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NGS NewsMagazine

Features

Columns

Departments

About NGS

Moving forward, still

Barbara Vines Little, CG

Spring is in the air; as I write, it's March and crocuses are blooming here in Virginia. Many of you are making plans for vacations and research trips. We hope you have Nashville on your list. We think it will be a great conference. The program is set and there are a number of great research sites in the area. The program brochure should be in your mail box. It's been on the website for more than a month. I hope you've studied it carefully and have already signed up. But if you haven't, take a look at this year's first issue of the NGS *NewsMagazine*; it has an article on some of the great research opportunities you can take advantage of in Nashville. If you're technology oriented, you'll surely want to take advantage of the opportunity to hear Michael H. Kay, who'll be speaking on the advantages of using XML in transferring information. There are a number of potential benefits for genealogists. We'd like to thank Ancestry.com for sponsoring his trip from England so that he could present at our conference.

We're moving forward with plans for the NGS Conference in the States in Chicago in 2006 and Richmond, Virginia, in 2007, where we'll be celebrating Jamestown's 400th anniversary. It's an event you won't want to miss.

We're moving forward on other fronts as well. Thanks to Cyndi Howells, our website is getting revamped and updated in anticipation of the expansion of the Members Only section (click on Membership, then Members Only). Members can currently access scanned images of our Bible records collection, as well as the 1800–50 index to abstracts of marriages and deaths from the *National Intelligencer.* Our new IT person, Gayathri Gopriam, will be on board by 1 May. Her first task will be to get our family papers collection online.

The AMA Deceased Physicians research service is back. Our volunteer, Claire Crawford, is hard at work catching up on the backlog of requests. And speaking of volunteers, they're also hard at work scanning and indexing Bible records that are added to the website on an almost nightly basis. Our graders for the Home Study Course are working harder than ever, now that we have the new version of the course available on CD. And the volunteers who worked so hard to get the first sec-tion completed and available are working harder than ever to complete the second CD on schedule.

It's because of all of these volunteers that your society is moving forward. While we can never thank everyone enough for all that they have done and do to help make NGS grow, we're going to try. We are establishing a roll of honor on our website as a way of saying thank you. We hope you'll look to see who's there and the next time you see one of those volunteers, you'll say "thank you," too. Or better yet, volunteer yourself. We can always use help. Tell people about our services, our conferences, the *Quarterly* and *NewsMagazine*, encourage them to join, and if your local library or society isn't a member, give them a gift membership—institutional membership is only $50. You'll be helping both your library and NGS. Volunteer to take some membership or conference brochures to your local library or society meeting—we'll be glad to send you some. But most of all, encourage everyone to join us as we continue to learn, help to preserve our past, and set standards for the future in genealogy.

Continuing education

Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens, CGRS, CGL

I've always enjoyed reading articles that help further my genealogical skills. No matter how long you've been doing research, there's always something more to be learned, and different perspectives to discover for approaching your research. And sometimes we just need to be reminded that there are other options to try when we're baffled by an obstacle.

I had heard of the Civilian Conservation Corps, but until I read Ann Fleming's article, starting on page 8, I had no appreciation for what the organization did for young men and for this country. I've had no reason to explore these records.

Similarly, I was totally unaware of the naturalization issues surrounding World War I soldiers, because my great-grandfathers were American citizens. I've had no reason to explore these records. Marian Smith's article about this research starts on page 23.

City directories have helped me tremendously in researching my many urban dwellers. Following them each year through the directo-ries has led me to research trails I might not have thought of otherwise. Starting on page 35, Connie Bradbury explores the advantages of including directory research as a primary tool in your genealogical toolkit.

Newspapers have been my friend for as long as I've been researching. I started out with a small collection of clippings, as many of us do. The clippings just whet my appetite for finding more juicy tidbits about my ancestors in other papers. My favorite find so far is the small-town newspaper that announced that my grandfather had been born. "A young doctor applied for admission into the family of Dr. Finley last Saturday. He was admitted after exhibiting the proper credentials."[1] That was the rural way to welcome a new son to the town's only doctor. Without taking the time to read this paper, I might have missed this "birth announcement." Pat Stamm gives more excellent examples in her article about newspapers beginning on page 13.

