17		1844		3	Robin	6	$300			F598	1	6	6	M		Lower Pl.	X7	Robin	son	6	$300		
18		1848		3	Alice	2	$150			F598	1	7	2	F		Lower Pl.	X8	Alvia	daughter	2	$150	Alvis?	
19		1823		5	Marina	27	$400			F598	2	2	27	F		Lower Pl.	X9	Marvina		27	$400		
20		1826		5	Simon	24	$900			F598	2	3	24	M		Lower Pl.	X10	Simon		24	$900	Lewis?	
21		1833		6	Antoinett	17	$800			F598	2	4	17	M		Lower Pl.	X11	Antoinette		17	$800		
22		1835		6	Hester	15	$800			F598	2	5	15	F		Lower Pl.	X12	Hester		15	$800	Hayton?	
23		1843		6	Washington	7	$450			F598	2	6	7	M		Lower Pl.	X13	Washington		7	$450		
24		1845		6	Cornelia	5	$400			F598	2	7	5	F		Lower Pl.	X14	Cornelia		5	$400	Cornelius?	
25		1847		3	Matthias	3	$350			F598	2	8	3	M		Lower Pl.	X15	Matthias		3	$350		
26		1813		12	Miles Patton	37	$1,100			F599	2	5	37	M		Lower Pl.	X16	Mily Pattie		37	$1,100		
27		1818		12	Mary	32	$5	invalid		F599	2	6	32	F		Lower Pl.	X17	Mary (invalid)		32	$5		
28		1850								F597	2	22	25	M		Upper Pl.	X18	Jerry (little)		25	$800		
29		1823		11	Pepe	27	$1,000			F599	1	31	27	M		Lower Pl.	X19	Toper		27	$1,000		
30		1829		11	Mary	21	$800			F599	1	32	21	F		Lower Pl.	X20	Mary	his wife	21	$800		
31		1846		11	Mimey	4	$350			F599	1	33	4	F		Lower Pl.	X21	Minny		4	$350		
32		1850		11	Alfred	0	$100			F599	1	34	1	M		Lower Pl.	X22	Alfred	Infant		$100		
33		1810		8	Isham	40	$900			F598	2	42	40	M		Lower Pl.	X23	Ishaem		40	$900	Isham?	
34		1823		8	Delilah	27	$700			F599	1	1	27	F		Lower Pl.	X24	Delila		27	$700		
35		1840		8	Lettis	10	$400			F599	1	2	10	F		Lower Pl.	X25	Letty		10	$400		
36		1846		8	Feraby	4	$225			F599	1	3	4	F		Lower Pl.	X26	Feraby		4	$225		
37		1849		9	Ebenezer	1	$200			F599	1	4	1	M		Lower Pl.	X27	Ebenezer		10?	$200		
38		1849		9	Guy	1	$100			F599	1	5	1	M		Lower Pl.	X28	Guy		1	$100		
39		1825		21	Hardy	25	$900			F597	2	1	25	M		Upper Pl.	X29	Hardy		25	$900		
40		1826		21	Teresa	24	$750			F597	2	2	24	F		Upper Pl.	X30	Henria		24	$750		

Criminals, Lunatics, and Witches, Oh My!: Finding the Less Than Pleasant in Family History

Craig L. Foster AG®

Criminals

The largest portion of the known criminal population were the common sneak thieves which included burglars, pickpockets and other types of thieves. Those involved in more violent crimes such as assault, battery, violent theft, highway robbery, manslaughter, murder, rape and other sexual offenses were fewer in number.

Henry Mayhew, et al., *The London Underworld in the Victorian Period* (Minealoa, New York: Dover Publications, 2005), 109.

In 1857, at least 8,600 prostitutes were known to London authorities. Incredibly, that was just a small portion of the estimated prostitutes in London. While London had the most prostitutes, there were ladies of ill-repute in every industrial centre and most market towns.

Henry Mayhew, et al., *The London Underworld in the Victorian Period* (Minealoa, New York: Dover Publications, 2005), 6.

Lists/records of "disorderly women" are found at:

The National Archives at Kew
Bristol Archives
Dorset History Centre
Gloucestershire Archives
Plymouth & West Devon Records, as well as many other repositories

Children also served time in prison. For example, in Dublin, Ireland alone, between 1859 and 1891, 12,671 children between ages seven and sixteen were imprisoned. Prison registers are found at the National Archives of Ireland.

Aoife O'Conner, "Child Prisoners," *Irish Lives Remembered* 36 (Spring 2017), [n.p.]

Online Sources for Searching for Criminals:

Ancestry
Birmingham, England, Calendars of Prisoners, 1854-1904
Cornwall, England, Bodmin Gaol, 1821-1899
Dorset, England, Calendar of Prisoners, 1854-1904
England & Wales, Criminal Registers, 1791-1892
London, England, King's Bench and Fleet Prison Discharge Books and Prisoner Lists, 1734-1862
United Kingdom, Licenses of Parole for Female Convicts, 1853-1871, 1883-1887

FamilySearch
Ireland Prison Registers, 1790-1924

findmypast
Britain, Newgate Prison Calendar, vols. 1-2, 1780-1841
City of York Calendars of Prisoners, 1739-1851
Devon, Plymouth Prison Records, 1832-1919
England & Wales, Crime, Prisons and Punishment, 1770-1935
Irish Prison Registers, 1790-1924
Manchester Prison Registers, 1847-1881
Scotland Prison Registers Index, 1828-1884

Other Websites
List of Executions at England's Newgate Prison
http://members.tripod.com/~Data_Mate/Execut.txt
London Lives, 1690 to 1800
https://www.londonlives.org/
The Proceedings of the Old Bailey – London's Central Criminal Court, 1674-1913
https://www.oldbaileyonline.org/index.jsp

Lunatics

"Due, perhaps, to the absence of a centralised state response to the social problem of madness until the 19th century, private madhouses proliferated in 18th century Britain on a scale unseen elsewhere. References to such institutions are limited for the 17th century but it is evident that by the start of the 18th century, the so-called 'trade in lunacy' was well established."
By 1807, London and environs had seventeen "madhouses."
"History of psychiatric institutions," Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_psychiatric_institutions.

Online Sources for Searching for Criminals:
Ancestry
England & Wales, Criminal Lunacy Warrant and Entry Books,1882-1898
England, Criminal Lunatic Asylum Registers, 1820-1843
UK, Lunacy Patients Admission Registers, 1846-1912
Find My Past
Kent, Bexley Asylum Minute Books, 1901-1939
Prestwich Asylum Admissions, 1851-1901
South Yorkshire Asylum, Admission Records, 1872-1910
Other Sources
Ancestors in lunatic asylums
www.whodoyouthinkyouaremagazine.com/tutorials/miscellaneous/ancestors-lunatic-asylums

Witchcraft

"The great age of witch hunts in Europe and America spanned roughly 1400 to 1775."

"From Russia to Bermuda, from Scotland to Brazil, witch hunts took place throughout the world."

Emerson W. Baker, "The Salem Witch Trials [infographic]," Oxford University Press, 2014, https://blog.oup.com/2014/10/salem-witch-trials-infographic/

Between 1400 and 1775, "100,000 people were prosecuted for witchcraft and at least 50,000 people were sentenced to death."

Emerson W. Baker, "The Salem Witch Trials [infographic]," Oxford University Press, 2014, https://blog.oup.com/2014/10/salem-witch-trials-infographic/

In 1597 James I of England became the only monarch in history to publish a book on witchcraft. Daemonologie (literally, the science of demons) was " intended to convince the doubters of the existence of witchcraft – it was also to inspire those who persecuted witches to do so with new vigour and determination."

Ellie Cawthorne, "James VI and I: the king who hunted witches," History Extra, 1 October 2013, http://www.historyextra.com/article/premium/james-vi-and-i-king-who-hunted-witches-0

The Pendle witches of 1612 caused a sensation in Lancashire and was one of the more famous of the English witch trials. Ultimately two men and eight women were hanged as witches.

Emma Mason, "Witches in the dock: 10 of Britain's most infamous witch trials," History Extra, 1 December http://www.historyextra.com/feature/witches-dock-witch-trials-10-britains-most-infamous

British emigrants brought witchcraft superstitions with them that encouraged witch hysteria producing the Salem and hundreds of other witch trials throughout New England.

As late as 1717, four English women were put to death for witchcraft. They were Misses Clark, Clark, Norton & Norton, all of Leicester.

The last witchcraft trial in England was in 1944. Rebecca Jane Yorke was "an English medium who was the last person convicted under the Witchcraft Act 1735." She was arrested in 1944 for defrauding people who attended her séances. She was found guilty on seven counts against the Witchcraft Act but was fined only £5 and she promised she would hold no more séances.

Tom Gleeson, "Wicked, Wicked Witchcraft," *Justice of the Peace* (27 September 2008), np.

Gwen Ellis was the first "witch" to be executed in Wales. She lived in Caernarvonshire and was executed in 1594. She was one of only about thirty-four or so prosecution for witchcraft in Wales.

Emma Mason, "Witches in the dock: 10 of Britain's most infamous witch trials," History Extra, 1 December http://www.historyextra.com/feature/witches-dock-witch-trials-10-britains-most-infamous

Ireland did not have the high level of witch hunts that Scotland and England and had. The last witch trial in Ireland was probably the most prominent one. Eight women were charged in County Antrim in March 1711 of demonic possession of a teenage girl's body, mind and spirit. They were found guilty and placed first in stocks where they were subjected to stones and rotten fruit by a large crowd. They were then taken to prison where they spent a year before being released.

"Over 300 years ago Ireland's last witch trial condemned 8 innocent women," *Irish Central*, 2 April 2017, https://www.irishcentral.com/roots/irish-witch-trials-of-eight-women-revealed-300-years-later-123186248-237788431

On 15 March 1895, Bridget Cleary of Clonmel, Tipperary, Ireland became "the last witch burned in Ireland." The 28-year-old woman was burned to death by her husband and family members because they believed she was possessed by a fairy.

Her murder became a part of Irish folklore. It is said there is a children's rhyme, "Are you a witch or are you a fairy? Or are you the wife of Michael Cleary?"

"Bridget Cleary 'the last witch burned in Ireland,'" *Irish Central*, 7 June 2017, https://www.irishcentral.com/roots/history/bridget-cleary-the-last-witch-burned-in-ireland

Sources for search for Witchcraft and Witch Hunts:

National Records of Scotland

AD14/12/17	Precognition against Robert Murray for the crime of witchcraft	1812
AD14/22/71	Precognition against Isabella Whitefield for the crime of witchcraft	1822
GD1/315	Papers relating to witchcraft in Inverkip and contract for the parsonage teinds of the parish of Kilpatrick	1642-1662
JC40	Witchcraft Papers	1572-1709
RH15/14/11	Note of information whereby to raise criminal letters before Justice General [at instance of Thomas Stewart of Ryland] against George Fraiser in Outlaw [Oathlaw] and Geilles Chalmer, his spouse, who sought help from deceased John Philp, a damned warlock, who was burned in Banff, [1633-1634] 23 February 1631, for witchcraft	

The National Archives (UK)

Ref. Q/SB/2/13	Depositions	1651
Ref. Ep/1/11/1	Deposition Books	1571
Ref. EP/13/1	New Castle St. Andrew's Parish Records Includes list of witches executed on the Town Moor	1650
Ref. RYE/43/138/7	Order of the Mayor of Rye	1645
Ref. HAS/1667W/51	Records of the High Sheriff, Assizes	1667

Online Sources for search for Witchcraft and Witch Hunts

Ancestry
All Scotland, Names of Witches, 1658
New England, Salem Witches and Others Tried for Witchcraft, 1647-1697

Other Websites
81 Scottish "Witches" Pardoned [includes list of the 81 executed people
http://forejustice.org/wc/sp/scottish_pardons.html
The Pendle Witches
www.pendlewitches.co.uk

Using Maps of the West to Further your Genealogical Research

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OVERVIEW

Though maps of the North American Continent are known to exist as early as 1500, for our purposes, maps relevant to genealogical research emerge in the 1600s. As American mapmaking moved from the engraving era to the lithographic era, a wide range of maps became available to the public. Today we have moved from paper published maps to the world of Geographic Information Systems–GIS. There are many map tools and repositories with collections that support genealogical research in the Western United States (for this presentation this includes the mountain and Pacific states.

USING MAPS IN GENEALOGY

Maps are a useful, indeed an essential, tool for conducting effective genealogical research. Some, but certainly not all, applications are listed below:

- Locate and visualize ancestors in time and place.
- Locate boundaries, towns, and geographical features.
- Locate and plat land parcels.
- Discover and follow family groups.
- Identify migration routes.
- Discover the social context of our ancestors.
- Organize and correlate disparate pieces of the puzzle.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this class focus on the following skill sets to varying degrees:

- Discover the variety of maps and map related tools available for research in the Western states such as cadastral, topographic, fire insurance, military, gazetteers, and atlases.
- Learn how to identify and locate maps to solve genealogical problems both in the library and online.
- Understand the events that led to the many of the maps created in the West
- Evaluation repositories and collections to determine their suitability to help support genealogical research.
- Correlate information from other sources with map data.

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Major Events

- Foreign Explorations (France, Spain, Russia, Britain, Mexico)
- Territorial Acquisitions by the United States
- Mormon Settlement in Utah (1847)
- California Gold Rush (1849)
- Railroad Surveys (1853–4)
- Public Land Surveys by the General Land Office (1851–)
- Topographical Mapping by the U. S. Geographical Survey (USGS) (1879–)

Maps of the Western United States

Many maps created in the exploration and settlement of the West are useful for genealogical research. The most definitive treatment of maps available for the West is found in Wheat's *Mapping the Transmississippi West: 1540–1861*. Types of maps that are useful include exploration maps, the survey maps of the General Land Office (GLO), land ownership maps, railroad maps, jurisdictional maps (county boundaries), topographic maps, and many other types such as private land surveys. We should select maps that are suitable to support our research. Usually this means fining maps that show greater detail. Even more important is the effort to correlate other data such as census date, tax data and city directories with the maps.

Major Repositories and Websites

Collections of the Library of Congress Relating to Mapping the West

- Rivers, Edens, Empires: Lewis & Clark and the Revealing of America, https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/lewisandclark/
- Louisiana: European Explorations and the Louisiana Purchase, https://www.loc.gov/collections/louisiana-european-explorations-and-the-louisiana-purchase/
- Railroad Maps, 1828 to 1900, https://www.loc.gov/collections/railroad-maps-1828-to-1900/
- National Atlases of the Unites States, https://www.loc.gov/collections/general-maps/articles-and-essays/national-atlases/
- Sanborn Maps, https://www.loc.gov/collections/sanborn-maps/

The David Rumsey Map Collection (http://www.davidrumsey.com/)

Rumsey's website contains over 95,000 high resolution maps of the world from his collection of over 150,000 maps. Many maps relating to the West are available to download. In addition, the remaining maps of his collection that have not been digitized are available in the Stanford University Library.

Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection (http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/)

Navigate to the collection of historical maps of the United States. The maps relating to exploration and settlement are very useful as are the maps of territorial growth.

Resources of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), (https://glorecords.blm.gov/)

All of the states of the western United States are public land states; consequently, the resources of General Land Office are relevant for these states. This website has township plat maps for the western states.

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RESOURCES OF THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY (USGS) (https://nationalmap.gov/)

Almost all of the USGS scanned historical topos, to include all the states in the West, are available through the National Map>Historical Topographic>Topoview>Get Maps. These maps are available in a variety of formats (JPEG, PDF, KMZ and TIFF) and scales. All these maps are free.

COUNTY BOUNDARIES

The Newberry Library has online atlases of historic county boundaries for all 50 states. Downloads are available in PDF, GIS shapefiles and KMX (*Google Earth*) formats at http://publications.newberry.org/ahcbp/ .

FACTORS THAT DISTINGUISH REPOSITORIES

You should carefully evaluate map repositories to ensure it meets your needs. Factors include:

- Scope and focus of collection
- Single purpose or maps of various types
- Online offerings
- Download options
- High-resolution and ability to print
- Formats available
- Learning options
- Copyright restrictions
- Cost: subscription versus free

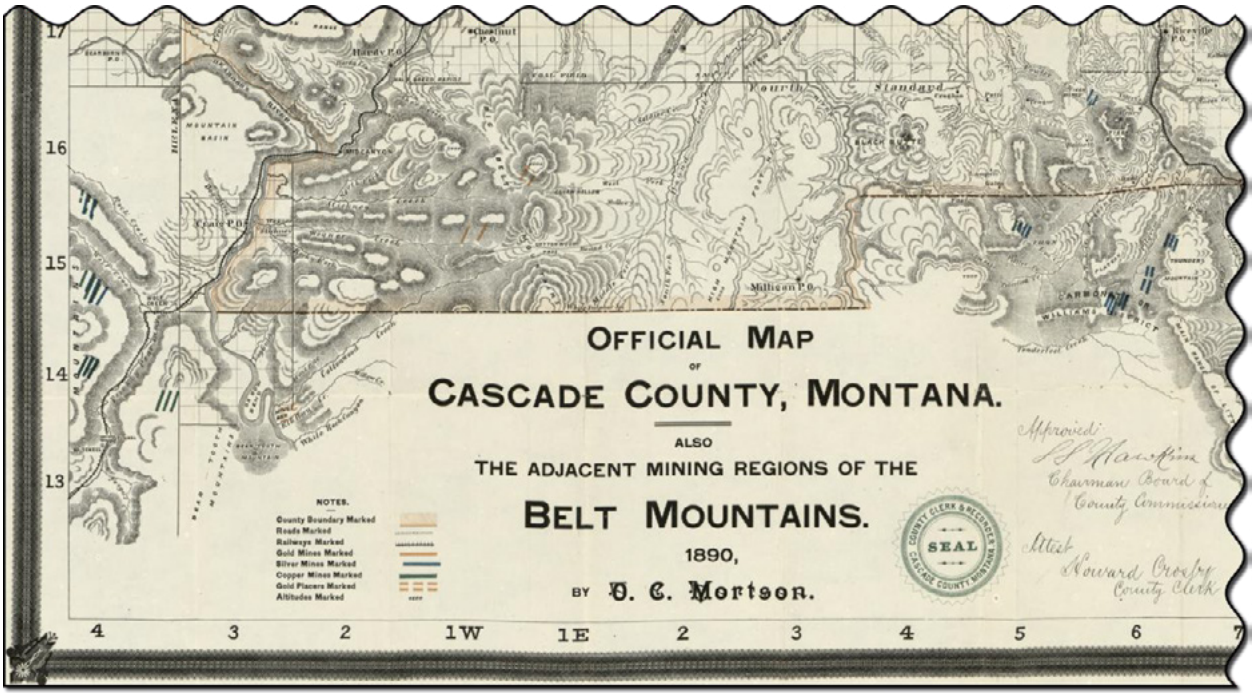

Figure 1:Cascade County, MT, 1890, courtesy of the Library of Congress

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All website URLs are current as of 21 January 2020

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Midwest Research from 30,000 Feet: A "Flyover" of Similarities and Differences Between States

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Midwest research can be very similar, or very different between states.

Similarities

- Federal land surveys and land office sales (except Ohio is unusual)
- Wills / Probate
- Court records
- Church records
- Federal census
- County histories and city directories

Differences

- Organizations that hold the records / responsibility / power over genealogy in the state
- History / settlement / control
- Vital records access policies
- Availability of a state or territorial census
- Digitization programs and access
- Adoption law and access to records
- Ethnic traditions in naming; religion

Why do a "flyover" before beginning research? Developing a study guide makes research more efficient.

- Understand how history and geography will impact your research
- Identify important organizations that hold records
- Identify ethnic groups in the state
- Determine patterns of settlement and review county creation dates
- Understand vital records access
- Explore digital access to records

Sources for developing a study guide

- Wikipedia—info on states, cities, quick way to find timelines
- FamilySearch Wiki
  Examples of important pages: (other states and counties use the same structure)
  https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Ohio,_United_States_Genealogy
  https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Hancock_County,_Ohio_Genealogy
  https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Ohio_Vital_Records
  https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Ohio_Land_and_Property
- NGS *Research in the States* series https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/ris/
- Research guides from libraries / archives / societies
- Historical and genealogical books about the state
- Cyndi's List https://www.cyndislist.com/
- LDS Genealogy https://ldsgenealogy.com/

What to include

- Start with a timeline—territory, state, other key dates
- Identify the important organizations (historical and genealogical societies, archives, large libraries) and look for their study guides
- How was the state settled? (migration routes, first counties, ethnic groups, land offices and records)

- Vital records access
- Key digital sites
- Maps
- Detail on different record types (note important collections)
- Identify what makes the state unique (settlement, history)

Important Links for Each Midwest State

Besides the FamilySearch Wiki and large guides to the state (example: NGS Research in the States), look at the organizations listed below for collection descriptions and study guides. These are the organizations to know.

Ohio (1803)	
State Archives	Ohio History Connection https://www.ohiohistory.org/learn/archives-library See also regional sites for local records https://www.ohiohistory.org/learn/archives-library/state-archives/local-government-records-program/ohio-network-of-american-history-research-onahr-ce
State Library	[Has no genealogical collections]
State Historical Society	Ohio History Connection https://www.ohiohistory.org/
State Genealogical Society	Ohio Genealogical Society (has a library in Bellville) https://www.ogs.org/
Important Archives and Libraries	Western Reserve Historical Society https://www.wrhs.org/ Cleveland Public Library https://cpl.org/research-learning/genealogy/ Columbus Metropolitan Library https://www.columbuslibrary.org/research/local-history-genealogy Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County https://www.cincinnatilibrary.org/main/genlocal.html Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center https://www.rbhayes.org/genealogy/genealogy-resources/
Important Digital Collections	Ohio Memory https://www.ohiomemory.org/

Indiana (1816)	
State Archives	Indiana State Archives https://www.in.gov/iara/
State Library	Indiana State Library https://www.in.gov/library/
State Historical Society	Indiana Historical Society https://indianahistory.org/
State Genealogical Society	Indiana Genealogical Society (no library but extensive online databases) https://www.indgensoc.org/
Important Archives and Libraries	Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center (Ft. Wayne) http://www.genealogycenter.org/
Important Digital Collections / Books on the State	Indiana State Archives Digital Archives https://secure.in.gov/apps/iara/search/ Indiana Memory https://digital.library.in.gov/Web/CollectionsAcrossIndiana M. Teresa Baer and Geneil Breeze, eds., *Finding Indiana Ancestors: A Guide to Historical Research* (Indiana Historical Society Press, 2007).

Illinois (1818)	
State Archives	Illinois State Archives https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/
State Library	Illinois State Library https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/
State Historical Society	Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library https://www.alplm.org/
State Genealogical Society	Illinois State Genealogical Society Library https://ilgensoc.org/
Important Archives and Libraries	Newberry Library, Chicago http://www.newberry.org/illinois-genealogy Chicago History Museum https://www.chicagohistory.org/
Important Digital Collections / Books on the State	Illinois Digital Archives http://www.idaillinois.org/ IRAD Listings By County https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/IRAD/irad.pdf Illinois State Archives Databases http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/databases/home.html

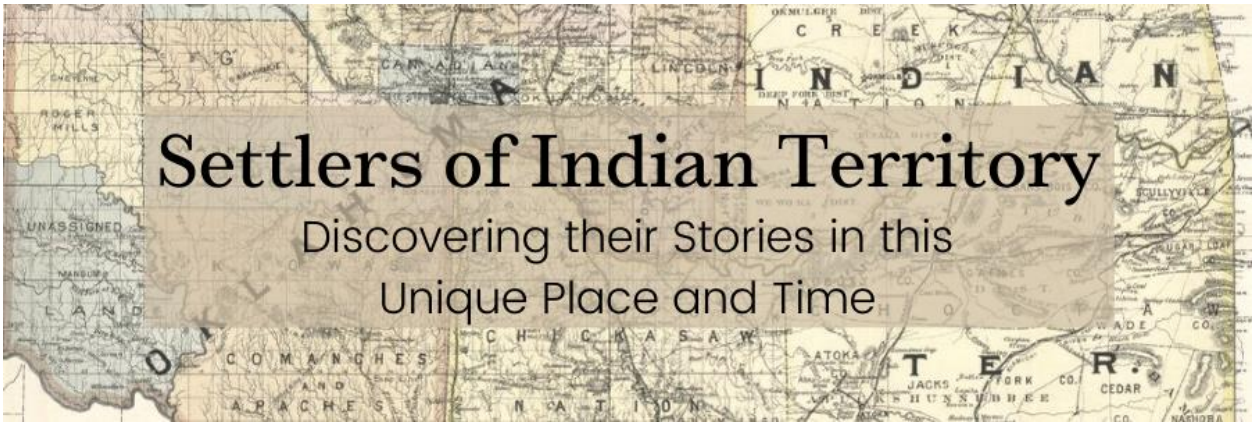
Missouri (1821)	
State Archives	Missouri State Archives https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/resources
State Library	(No genealogical materials)
State Historical Society	State Historical Society of Missouri https://shsmo.org/
State Genealogical Society	Missouri State Genealogical Association (no library) https://mosga.org/
Important Archives and Libraries	Missouri History Museum and Archives (St. Louis) https://mohistory.org/museum Mid-Continent Public Library Genealogy Center (Independence) https://www.mymcpl.org/genealogy Kansas City Public Library Missouri Valley Collection https://kchistory.org/ St. Louis County Public Library https://www.slcl.org/genealogy St. Louis Mercantile Library https://www.umsl.edu/mercantile/ Springfield-Greene County Library Center https://thelibrary.org/
Important Digital Collections / Books on the State	Missouri Digital Heritage https://www.sos.mo.gov/mdh/browse?id=9 Missouri Death Certificates 1910-1968 https://s1.sos.mo.gov/records/archives/archivesmvc/deathcertificates Listing of County Records on Microfilm http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/county/croll.asp County Records Inventory Database. This captures records kept at the county level that may be of enduring value. https://s1.sos.mo.gov/records/archives/archivesdb/countyinventory/