For those who consider themselves technologically challenged, this is the issue for you. We start with Cyndi Howells (of *Cyndi's List*) giving advice on evaluating websites. Whether you're new to the Web or consider yourself an advanced surfer, this article will help you make decisions about the data you see on the Web. See page 46.

Richard Wilson shows you how to get started using The USGen-Web Project, starting on page 51. On page 55, Drew Smith introduces the new marriage between popular search engines and WorldCat, the world's largest library catalog. And beginning on page 57, William Zehner discusses the issues surrounding creating family histories from genealogical software. And to cap it off, Bill Mumford reviews *GenSmarts* on page 61.

I hope you love to read as much as I do because we've packed these 64 pages with lots of continuing education, just for you.

Note

1. Centerville (South Dakota) *Chronicle* (30 June 1890).

Long distance learning course graduates

Education is at the center of the NGS Mission. The most important tool in the NGS educational program is the distance-learning course, *American Genealogy: A Basic Course*. The following graduates completed the course between 1 January and 31 March 2005. Each of them has successfully mastered one of America's unique educational opportunities. We want to congratulate them and wish them the best as they use their newly honed skills to find their ancestors.

Cheryl Baker	Illinois
William Black	California
Patricia Caster	California
Kenneth Chisholm	Florida
Yvonne Curry	California
Frances K. Ewing	New Mexico
Regina French	Arkansas
Gloria Futrell	Arkansas
Katharine Garstka	Alabama
Deborah Griffin	Ohio
Barbara Kiersh	Florida
Danella Laes	Colorado
Katherine Parry	Florida
Cheryl Willis Patten	Maine
Caitlin Phillips	Tennessee
Judy Powers-Anton	Texas
Margaret S. Skovira	Virginia
Sandra Slifka	Connecticut
Bonnie Stevens	California
Shannon Terwedo	California
Liz Walker	Oklahoma
Wendy Wilkerson	Washington

NGS website enhancements

Members Only message boards

Two message boards are currently available: NGS Membership, and Queries from NGS Members.

A third message board is available to members of the Britain & Ireland Forum. To visit the message boards, first log in to the NGS website with your member information. Then go to <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/members/> and select Message Boards.

Awards and Competitions Calendar

The dates for all NGS awards and competitions are now posted on the NGS website at <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/awardscompcalendar.htm>.

UpFront with NGS

UpFront with NGS is a free, twice-monthly genealogy e-mail newsletter, designed for members of the National Genealogical Society and the entire genealogical community. The online newsletter brings you the latest genealogy news, information about upcoming events, and brief articles to help you with your genealogical research. Each issue typically contains NGS announcements, helpful articles, bookmarks from NGS members, news, announcements, press releases, events calendar, NGS events and activities, and family reunions.

To subscribe, send an e-mail message to <NGS-L-request@rootsweb.com>, making sure to only put the word *subscribe* in the body of the message. Put nothing in the subject line. Be sure to turn off your automatic signature file when sending the above command to the RootsWeb mailing list server. Don't include any additional text or file attachments with the subscription message.

National Genealogy Hall of Fame

For 20 years, the National Genealogical Society has made a yearly selection to honor those whose superior achievements in American genealogy, for a period of ten years or more, have made an impact on our field. Their significant contribution must have been unique, pioneering, or exemplary. Each year, the National Genealogy Hall of Fame solicits nominations from societies of Americans who have been deceased for at least five years prior to the nomination. From those submissions, one person is elected annually and his or her portrait is displayed in the society headquarters. The nominee is chosen by a representative group of nationwide genealogists. The current committee consists of Shirley Langdon Wilcox, CG, of Virginia, Sandra M. Hewlett, CGRS, of Pennsylvania, Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG, CGL, of Alabama, Christine Rose, CG, of California, and Loretto D. Szucs of Illinois.

Donald Lines Jacobus was elected in 1986 as our first Hall of Fame member. This year we received two nominations.