Michigan (1837)	
State Archives	Archives of Michigan https://www.michigan.gov/mhc/0,9075,7-361-85148---,00.html
State Library	Library of Michigan https://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan/
State Historical Society	Historical Society of Michigan (does not focus on genealogy)
State Genealogical Society	Michigan Genealogical Council (no library) https://mimgc.org/ Western Michigan Genealogical Society https://www.wmgs.org/
Important Archives and Libraries	Burton Historical Collection at Detroit Public Library https://detroitpubliclibrary.org/research/burton-historical-collection University of Michigan Bentley Historical Library https://bentley.umich.edu/ Finnish American Heritage Center https://www.finlandia.edu/fahc/archive/
Important Digital Collections / Books on the State	Michiganology https://michiganology.org/ Archives of Michigan list of study guides https://seekingmichigan.org/about/guides Digital Michigan Newspaper Portal https://www.cmich.edu/library/clarke/Pages/Michigan-Digital-Newspaper-Portal.aspx Michigan Biographical Index https://www.michlist.com/index.html

Iowa (1846)	
State Archives	State Historical Society of Iowa (Des Moines / Iowa City) https://iowaculture.gov/history
State Library	State Library of Iowa (states they do not have genealogical materials)
State Historical Society	State Historical Society of Iowa (Des Moines and Iowa City) https://iowaculture.gov/history
State Genealogical Society	Iowa Genealogical Society (has a library) http://iowagenealogy.org/
Important Archives and Libraries	Grout Museum of History and Science Library (Waterloo) https://www.groutmuseumdistrict.org/about/collections-archives.aspx Newberry Library (Chicago) https://www.newberry.org/iowa-genealogy
Important Digital Collections / Books on the State	Iowa Heritage Digital Collection https://www.iowaheritage.org/ *Iowa Genealogical Research*, by Ruby Coleman, 2017

Wisconsin (1848)	
State Archives	Wisconsin Historical Society https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/
State Library	Wisconsin Historical Society https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/
State Historical Society	Wisconsin Historical Society https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/
State Genealogical Society	Wisconsin Genealogical Society https://wsgs.org/
Important Archives and Libraries	Norwegian American Genealogical Center and Naeseth Library (Madison) http://www.nagcnl.org/ Wisconsin Veterans Museum https://wisvetsmuseum.com/
Important Digital Collections / Books on the State	WHS Local Government Records page https://wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS4016 Recollection Wisconsin http://recollectionwisconsin.org/ Wisconsin Historical Collections 1855-1915 https://wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS15286

Minnesota (1858)	
State Archives	Minnesota Historical Society http://www.mnhs.org/
State Library	[none]
State Historical Society	Minnesota Historical Society http://www.mnhs.org/
State Genealogical Society	Minnesota Genealogical Society [has a library] https://mngs.org/
Important Archives and Libraries	Iron Range Research Center https://www.mndiscoverycenter.com/research-center/ Immigration History Research Center https://www.lib.umn.edu/ihrca/ American Swedish Institute https://www.asimn.org/exhibitions-collections/library-and-archives Germanic Genealogy Society https://ggsmn.org/ Norwegian-American Historical Association https://www.naha.stolaf.edu/archives/index.htm
Important Digital Collections / Books on the State	Minnesota Historical Society Library Guides (extensive) http://libguides.mnhs.org/?b=s Minnesota People Records Search (MN Historical Society) http://www.mnhs.org/search/people Dalby Database http://www.dalbydata.com/user.php?action=cemsearch A large database of cemetery, civil war, census, marriage records, news articles, people in books, church records, obits. Minnesota Digital Library https://reflections.mndigital.org/



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Learn the push/pull factors that drew settlers to Indian Territory and what records were created that reveal their actions.

Overview of the History of Indian Territory

The concept of "Indian Territory" or "Indian Country" began in 1763 with the British Indian Reserve. The term referred to land set aside for the relocation of Native Americans and originally consisted of the land between the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi River. Following the American Revolution, new policies of the United States government resulted in Native Americans being pushed farther and farther west.

Treaties and laws resulted in the eventual removal in the 1830s of the Five Civilized Tribes from the southeast United States to an area in present day Oklahoma named "Indian Territory." These tribes were named "Civilized" based on some tribal members' adoption of practices such as Christianity, written constitutions, centralized governments, literacy, plantation slavery practices, and intermarriage with white Americans. The tribes tended to maintain stable political relations with the European Colonial powers and then with the United States government.

The Five Civilized Tribes were the Choctaw, Creek, Cherokee, Chickasaw, and Seminole. Once the tribes had relocated to Indian Territory, the United States government promised the lands would be free from white settlement. However, "white intruders," or non-citizens began entering Indian Territory from the very beginning, generally being allowed to perform a service needed by the tribes. A major immigration took place starting in 1889 with the opening of the unassigned lands to non-Indian settlers.

Additionally, the Five Tribes brought their African American slaves west to Indian Territory. After the Civil War, this group became known as freedmen. Emancipated slaves from adjoining states began moving into Indian Territory and lived together in All-Black Towns. Indian Territory ceased existence in 1907 when Oklahoma statehood incorporated Oklahoma and Indian Territories as one.

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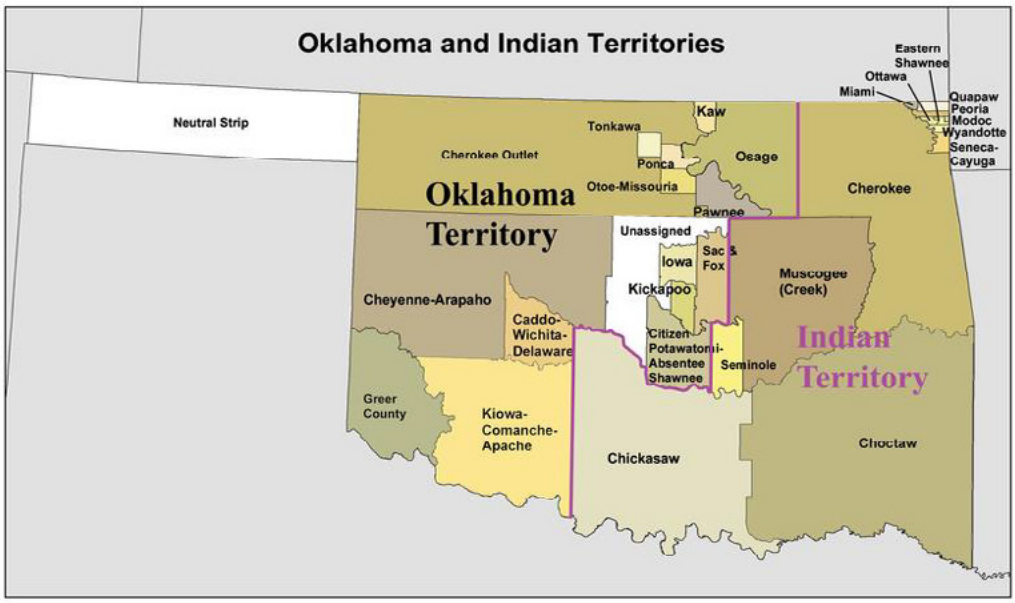
Boundaries and Geography in Indian Territory

The borders of Indian Territory were eventually reduced in size by various congressional acts. Each tribe had a specific boundary created by the United States government, shown in the map below.[1]



Basic land features of Indian territory created the pull factors for migration of settlers from other states into Indian Territory. A gazetteer and business directory of 1902-1905 gives this description:

> " With an area a little greater than that of the state of Indiana. With a climate whose health-giving breezes are nowhere excelled: with an altitude invigorating and inspiring; geographically of the south. But politically of the north; with a mixture of northern push and energy with southern comfort and hospitality; with scenery of rugged mountain and valley. Far stretching prairie and wooded hill: with soil as fertile as the valley of the Nile; with rainfall and other climate conditions favorable to the successful growing of all the crops of the temperate zone. Here is the ideal location for a home and the opportunity for agricultural and commercial enterprise."[2]

Laws Governing Indian Territory

Each tribe had their own laws governing their nation and were allowed autonomy until late in the 19th century. However the Five Tribes were prevented from prosecuting or protecting United States citizens. Beginning in 1887, a series of legislative acts of the United States government resulted in the creation of three federal court divisions within Indian Territory: the Northern District, Southern District, and Central District. By the late 1890s all the real authority in Indian Territory was held by these federal courts.

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1 Wikimedia Commons contributors, "File:Okterritory.png," *Wikimedia Commons, the free media repository,* https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?title=File:Okterritory.png&oldid=351718838 (accessed January 22, 2020).

2 *R.L. Polk & Co.'s Oklahoma and Indian Territory Gazetteer and Business Directory - 1902-1905*, pt. 1 (Chicago & Detroit : R.L Polk & Co, 1902-3); digitized book, *FamilySearch*, p. 70.

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Non-citizens could not own land in Indian Territory until 1889 because the land was communal property of the respective Indian Tribe. As a result, a lease system was incorporated allowing a settler to lease land from the Native Americans. Under the 1887 General Allotment Act, also known as the Dawes Act, the communal lands of the Five Civilized Tribes began to be parceled out to individual members of the tribe. Indian reservations were surveyed and established. To qualify for a parcel of land, an individual was required to give their name, tribe, membership designation, age group, and percentage of tribal blood by inheritance.

Selected Records of Indian Territory and Early Oklahoma

Census records

- The 1860 Arkansas Federal Census contains "Indian Lands" for eastern Oklahoma at the end of the roll. This enumerated whites who were living on Indian lands. https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/7667/
- The Ancestry collection: "Oklahoma and Indian Territory, Indian Censuses and Rolls, 1851-1959" contains many census records that include both white settlers and Native Americans. https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/8810/
- The 1900 Federal Census for Indian Territory is extant. Use this census to establish a location for further research for an ancestor. https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1325221

County Histories and Biographies

- County histories and biographies can contain information about Indian Territory and the early settlers. Search the FamilySearch Catalog > Place Search > County. (Do not include "county" in the search terms.) View "history" or "biography" among the results. Many of these have been digitized and are available to view online.
- The Ancestry collection, "Oklahoma and Indian Territory, Indian and Pioneer Historical Collection, 1937," contains transcripts of oral histories about pioneer life in the early 20th century. https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/9025/

Land records

- Ancestry has digitized the enrollment cards for the Five Civilized Tribes. The index is word searchable and can also be browsed by tribe. https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1241/
- FamilySearch has indexed and digitized the original applications: "Oklahoma Applications for Allotment, Five Civilized Tribes, 1899-1907." https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1390101

Newspapers

- The Oklahoma Historical Society has the largest collection of Oklahoma newspaper titles on microfilm dating from 1819 to present. The complete collection is available only at the Research Center. https://www.okhistory.org/research/newspapers
- Many newspaper collections are being digitized and are word searchable at: https://gateway.okhistory.org/explore/collections/
- The Library of Congress has digitized many of the newspapers of Indian Territory and early Oklahoma. https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/newspapers/?state=Oklahoma&ethnicity=&language=

Pensions

- Confederate Pension Applications can reveal information about when an ancestor moved into Indian Territory. The index and images are available online at https://digitalprairie.ok.gov/digital/collection/pensions/search.

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Tribal Records

The records for each of the nations have been microfilmed and are available at the Oklahoma Historical Society. FamilySearch has digitized the microfilm and it can be viewed at a Family History Center. Use the Microfilm Guides for each record set to determine the appropriate microfilm to view. Included in the records are materials such as court cases and permits to non-citizens.

- Oklahoma Historical Society, "Indian Archives Collection and More" https://www.okhistory.org/research/indianarchive.
  - **Cherokee** National Records Microfilm Guide https://www.okhistory.org/research/forms/CherokeeMG.pdf
    FamilySearch Digital Collection: Cherokee Nation Records https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/529945?
  - **Chickasaw** National Records Microfilm Guide https://www.okhistory.org/research/forms/ChickasawMG.pdf
    FamilySearch Digital Collection: Chickasaw Nation Records https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/544208?
  - **Choctaw** National Records Microfilm Guide https://www.okhistory.org/research/forms/ChoctawMG.pdf
    FamilySearch Digital Collection: Choctaw Nation Records https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/544264?
  - **Creek** National Records Microfilm Guide https://www.okhistory.org/research/forms/CreekMG.pdf
    FamilySearch Digital Collection: Creek Nation https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/544270?
  - **Seminole** National Records Microfilm Guide https://www.okhistory.org/research/forms/SeminoleMG.pdf
    FamilySearch Digital Collection: Seminole Nation https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/529794?

Vital records

- Registration of birth and death records began in October of 1908 after Oklahoma statehood, but compliance was not complete until 1928. Delayed birth certificates for early settlers may be available. https://www.ok.gov/health/Birth_and_Death_Certificates/
- By 1895, marriages were registered in the appropriate district. The records are now available in the county courthouse. Divorces were handled by the Federal District Court and recorded by the Court Clerk. Records begin about 1890.

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Mobile Technology for Genealogy

In the search of families, creating family trees, to get a fuller picture of the lifetimes of our ancestors, we want to go to any lengths to find and document the information that informs us about the lives of our family. How we can make it easier, faster and more efficient is what mobile genealogy tools are about!

MOBILE RESEARCH TOOLS ARE:

Family Trees:
Have you created a family tree, transferred the information from pieces of paper and notes, with census data, birth-marriage-death records, and photographs in an online resource or family tree software? There are tools with mobile apps that will help you to look up your charts while you are working in the library, rather than lugging around all of your notebooks!

Mobile apps – All of these noted (below) work on your cell phone or tablet – give you the flexibility to review, add, edit and collect data. Here are a few of the best:

- FREE Family Trees can be created on FamilySearch.com – sharing with others that use the Family History Center/LDS resources and finding others researching your family too. http://familysearch.org
- WikiTree – FREE also; create your tree, upload DNA information and share with others. https://www.wikitree.com/

Among the sites with various fees required:

- Ancestry.com – By far the leader, with huge databases and more being uploaded daily, you can access it free at your local public library but you can't create a tree there; the fee-based site can be paid for in six-month increments. http://www.ancestry.com
- Family Tree Maker (http://www.familytreemaker.com) links with Ancestry.com and has many tools to help you with your research. Linked to Ancestry and FamilySearch, your tree will show alerts directing you to Ancestry/FamilySearch for records on your ancestors.
- Find My Past (http://www.findmypast.com) records are strong in British Isles sources but does have broader records being added consistently. Free tree development and records help beginners to start, and there monthly or annual purchase plans.
- My Heritage (http://www.myheritage.com) is actually based out of Israel which only means that if you make a purchase, there is an international fee that shows up on your credit card.

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- RootsMagic (http://www.rootsmagic.com) has a FREE version, and a more elaborate paid version, with other software that integrates with it. Linked with Ancestry, MyHeritage and Find My Past.

Grave Sites & Cemeteries:
Suppose you are out at on the road and want to check out the graves of your ancestors. Using the apps for these two sites can help you to document and then bring up the information that you need to find these graves: Billion Graves http://www.BillionGraves.com
Find A Grave http://www.FindAGrave.com

Archives:
ArchiveGrid – The OCLC (libraries, archives resource site) and ArchiveGrid together have compiled listings of locations and collections of archive sites by state.
https://beta.worldcat.org/archivegrid/

EVERNOTE

Your genealogy finds, notes, photos, grave site locations and more can be saved and documented here! Synchronized with all of your devices, you make notations on your tablet and the cross-platform digital items make them available on all of your electronics. (http://www.Evernote.com)

There are MANY resources to help you use Evernote effectively as a genealogist. The magazine *Family Tree Magazine* (http://www.familytreemagazine.com) has had numerous articles in the last year that document with pictures and words, how to utilize all of the features of Evernote. Lisa Louise Cooke's "Genealogy Gems" podcasts (www.lisalouisecooke.com) include information about Evernote use.

How to Use Evernote for Genealogy by Kerry Scott, is available online at Family Tree Magazine. With screen shots, hints and tips, and it even has a link in Family Tree Magazine's "Family Tree University" that gives you content from the book that you can save to Evernote to take with you for research notations. Kerry covers everything from getting started to advanced skills in tracking your DNA chromosomes and cousins, and how to use Post-It notes and moleskin books to keep track of everything! With online groups to support your use of Evernote, don't say that there isn't help or ideas of how to use this powerful tool.

MORE HELP WITH ONLINE TOOLS - WEBSITES:

Cyndi's List – Evernote resources: http://cyndislist.com/Evernote/how-to/ Mobile resources: http://cyndislist.com/mobile/

Diigo (https://www.diigo.com) Save websites, highlight, annotate and even use notes to sites that you are researching; integrates with Kindle books and creates "My Library" to help you keep track.

Flickr (http://www.Flickr.com) Save and share family memories through photos. Going to the cemetery? Save pictures of tombstones too! Similar to Instagram, this is very photo-heavy and topic categories help you to find others with similar interests.

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Google (http://www.google.com) is great for the Search, Maps, Books, Translate, Earth Maps and Gmail accounts. The suite of tools here also includes the broader Google Suite – linking calendars, document sharing and more that may help you and your extended family to stay connected.

HistoryLines (http://www.historylines.com) helps to put your ancestors' lives into a historical context and can pull in your tree from FamilySearch if you want. Monthly $9.95, annual $59 (as of January 2020).

Historical County Boundary Maps (http://www.randymajors.com/p/maps.html) Randy Majors provides other content on his site, but this particular page is of interest – where you can determine, in a particular year, what county boundaries were like, with some information about the region/territory they were in.

Internet Archive (https://archive.org/) FREE An Internet library of free books, movies, software, websites and more. Featuring the "Way Back Machine" – a way to find older websites that aren't appearing any more in a regular search (for websites that have perhaps gone down, aren't managed, etc.).

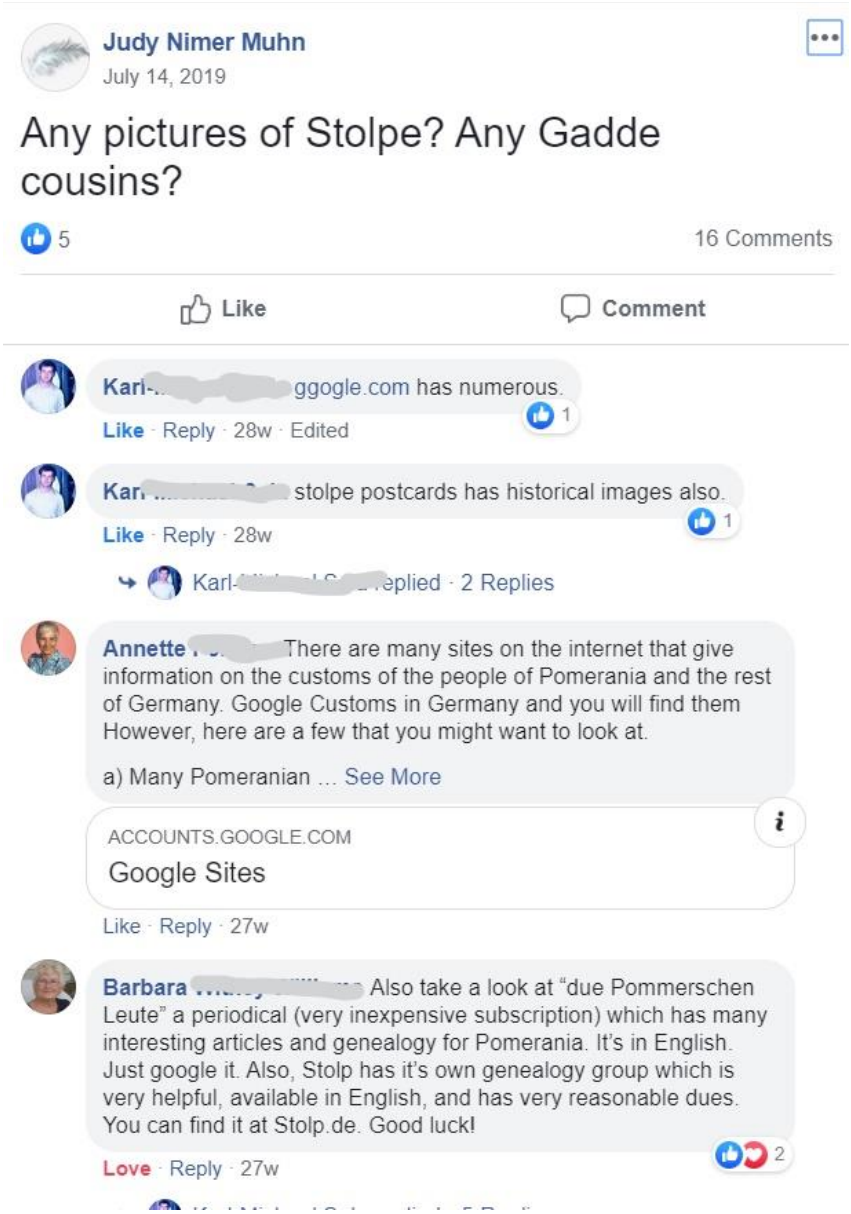
One-Step Webpages by Steve Morse (https://stevemorse.org/) – Used by genealogists for years, Steve uses tools that make webpages find things that, going directly to some sites, you might not find otherwise (like spelling variations, that can be time-consuming otherwise); certainly his is faster!

Puzzilla (https://puzzilla.org/) ties into your family tree on FamilySearch and makes a graphic depiction of the family with colors; can be used as a research tool; the Free version shows you your information with color-coded males/females but the Premium version provides much more detail (remembering missing information, where there are citations, resources, possible duplicates and more).

NOTES:

USING SOCIAL MEDIA

The benefits of using Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram and more can be impactful. A worldwide network, these work best when customized and approached from geographic, surname-specific, and categorical criteria.



For THOUSANDS of genealogy-related Facebook groups, check out Katherine Willson's website (Social Media Genealogy) at https://socialmediagenealogy.com/genealogy-on-facebook-list/

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Squeezing Every Drop out of Polish Parish Registers

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Polish parish registers tell stories about individuals, families, and communities, revealing living conditions, lifestyles, relationships, traditions, religious practices, epidemics, successes, trials, and social history. Genealogists and historians should take time to study parish registers deeply to discover all these amazing records have to offer. Analytical tools and methodologies can help bring these records to life.

These syllabus pages and the accompanying presentation show how to mine Polish parish registers to uncover their enormous genealogical value. Examples are drawn from the records of Wójtowa, a small farming village in Małopolskie (aka Galicia). We use original records, genealogical standards, proven research methodologies, and spreadsheet software to squeeze every drop out of Polish parish registers.