Mary Campbell (Lovering) Holman was nominated by The American Society of Genealogists. She was born 20 October 1868, in Boston, and died 17

August 1947, in Belmont, Massachusetts. During the early twentieth century, Holman published a series of compiled genealogies on the Scott, Sherman, Coney, Clements, Bullen, and Pillsbury families, each of which was a model of sound genealogical judgment, and was an exemplary model of painstaking research in original records. She had a long career as a professional genealogist, and the quality of her work placed her at the forefront of her peers.

Dr. Kenn Stryker-Rodda was nominated jointly by The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society and the Genealogical Society of New Jersey. For four decades, Stryker-Rodda actively worked to disseminate genealogical data—largely early New York and New Jersey material—to the researching public. He was a pioneer genealogical educator, a lecturer at the first national conferences and institutes, and an organizer of the Board for Certification of Genealogists. His extensive legacy of genealogical literature includes major New York and New Jersey source records and indexes used every day by researchers worldwide. Given the nature of New York and New Jersey as a center of immigration and settlement, these resources document the ancestors of numerous American families.

This year's Hall of Fame inductee will be announced at the NGS Conference in the States in Nashville.

Salt Lake City trip

Mark your calendars now for the annual NGS trip to Salt Lake City. The trip is scheduled for 22–29 January 2006. Conduct research at the Family History Library with the assistance of trip directors Shirley Langdon Wilcox, CG, and Dereka Smith. Watch for more information in future issues of the NGS *NewsMagazine*.

From the mailbox

Corrections

On page 32 in the December 2004 NGS *NewsMagazine*, there are some addresses that need correction:

The Swedish Ancestry Research Association of Worcester, Massachusetts, has the following Web address: <http://sarassociation.tripod.com/sara/SARA_Main.htm>

The Swedish American Genealogist has the following mailing address: c/o Swenson Center, Augustana College, 639 38th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201, or c/o Thorsell, Hästskovägen 45, S-177 39 Järfälla, Sweden. Web address <http://www.etgenealogy.se/sag.htm>

My own Web address, mentioned at the bottom of column 2, is <http://www.etgenealogy.se>.

Comments, questions? Just contact me.

—Elisabeth Thorsell

Member Queries

THOMAS, HOLMES, NICHOLS. Seek information concerning Thomas Thomas, bpl Ridgefield, Conn., bd 23 July 1857, w Hannah Holmes (all data unknown), dau Phebe Thomas, bd 1 May 1799, bpl unknown. Phebe m1 (unknown) Nichols abt 1818, and m2 Lyman Dean 15 March 1828 (Riga, N.Y.). Alan D. Carey, 6722 Old Sauk Road, Madison, WI 53705-2427; e-mail alancareya@tds.net.

RANDALL, GRANGER. Lucinda Granger Randall, bpl Suffield, Conn., bd 20 or 29 October 1793, 1794, or 1797, dd 20 September 1884, bur Windfall Cemetery, Calhoun County, Mich. There was a large Granger family in Suffield, desc of Launcelot Granger. Several members of that family emigrated to Calhoun County, Mich., in the 1830s and 1840s—Lucinda among them, by that time m to John Randall, md 1 January 1814, mpl Bridgewater, N.Y. I cannot find Lucinda in any family of Grangers in Connecticut. Any information or guidance would be appreciated. Kate Randall Reeves, 70990 Star Shadow Road, RC-163, Mountain Center, CA 92561; e-mail kate.mill_rch@royal-carrizo.com.

Books by our members

In order to have your book listed here, you must be an NGS member and a copy of the book must be donated to the NGS Circulating Collection in St. Louis. Please see <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/libmempubs.htm> for instructions on how to do this.

♦ Rising, Marsha Hoffman. *The Family Tree Problem Solver: Proven Methods for Scaling the Inevitable Brick Wall.* Cincinnati: Family Tree Books, 2005.

Everyone experiences dead ends or brick walls in genealogical research. These can be because of incom-

plete or missing records, scanty census data, or more than one person by the same name in a community. Noted genealogist Marsha Hoffman Rising, CG, FUGA, FASG, shows researchers how to break through these problems by breaking down the elements with straightforward solutions.

♦ Sperry, Kip. *Kirtland Ohio: A Guide to Family History and Historical Sources.* Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University, 2005.

Kirtland, Ohio, served as headquarters for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the early nineteenth century and has a rich history belying the town's small size. In this book, Kip Sperry has compiled a wealth of resources—historical background, a chronology of events, and helpful sources of information that include computer databases and Internet sites; periodicals, newsletters, and newspapers; and addresses of repositories. The book features maps of Kirtland and photos of the Kirtland Temple.

♦ Waak, Patricia Ann. *My Bones Are Red: A Spiritual Journey with a Triracial People in the Americas.* Macon, Ga.: Mercer University Press, 2005.

This book primarily tells the stories of the Perkins family. For the first time, this book tracks family members who would be sequentially classified by the U.S. census as black, "free people of color," mulatto, Indian, and white over a period of 100 years. The Perkins family and the families they married into were a combination of Native American, African, and British.

Genealogy News

New Archivist of the United States

On 16 February, Dr. Allen Weinstein, a noted scholar and professor of history and a recognized leader in global democracy issues, was sworn in as the ninth Archivist of the United States. As Archivist, Weinstein will oversee the National Archives and Records Administration, an independent Federal agency created by statute in 1934.

Among the National Archives' approximately 9 billion pages of materials that are open to the public for research nationwide are millions of photographs, maps, and documents, thousands of motion pictures and audio recordings, and millions of electronic records. Every subject relating to American history is covered in the records of the National Archives: Revolutionary War pension files, landmark Supreme Court cases, international treaties, legislative records, executive orders, public law, and Coast Guard records.

2006 OGS State Conference Call for Lectures

The program chairs of the 2006 Ohio Genealogical Society State Conference have issued a Call for Lectures. The conference, "Planting the Seed...Tools for Growing Your Family Tree," will be held 27–29 April 2006, in Toledo, Ohio. Send two copies of each proposal to either Karen Miller Bennett, 8664 Now Road, Celina, OH 45822-9449, e-mail <kbennett@bright.net>; or to Miriam Hawk Fetters, 6720 State Route 707, Mendon, OH 45862-9504,

e-mail <mhf@bright.net>. Proposals may be e-mailed and there is no limit to the number of submissions. The deadline is 15 June 2005.

Tinker DNA project

A Tinker Y Chromosome DNA project has been set up and is looking for males of that name to join in the project. The purpose is to establish connections to John Tinker who came here in 1630 and to see if there are other branches here. The test is painless. Information about it can be found at <http://www.familytreedna.com>, search for "Tinker" or contact Curtis Tinker at <cftjr@ncia.net> or P. O. Box 498, Intervale, NH 03845.

Board for Certification of Genealogists news

The Board for Certification of Genealogists announces the certification of the following four applicants:

■ Elvie L. Bresette, CGRS, Kansas City, Missouri
■ Ann Christnacht Hilke, CLS, Raleigh, North Carolina
■ Diane Martin, CLS, Andover, Massachusetts
■ Joan M. Wieser, CG, New Effington, South Dakota

The Board also announces the additional certification of Certified Genealogical Lecturer for the following three associates:

■ Amy L. Giroux, CG, CGL, Orlando, Florida
■ Janey Eaves Joyce, CLS, San Antonio, Texas
■ Patricia Walls Stamm, CGRS, CGL, St. Louis, Missouri

Young men and the Civilian Conservation Corps

I propose to create a Civilian Conservation Corps to be used in simple work... more important, however, than the material gains will be the moral and spiritual value of such work.

—Franklin D. Roosevelt, 9 March 1933

By Ann Carter Fleming, CG, CGL

D id you have an unmarried male relative who was 18 to 25 years old between 1933 and 1942? If the answer is yes, he may have been one of more than 4 million young men who participated in the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC).