Genealogical Research Standards

The Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG) promotes the Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS) for forming credible conclusions in genealogy research. The GPS has five components (quoted from BCG's *Genealogy Standards*, 2nd edition (2019), pp. 2-3):

- Reasonably exhaustive research
- Complete and accurate source citations
- Critical tests of relevant evidence through processes of analysis and correlation
- Resolution of conflicting evidence
- Soundly reasoned, coherently written conclusion

Spreadsheet software greatly facilitates analysis of information items, analysis and correlation of evidence, and resolution of conflicting evidence. Spreadsheets help family historians fully apply the data collection standards (19-36) and evidentiary reasoning standards (37-50) enumerated in *Genealogy Standards*, particularly:

- #23 – Reading handwriting
- #24 – Understanding meanings
- #25 – Note-taking content
- #32 – Transcribing, abstracting, and quoting principles
- #36 – Information analysis
- #40 – Evidence mining
- #42 – Evidence discrimination
- #47 – Evidence correlation
- #48 – Resolving evidence inconsistencies
- #50 – Assembling conclusions from evidence

Key Archives, Essential Records

Evidence of family relationships, vital events, and living conditions may be found in a variety of historical documents found in church, state, and civil archives throughout Poland and beyond. In the case of Wójtowa, these archives preserve major manuscript collections:

- ***Archiwum Diecezjalne w Tarnowie*.** The diocesan archive holds transcripts of church registers for the parish of Wójtowa (1874–1889) and the neighboring parish of Lipinki (1846–1879). The diocese has a partial collection of these parish records.
- ***Parafia Wójtowa.*** The parish priest maintains the original parish registers in his home. Baptism, marriage, and burial records (1777–present). Tombstone inscriptions in two local cemeteries reveal additional details about family members.
- ***Parafia Lipinki*.** The new parish church houses the original registers for the parishes of Lipinki (1784–present) and Pagorzyna (1784–present).
- ***Archiwum Państwowe w Rzeszowie Oddział w Skołyszynie*.** This state archive branch office, although now in great disrepair having recently suffered flood damage, houses transcripts of baptismal registers for the neighboring parish of Biecz (1864–1907) and an original marriage register for the parish of Bednarka (1784–1893). Of particular interest is a register of all residents for Wójtowa, created in 1938 and maintained into the 1970s.
- ***Urząd Stanu Cywilnego, Lipinki*.** This registration office holds many volumes of civil registers, including a birth register for Wójtowa (1890–1945). Civil registers contain entries made within the past century. Registrars restrict public access accordingly.
- ***Archiwum Państwowe w Rzeszowie*.** This state archive preserves a major collection of cadastral maps and significant quantities of notarial papers. The cadastral maps for Wójtowa completely document all land holdings by family for the year 1853.
- ***Archiwum Diecezjalne w Rzeszowie*.** This diocesan archive has no parish registers before 1990, even though the Diocese of Rzeszow was created in 1975 from the Dioceses of Tarnow and Przemyśl. The original dioceses retained parish registers and transcripts received from their respective parishes.
- ***Archiwum Państwowe w Przemyślu*.** This state archive holds an extensive collection of parish registers and cadastral land surveys, including a large number of land records for cadastral communities of Wójtowa and Lipinki (1850–1851). These land records list homeowners by home number and alphabetically by homeowner. The map collection includes field sketches of property ownership and land survey maps.
- ***Österreichisches Staatsarchiv – Kriegsarchiv, Vienna, Austria.*** Service records of the Galician Crownland document the military careers of officers and the rank and file.
- ***Центральний державний історичний архів України, Lviv, Ukraine.*** Josephine and Franciscan cadastral surveys conducted in 1785 and 1819–1822, respectively.

Indexing Parish Registers

Parish registers typically follow a prescribed format for recording baptisms, marriages, and burials. The unique details of each recorded event—especially names, dates, places, and relationships—capture the essence of each event in a register and form the basis of a quality index. Follow this process to index a parish register using a spreadsheet:

1. Create a spreadsheet for the parish register index.
2. Select the fields to index for each event type—baptism, marriage, and burial:
    a. Use separate fields for given name and surname.

   b. Include necessary citation details (such as volume, page, and entry numbers).
   c. Add a "Notes" column to describe any remaining details.
3. Create a worksheet for each event type:
   a. Use the top row to name each of the fields in the index.
   b. "Freeze" the top row so you can see these column headers as you add rows.
4. For each event in the parish register, go to the appropriate worksheet, go to a new row, and enter the values as you interpret them in the register, field by field.
   a. Always enter what you see written in the register.
   b. You may add columns in the spreadsheet to record "standard" name spellings (per your interpretation), calculated birth year values, etc.

Reconstituting Families across a Parish

Whether you index a parish register yourself or consult an existing index, you will see many entries pertaining to the same families. Many families lived in the same parish for multiple generations, with all baptisms, marriages, and burials duly recorded in the parish registers. Follow this process to gather baptisms, marriages, and burials into potential family groups:

1. Create a spreadsheet, labelling worksheets "Baptisms," "Marriages," and "Burials."
2. Populate each worksheet as described above in "Index a Parish Register."
3. Add a new column labeled "Family ID" in each worksheet.
4. Assign each marriage a unique Family ID.
5. Sort baptism entries by names of parents and baptism dates, creating families.
6. Scan for stray entries which evaded the sort, making corrections manually.
7. Correlate each baptism entry with the marriage entry for the parents, labeling the baptism entry with the corresponding (proposed) Family ID.
8. Sort burial entries by father's name and mother's name (if present); otherwise, sort by birth date (if present or if calculated from age at death).
9. Correlate burials and baptisms, labeling each entry with the corresponding Family ID.
10. For each Family ID value, create a family timeline (see below).

Managing Name Variants

Creative name spelling is an art. Ethnic and cultural naming practices introduce additional name variants to the dismay of researchers. Genealogists must familiarize themselves with the variety of ways an ancestor's name appears in historical records. Astute researchers collect name variants and analyze them in spreadsheets. These steps show how to leverage known name variants to improve the likelihood of finding records otherwise missed:

1. Create a spreadsheet to catalog name variants, with one table per name.
2. As additional variants come to light, add them to the table.
3. Actively seek more variants in original records and indexes using wildcards.
4. Document the standard spelling of each name in each relevant language.
5. Formulate a "wildcard" template of letters appearing in all name variants.

Correlating Evidence from Multiple Sources

Correlation of evidence involves comparing and contrasting information from different sources. For example, when correlating baptism, marriage, and death records, search and sort on fields shared by all record types. Consider correlating evidence from these sources:

- Parish baptism, marriage, marriage banns, death, and *status animarum* registers
- Civil transcripts of parish registers
- Cadastral land records: survey maps, field sketches, parcels, houses, and landowners
- Population registers

Follow these steps to correlate information abstracted from parish records:

1. Create a spreadsheet transcription of multiple families in a parish census.
2. Add birth, marriage, and death details from entries in the corresponding registers.
3. For each person, add name variants and notes about other relevant details.
4. Analyze and correlate the combined evidence, noting any questions or concerns.

Recommended Reading

- Board for Certification of Genealogists. *Genealogy Standards*, 2nd edition. Nashville, TN: Turner Publishing, Ancestry imprint, 2019.
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Using OneNote to Organize Your Genealogical Research- S453

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http://messonthedesk.com/wordpress/

What is OneNote?

- A digital notebook that mimics a regular notebook
- A structured place for unstructured notes, ideas, and information
- A collection spot for all sorts of scraps and things
- A searchable place to keep everything!

How does OneNote store things?

- My Notebook(s) like a regular notebook
- Tabs (Sections) that are like dividers in a notebook
- Pages that are like paper in a notebook

Where does OneNote store things?

- A folder in My Documents stores My Notebook- able to copy to an external hard drive
- Automatically saves
- Able to store on multiple devices
  - Sync using OneDrive
  - Portability

Why would I want to use OneNote?

OneNote is a central location—available and searchable. You can have as many notebooks as you want with as much content as you want. It needs to be backed up! Don't forget this part!

Why choose OneNote instead of Evernote?

Evernote has a free side and a pay tiered membership system.
Evernote stores your data in the cloud. OneNote's files are under your control to upload to the cloud or not depending on your preference.
Evernote has file upload limitations of 60 MB per month for free and 1 GB per month for their Plus membership.
Evernote has search limitations.
Evernote has sync limitations. Evernote basic has a limitation on number of devices.

Some Common Genealogical Uses

1. Conferences—syllabi, planning, notetaking
2. Webinars—notetaking
3. Society newsletters- archiving, searching, highlighting
4. Usernames and passwords
5. Subscriptions, renewals, memberships
6. Email archive
7. Ideas of any sort—projects, products, research
8. To-do lists
9. Reading lists
10. Pending orders
11. A list of pending questions to libraries, archives, death certificate requests
12. Set reminders- to order death cert, vital records, pension files, so that cost can be spread out, expensive book orders, research trip priority list and planning
13. Cousin contacts, profiles—note and folder sharing—share notes, research logs, docs, photos, records, DNA match information
14. Clients—research logs
15. Boilerplate contact blurbs to copy and paste
16. Plan family reunion
17. Message boards—track what's on Feedly
18. Google alerts
19. Surname boards—track what's on Feedly
20. Facebook groups
21. DNA results and matches
22. Research trip preparation—planning, organizing, collecting, building a research plan, research log, inserting citations
23. Heritage groups
24. Blog posts
25. Maps
26. Lineage society applications
27. Society volunteer projects
28. Plan a publication
29. Write your story
30. Preservation plan- donate list, after death

The Black Dagger:
Solving A One-Hundred-Year-Old "Whose-Was-It? Mystery

Pamela Vittorio
FindingTheirRoutes@gmail.com

Tracking a dagger's journey over four generations reveals the identity of the Canadian WWI soldier who brought it home and a possible original owner.

Introduction: If we're fortunate enough to own heirlooms or artifacts, then we also know that myths more often than not, stand in the way of discovering the story behind them. Such was the case with a black dagger handed down from my grandmother to my mother to my brother (who had no idea what it truly was). Determining who gave the dagger to my grandmother consisted of "ruling out" and finding military records to put the candidates in "time and place."

Tracing an artifact:

- Examining it over time and place. The dagger traveled through three countries, and twelve New York counties.
- Use general strategies for Identifying an artifact.
- Identify distinguishing features.
- Websites may help in finding similar objects:
  - *eBay* https://www.ebay.com – typing in "key words" is the best way to find objects similar to your artifact.
  - Ephemera Society of America http://www.ephemerasociety.org/features-toggle.html
  - *Etsy* http://www.etsy.com
  - *Google* search and google images (Key word searches)—in this case determining what type of dagger it was helped find a match:
  - *Google lens* https://lens.google.com – does a reverse search. Probably improving daily but might not get you what you want yet.
  - *Pinterest* http://www.pinterest.com – contains many useful images
  - *Tin Eye* http://www.tineye.com –helps recognize *some* objects
  - Wolfram http://www.wolfram.com – still in development

Creating a Timeline.

Tracking the artifact from 1918 (its return to the U.S.) to 2018 (when this began)

Searches entailed:

- Census records from 1915 and 1920 US, Canada 1891, 1906, 1921
- Directories for the families

- Ages of the people (soldiers) involved
- Newspapers
- Recruitment centers, training camps, points of debarkation (Canada)
- Examining the possible WWI Theatres – France and England

Identifying the *Sgian Dubh* (Scottish highlander's black dagger) – of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Regiment and 19th Battalion: https://www.argylls.ca/history/19th-battalion.html

WWI Military Heritage:
WWI Attestation CEF records, accessible at Library Archives Canada:
http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/personnel-records.aspx

- Close examination of the military files –in this case, of the three brothers involved– helped rule out which brothers who could not have brought the dagger home.
- The records showed that the dagger was likely taken at Vimy Ridge (France) the most "famous" battle for the Canadian military.

Vimy Ridge Information:

- Using maps and casualty lists, it was possible to determine who (if anyone) might have been part of the Hamilton Argyll and Sutherland Regiment https://www.warmuseum.ca/the-battle-of-vimy-ridge/

Interviewing, Writing Letters, and Searching For Answers:

- With only a vague memory of my grandmother's story, an interview with my mother helped piece the story back together.
- Searching through some of grandma's ephemera turned up "leather letters" from her uncles during WWI.
- Writing to my mother's second cousin (whose grandfather gave the dagger to my grandmother) brought letters from his grandfather and the great-uncle who died at Arras.

Final Conclusions:

- Why did my grandmother's uncle give the dagger to her?
  - She was twelve years old in 1918. What influenced him?
- Could I really determine whose dagger it was?
- Did something impact why great-uncle Ed took the dagger from a German soldier?
  - Determining the identity of the officer who might have owned the dagger is likely "inconclusive."
  - Two candidates emerged though neither could be the original owner.
  - Without DNA evidence, could my "guess" be correct?

Yes, They Could Own Land: The Homestead Act and African American Homesteaders

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Blog at Genie Road Trip: http://genieroadtrip.com/

The Homestead Act of 1862

The act went into effect on 1 January 1863 and was finally repealed in 1972. The last proved piece of land was in Alaska in 1986.

- Anyone aged 21 or the head of family (including former slaves and women) could apply for federal land if they were citizens and hadn't fought for the Confederacy.
- A homestead included up to 160 acres.
- Required to reside on the land continuously for 5 years and improve it
- Completion required proof of fulfillment of terms with Homesteader and witness testimonies
- About half of claims were not completed.
- The allowed acreage was enlarged to 320 in 1909.
- 270 million acres, roughly 10% of the US, was settled through this.

The Civil Rights Act of 1866

- Made African Americans United States citizens

Homesteading Where Their Families Were Enslaved: The Southern Homestead Act of 1866

- Opened up about 46 million acres in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, and Mississippi
- Specified only free Blacks and loyal Whites
- Undercut by Southern bureaucrats, violence, poor quality land, and extreme poverty.
- Repealed in 1876
- 6500 claims were entered resulting in about 1000 patents.

Westward Migration—Exodusters

With the failure of Reconstruction in the late 1870s some freedmen worked to take people out of the communities where they had been previously enslaved. Freedmen largely migrated to Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas to varying degrees of success. The plans brought 20,000 people plus to Kansas alone.

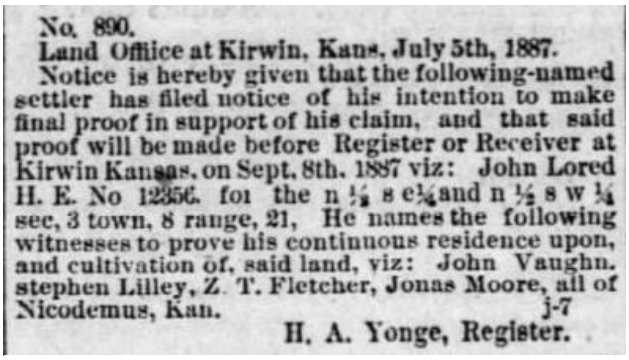
Nicodemus, Graham County, Kansas is an example of a black community of homesteaders, founded in 1877 by former slaves largely from Tennessee and Kentucky.

Researching the Homestead Records

U.S. Population Census—Pay attention to whether your relative owned or rented their home.

U. S. Agricultural Census—May offer an insight into the improvements to the land made by homesteaders.

Local Newspapers—Look for *Notices of Publication* which were required as part of final proof for Homesteaders. Often, they have most of the information needed to pull the file—state, land description, land office, type of land entry, and land entry number (vs. final certificate number)



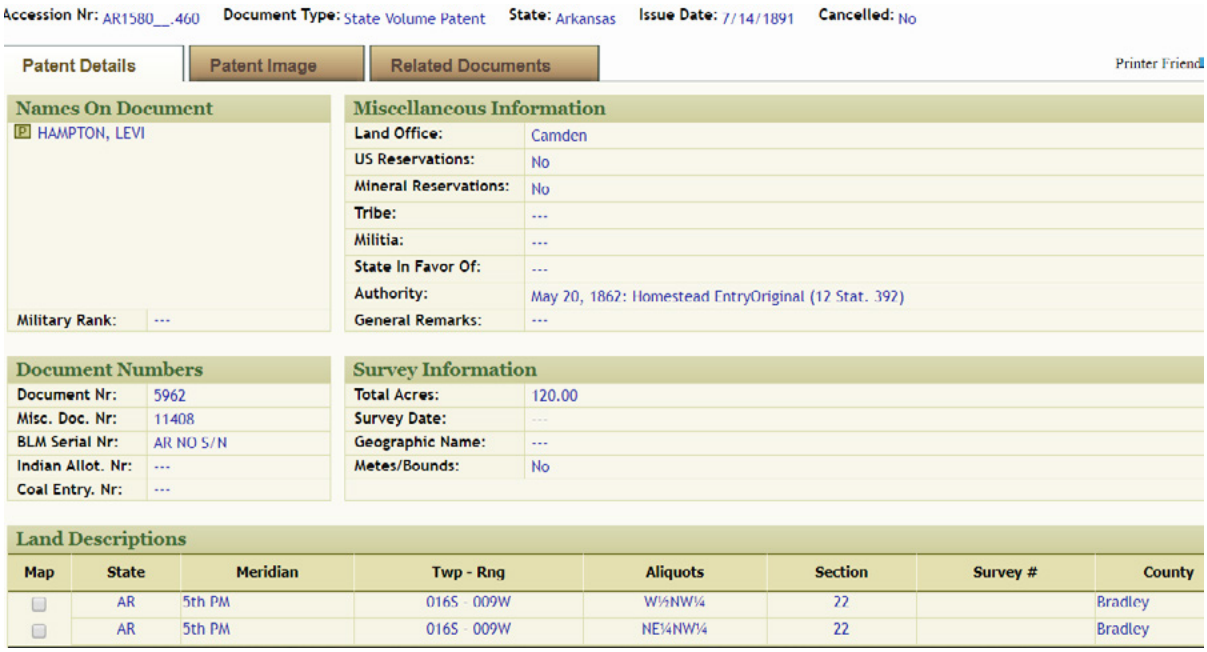
No. 890.
Land Office at Kirwin, Kans. July 5th, 1887.
Notice is hereby given that the following-named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register or Receiver at Kirwin Kansas, on Sept. 8th, 1887 viz: John Lored H. E. No 12356. for the n ½ s e¼ and n ½ s w ¼ sec, 3 town, 8 range, 21, He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: John Vaughn. stephen Lilley, Z. T. Fletcher, Jonas Moore, all of Nicodemus, Kan.
j-7
H. A. Yonge, Register.

Figure 1 The Hill City Democrat (Hill City, Kansas), 4 Aug 1887, p.2, col. 3.

You can also find examples of legal complaints against homesteaders alleging that they had violated the terms of the homestead.in some way.

Local Land Records—It is worth looking at local resources. Historical and genealogical societies have abstracted Homestead records in their communities.

Completed Homesteads—BLM-GLO Land Patent Search: https://glorecords.blm.gov/—first transfer patent from the US government including legal authority the land was transferred under—i.e. Homestead, Military Bounty, Cash paid, etc.



Accession Nr: AR1580__.460 Document Type: State Volume Patent State: Arkansas Issue Date: 7/14/1891 Cancelled: No

Patent Details | Patent Image | Related Documents | Printer Friend

Names On Document

HAMPTON, LEVI

Military Rank: ---

Miscellaneous Information

Land Office:	Camden
US Reservations:	No
Mineral Reservations:	No
Tribe:	---
Militia:	---
State In Favor Of:	---
Authority:	May 20, 1862: Homestead EntryOriginal (12 Stat. 392)
General Remarks:	---

Document Numbers

Document Nr:	5962
Misc. Doc. Nr:	11408
BLM Serial Nr:	AR NO S/N
Indian Allot. Nr:	---
Coal Entry. Nr:	---

Survey Information

Total Acres:	120.00
Survey Date:	
Geographic Name:	---
Metes/Bounds:	No

Land Descriptions

Map	State	Meridian	Twp - Rng	Aliquots	Section	Survey #	County
	AR	5th PM	016S 009W	W½NW¼	22		Bradley
	AR	5th PM	016S 009W	NE¼NW¼	22		Bradley

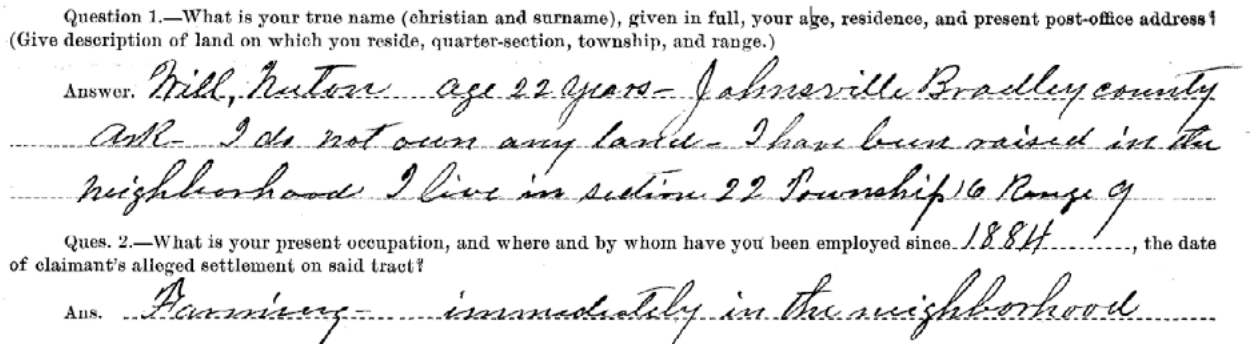
Figure 2 Patent details for Levi Hampton of Bradley County, Arkansas, from the BLM-GLO Land Patent Search.

SATURDAY

Land Entry Case Files—National Archives

- Completed patents—using the information in BLM you can either Order online: https://eservices.archives.gov/orderonline/ or request the file for viewing in house.
- Unfinished Applications—60% did not complete the process, also viewable in house.

Both have the potential to include members of the settler's "F.A.N. Club" (Friends, Associates, Neighbors) as coined by Elizabeth Shown Mills. They place the settler (and their FANS) in a place and time for further research.



Question 1.—What is your true name (christian and surname), given in full, your age, residence, and present post-office address? (Give description of land on which you reside, quarter-section, township, and range.)

Answer. Will, Newton age 22 years— Johnsville Bradley county Ark— I do not own any land— I have been raised in the neighborhood I live in section 22 Township 16 Range 9

Ques. 2.—What is your present occupation, and where and by whom have you been employed since 1884, the date of claimant's alleged settlement on said tract?

Ans. Farming— immediately in the neighborhood

Figure 3 Witness Testimony from Will Newton in the Homestead Proof for Levi Hampton, Bradley County, Arkansas, 12 Sep 1890

Note: Sometimes these files are packed with details and sometimes they are decidedly not. Ex. The changing witnesses of Levi Hampton—i.e. Those originally listed were direct relatives but something happened on the day of proof and different witnesses were used.

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Getting Ready for a Research Trip to Virginia

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Researchers will find deeds, probate and marriage records and county order or minute books at the local courthouse. Microfilmed copies of those created prior to 1860 (some counties prior to 1900) are available at the Library of Virginia and the Family History libraries and via interlibrary loan. Other records including survey books, tax records, county loose papers, birth and death records and numerous individual records books may be located at the county courthouse, the Library of Virginia or at the Records Center in Richmond. Family and business manuscript records, genealogies and even copies of some county records can be found in major university collections, regional repositories and at local libraries or historical societies.

If you are researching in multiple counties or you are not sure where your people of interest were, then the Library of Virginia should be your first stop. However, before you come to Virginia, there are a number of steps you need to take. We'll cover the most important. The first is to become familiar with the topography and county formations.

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The Military

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Reconstructing the Asylum: Women of the San Francisco Almshouse

Gena Philibert-Ortega

genaortega@gmail.com

Was one of thirteen children, a New England factory girl earning high wages; married a baker who deserted her for another woman, which probably caused her insanity; neat, kindly, industrious; has two brothers, one of whom has an insane wife and sick child

(No. 29)

Worn-out scrub woman.

(No. 106, age 71)

Research based on the study: Smith, Mary Roberts, *Almshouse Women: A Study of Two Hundred and Twenty-Eight Women in the City and County Almshouse of San Francisco*. Available online at Internet Archive https://archive.org/details/jstor-2967126

TABLE XVII.—CONTINUED.

No.	Age	Place of Birth.	Ancestry.	Conj. Condition.	Number of Children. Liv'g	Dead	Total.	Occupation.	Education.	Came to California.	Times Adm.	When Last Adm.	Organic Condition (Including Disease or Defect).	Habits.	Causes of Pauperism.	Story.
90	51	Ireland..	Peasant.....	W.	..	..	..	Domestic	Reads.....	....	1	1892	Softening of brain...	Intemp.; profane	Intemp., sp., 7; neglect by; by rela., 3.	Married a widower who died and left her a home; stepsons cast her off because she drank.
91	74	England.	Laboring people.	W.	1	..	..	Domestic	R. and w.	1860	1	1894	Alcoholic cramps; both legs broken.	Intemperate.....	Intempe perance, 10.	Husband an engineer who took up land in Australia, died in C. and C. Hospital; one son, an engineer in city, who drinks, tried to take care of mother but could not because she drank incorrigibly; has been helped by the "Catholic Sisters," and in city hospital.
92	53	Mass.....	.....	W.	..	2	2	Domestic	Reads.....	....	1	1892	Rheumatism	Good	Sickness ess, 10.....	Very neat and docile.
93	69	France..	Peasant.....	W.	..	3	3	Laund's.	Reads.....	1869	1	1894	None	Good.....	Old age, ge, 10.....	She and her husband kept a French laundry, "lived happily for fifty years," saved very little, came to almshouse together where he died of Bright's disease. One daughter, who might have supported them, died recently. Industrious, well-disposed people.
94	56	Ireland..	....	W. (2)	..	..	..	Domestic	Reads. ...	....	5	1888	None	Intemperate.....	Intempe perance, 10.	First husband left her $60,000; second husband squandered it all and taught her to drink; she is an excellent housemaid.
95	66	Ireland..	Peasant.....	S.	..	..	..	Domestic	None.....	....	2	1870	Insane (mild)	Profane.....	Insanity, ity, 10.....	Excellent worker; well behaved until something crosses her.

The city and county Almshouse of San Francisco opened in 1867. A study of the Almshouse is conducted in the 1890s and published in 1895 by Mary Roberts Smith, later a professor at Stanford University.

SATURDAY

Resources

San Francisco

California Genealogical Society and Library: https://www.californiaancestors.org/

San Francisco Public Library: https://sfpl.org/

California Historical Society: https://californiahistoricalsociety.org/

California State Library: https://www.library.ca.gov/

California State Archives: https://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/

Genealogy and Almshouse/Poorhouse

Ancestry: https://www.ancestry.com/

FamilySearch: https://www.familysearch.org/en/

MyHeritage: https://www.myheritage.com/research?s=241801411

Poorhouse Story: http://www.poorhousestory.com/

SFGenealogy: https://www.sfgenealogy.org/

Libraries and Archives

ArchiveGrid: https://beta.worldcat.org/archivegrid/

Digital Public Library of America: https://dp.la/

FamilySearch Catalog: https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog

LibGuides Community: https://community.libguides.com/

LSE Digital Library – Women's Rights Collection: https://digital.library.lse.ac.uk/collections/suffrage

Online Archive of California: https://oac.cdlib.org/

WorldCat: http://www.worldcat.org/

UC Berkley Library: https://www.lib.berkeley.edu/

Newspapers

Chronicling America: https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/

GenealogyBank: https://www.genealogybank.com

Newspapers.com: https://www.newspapers.com/

Online Historical Newspapers: https://sites.google.com/site/onlinenewspapersite/

The Ancestor Hunt: https://www.theancestorhunt.com/

Online California Digital Newspapers

Digitized Books and Periodical Indexes

Google Books: https://books.google.com/

Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/

Hathi Trust: https://www.hathitrust.org/

Internet Archive: https://archive.org/index.php

Project Gutenberg: https://www.gutenberg.org/

JSTOR: https://www.jstor.org/

PERSI: https://search.findmypast.com/search/periodical-source-index

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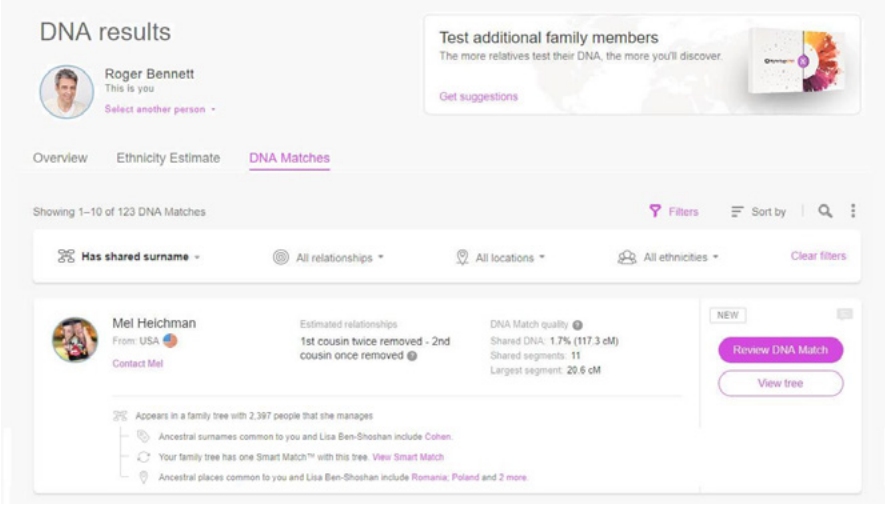
All materials used in this research can be found in Dropbox. Email me to be added to the folder at genaortega@gmail.com. View documents at: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/a6vdp39gu9heh99/AACs3s 9sASRBI4FiIgRDhfSa?dl=0

Theory of Family Relativity™ & AutoCluster: How They Can Help Me

By: Daniel Horowitz - Daniel@MyHeritage.com - Tweeter: @MyHChiefGen - Instagram: horowitz_daniel

Your DNA Match details consolidated into one place with different sections that will help you discover how the match may be related to you. This can open the door to new connections and discoveries to advance your family history research.



Accessing your DNA Matches: Your DNA Matches are listed under the DNA tab, sorted by the amount of shared DNA, so closest relatives will be listed first.

On your DNA Matches page, you will see the family tree details of your match, and the ancestral surnames for your matches, which can help determine who your shared ancestors are. You can add notes to your DNA Matches to keep track of your research progress with each match and to organize them better.

Possible relationships: For every DNA Match, the page lists the possible relationship(s) as indicated by DNA between you and the person. It's sometimes difficult to visualize these relationships; so, we provide you with a handy relationship helper window (click the question mark icon) that shows you what the relationships mean. If more than one relationship is possible, the various possibilities will be highlighted in that window.

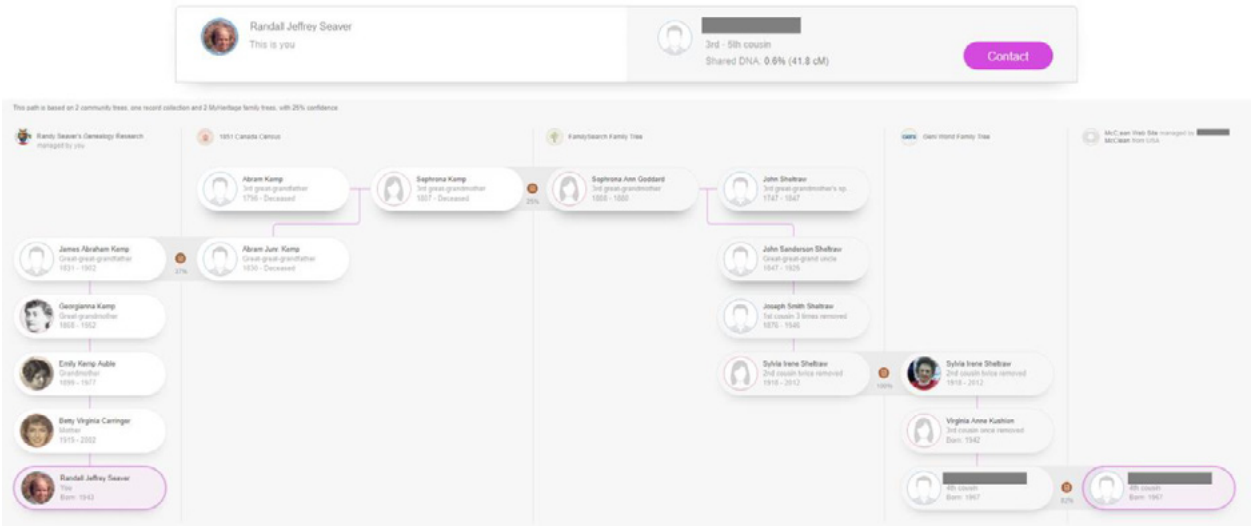
DNA Match quality: This section displays three values for each match that can inform you about your genetic relationship with your DNA Match. They are Shared DNA, Shared segments, and Longest Segment.

Contacting other users: Get in touch with the people who seem to be interesting matches, and exchange information about how you may be related to them. If your DNA Match is a member of a MyHeritage site manage by another person, you can also contact the administrator.

On the DNA Matches list, you can click the "Review match" button in the bottom right corner of any of your matches to view relevant data about the match, combining

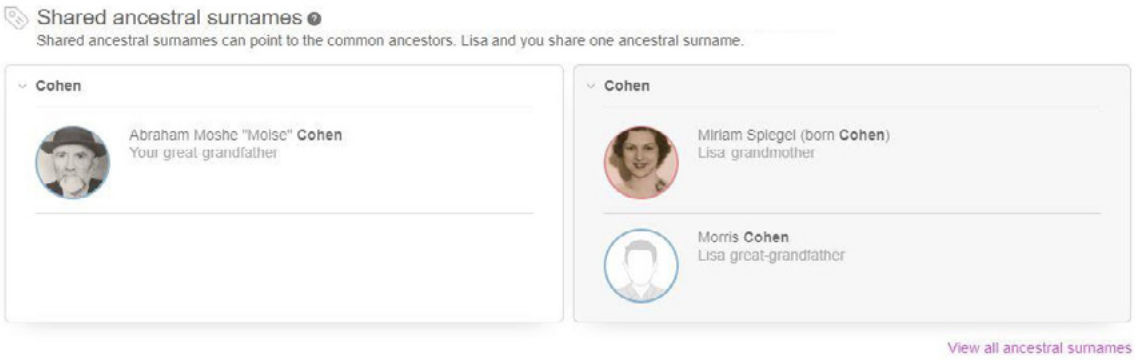
information from DNA and family trees. It is displayed in an easy to use side-by-side comparison.

Theory of Family Relativity™: This revolutionary technology saves you dozens of hours of research by synthesizing billions of data points to craft multiple theories about how you and your DNA Matches might be related. This feature presents genealogical theories that may explain how you're related to a DNA Match. Each Theory of Family Relativity™ is created by connecting billions of tree profiles and historical records on MyHeritage.



Smart Matches™: MyHeritage technology that matches people in your tree with people in other trees. If you share a percentage of DNA with someone, and your trees also have Smart Matches, it increases the likelihood that you are related and makes it easier for you to understand how you are related.

Shared Ancestral Surnames: These are the surnames of your direct ancestors and the direct ancestors of your DNA Match, which are retrieved from your family trees on MyHeritage. If you and a DNA Match have shared ancestral surnames, this section will show the ancestral surnames you have in common going back 10 generations.



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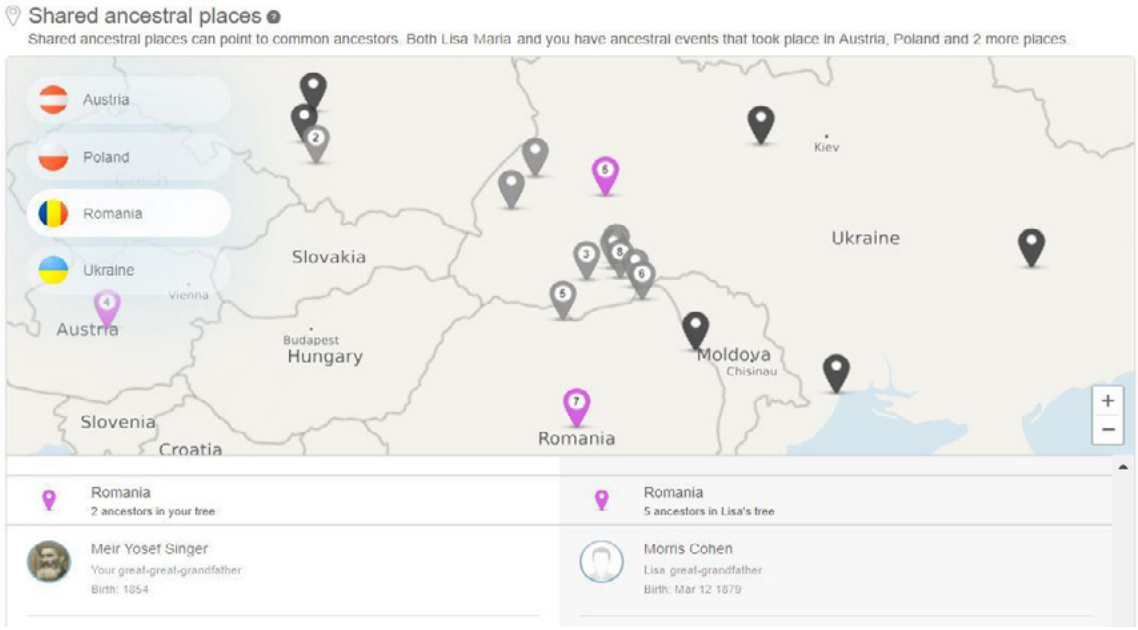
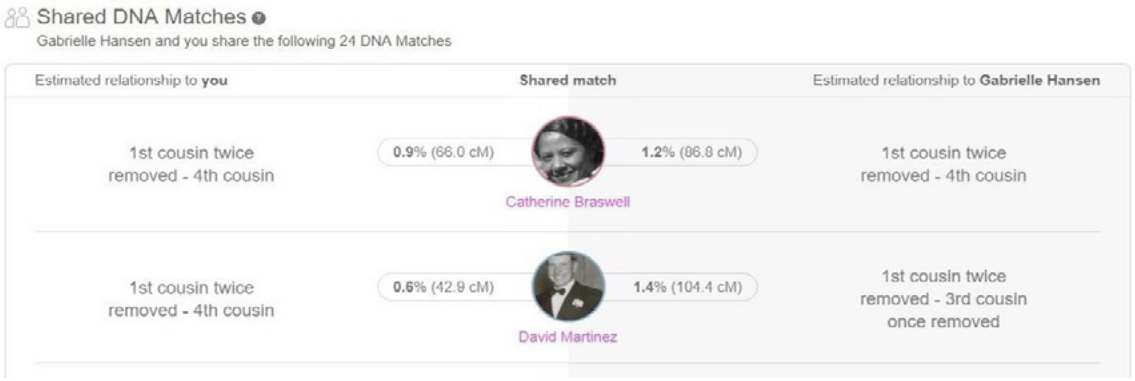
Shared Ancestral Places: Shared Ancestral Places refer to towns, countries, or U.S. states that appear in your family tree as well as in the family trees of your DNA Matches, where birth or death events of your ancestors (and those of your DNA Matches' ancestors) took place. These places are identified going back up to 10 generations and can play a vital role in family history research.

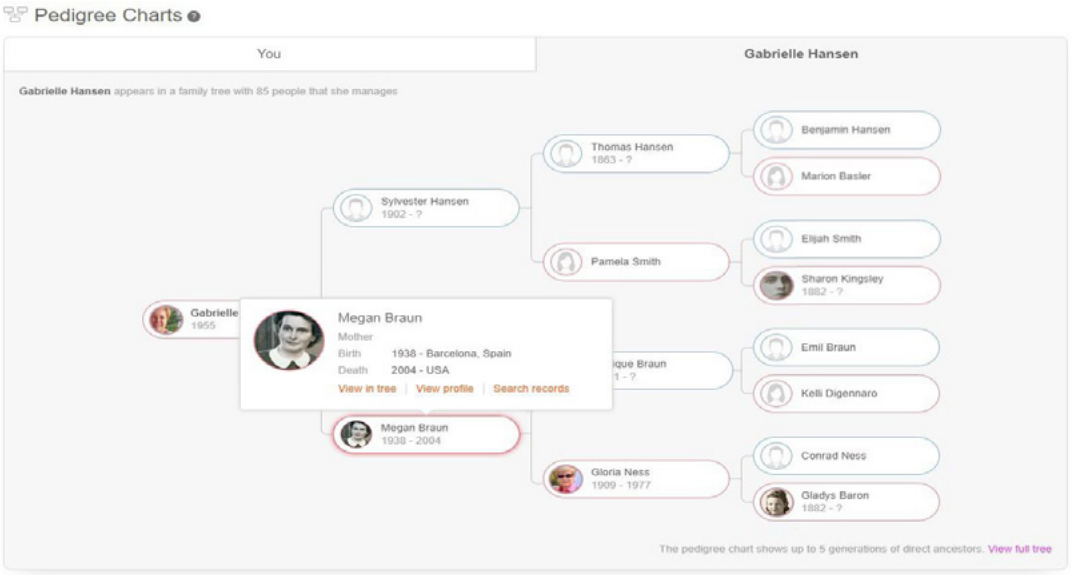


Shared DNA Matches: Shared DNA Matches are people who share DNA with both you and your DNA Match, meaning both of you have the same person in your list of DNA Matches. This is another way of increasing the confidence in your DNA Match and helps you learn which side of the family your DNA Match is on. In this section, the name of each Shared DNA Match is clickable and allows you to go to the DNA Match Review page for that specific match.



Pedigree Charts: Pedigree Charts show the main individual and their direct line of ancestors, i.e., parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, etc. The Pedigree Chart section shows your match's direct ancestors in one tab and shows your own pedigree

chart in an adjacent tab. Women appear in the Pedigree Chart with their maiden names. To see more information about any person, hover the mouse over the card. A callout will open, as shown below, adding more information, such as birthplace and death place.



Viewing family tree details: The power of MyHeritage comes from its family trees. You will be able to view that family tree to understand better whether they are indeed related to you and try to figure out the exact path of the relationship. MyHeritage allows you to view the family tree of any of your DNA Matches. Trees on private sites will not be viewable, but even in that situation, you will be able to request access from the site manager in most cases.

Chromosome Browser: The chromosome browser tool allows you to see how much DNA you shared in common with your match. The browser provides a graphical view of the half-identical segments shared with the match on each individual chromosome. Matches can be on the paternal or maternal chromosome, but the chromosome browser cannot distinguish between the two.

AutoClusters organizes your MyHeritage DNA Matches into shared match clusters that likely descended from common ancestors. By grouping together DNA Matches who likely belong to the same branch and have a common ancestor, AutoClusters can be very helpful in shedding light on the relationship paths that connect you and your matches. By reviewing family trees of clustered matches, users can piece together the entire branch. Clusters are color-coded for convenience and are presented in a powerful visual chart, as well as in list format.

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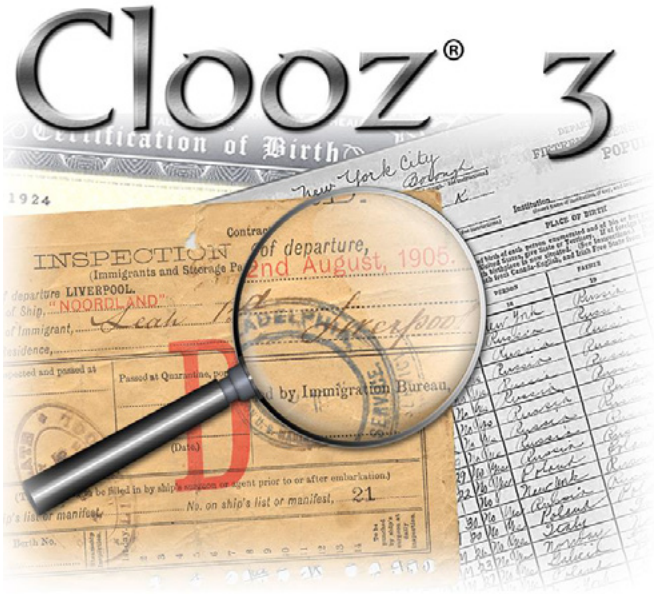

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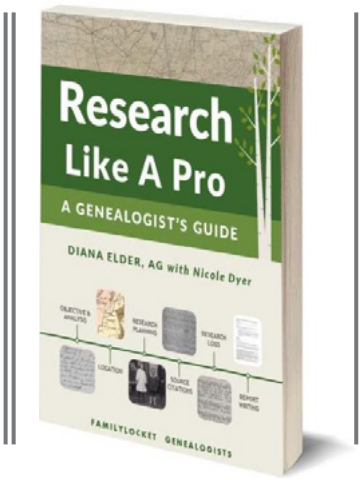

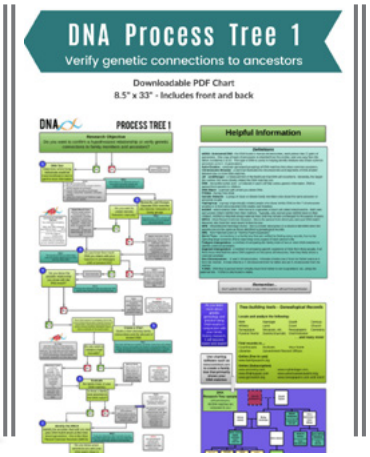

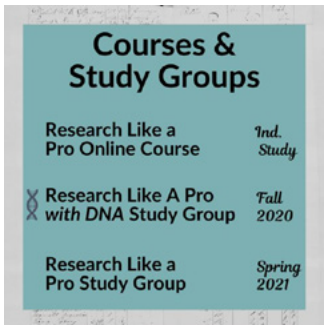

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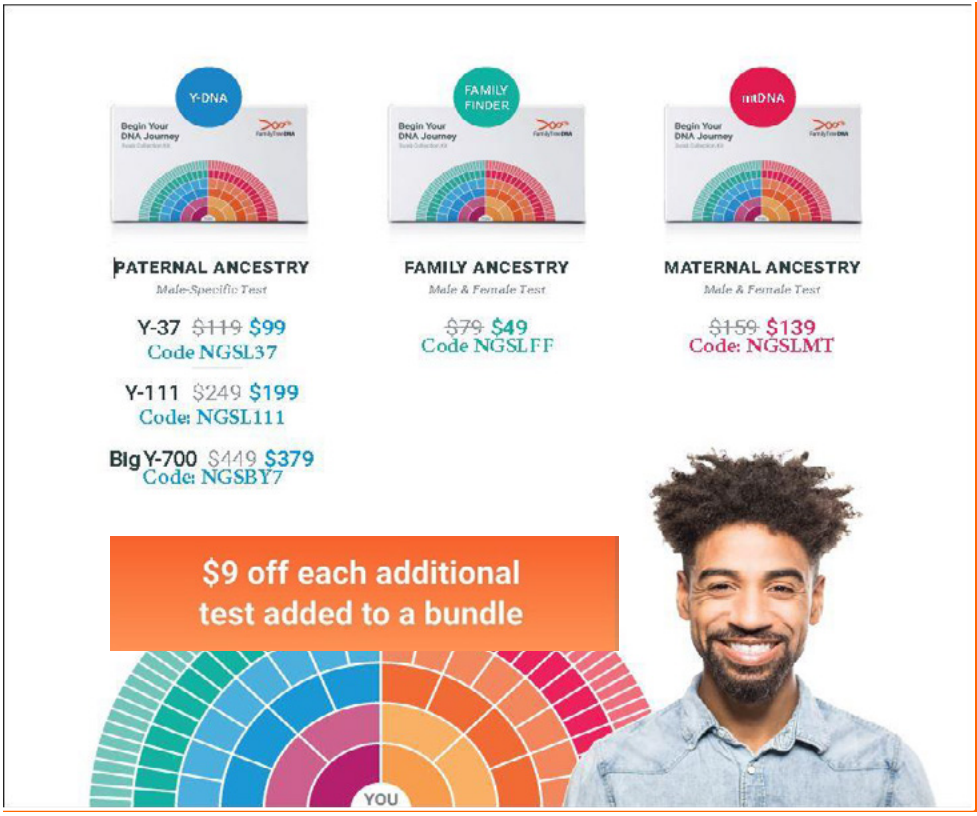

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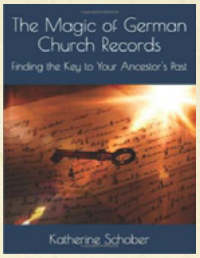

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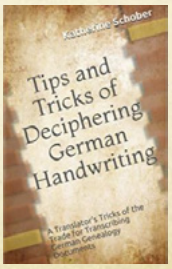

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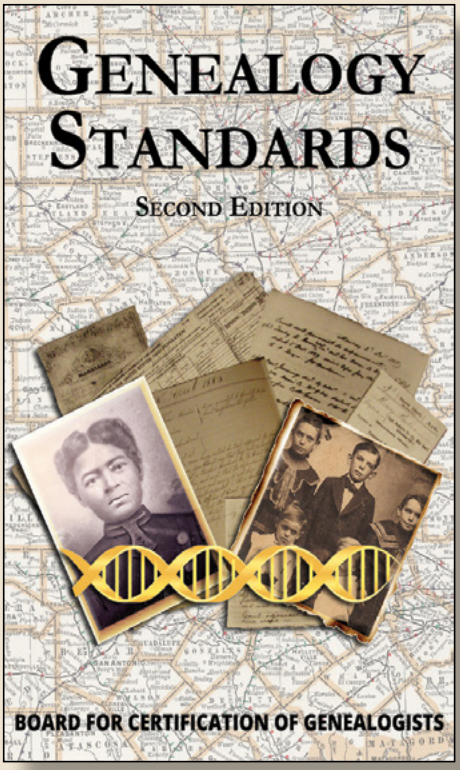

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