The CCC was established during the Depression by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to provide employment for many young men. This corps of men worked in camps across the country planting trees, building bridges, buildings, dams, lakes, lodges, lookout towers, museums, and other structures, stocking lakes and ponds, controlling soil erosion, protecting the wildlife, developing parks, and working in historical areas. Families enjoy many of their projects today—it may be something simple like a drinking fountain, or a more complex project that revitalized a dense forest with numerous hiking paths.

Young men volunteered for the corps with the knowledge that they might move away from home, live in a military style camp, work hard, and send most of their paycheck home. For many, this was their first time away from home or out of their native state. The young men received only $5 spending money per month and the other $25 pay was sent home to their parents or assignee. In addition to the $30 monthly salary, the recruits were provided food, lodging, and medical care.

Many of the recruits joined the CCC because of hardships at home. Families could not afford to feed all of their children; thus this was an opportunity for additional family income and one less mouth to feed. With those circumstances, many recruits lied about their birth date in order to enlist as early as possible.

The recruits received medical checkups and shots at the time of enlistment. They also had a dental checkup, often for the first time. The checkups continued on a regular six-month schedule. The new recruits also received two types of uniforms: a dress uniform and working attire.

The term of enlistment varied. Some men served for a year, others longer. The public was unhappy when Congress ceased funding for this project in 1942 because of World War II; thus many of the CCC men

Figure 1: CCC application.

became World War II soldiers. The military recruited these men because of their CCC training, leadership experience, and capabilities.

The camps were either tent cities or wooden military-type barracks where the men received three meals a day and wore uniforms. Some recruits were living in better conditions than at home. The camp facilities consisted of barracks, a blacksmith shop, an educational and recreational building, a hospital, and a mess hall. Off hours allowed time for baseball, basketball, boxing, ping-pong, poker, playing in an orchestra or band, or even learning to type. The men were also allowed to go to the nearby town for recreation.

At first, the local communities were not in favor of the camps in their backyards, which brought strangers into their home areas. Before long, the communities embraced the camps and the men. While the young men did not have much money to spend, they did have enough to help the local economy.

Some of the local citizens found work in the camps, further improving the economy of the area. Some citizens were educators, teaching men to read and write. Others taught technical skills that were needed for their camp assignments. Some men became carpenters, others stone masons. These same skills were often used as employment for the remainder of their lives.

The U.S. government produced a national CCC weekly newspaper called *Happy Days.* The paper featured news from the camps along with some photos. Today this newspaper serves as a journal of life in the camps.

There were more than 4,000 CCC camps across the country. The camps were divided into nine corps areas. The first corps was in New England and the ninth corps was in the west portion of the country and included California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington. The men that populated these camps could have come from anywhere in the U.S.

The camps were fairly close to a railroad station, as that was the mode of transporting the millions of recruits. As an example, there was a railroad depot in Price, Utah, and there was a post office in a nearby town of Castle Dale. The Castle Dale camp, No. 529, was located 31 miles south of Price. Stanley Newberry, who was born and raised in Chardon, Ohio, joined the corps in Chardon and was stationed in Castle Dale for one year. Other Chardon recruits were sent to different camps.

Figure 2: CCC men putting up a fence in Greene County, Georgia. (Photo courtesy of Library of Congress American Memory Collection.)

Frank Racine lived in Campti, Louisiana, joined the CCC, and worked in the Kasatchie National Forest in his home state where the CCC reforested more than 200,000 acres. Racine, like other corps volunteers, enjoyed this time and talked about it for the rest of his life. Some recruits became the guys next door, others became famous. Actor Walter Matthau was in the CCC from 1939–40.

Babler Park in St. Louis County and Meramec State Park in Sullivan, Missouri, were projects developed by the CCC recruits. The Sullivan Camp, No. 272, in Franklin County, Missouri, was one of 41 camps in the state. They built cabins and other facilities, hiking trails, lookout towers, picnic shelters, planted trees, developed roads and parking, and controlled erosion.

Available records

If you think one of your ancestors served in the CCC, you can obtain his records. Since the recruits were civilian employees, the records are available from the National Civilian Personnel Record Center. (Records for most government civilian employees are available at this same location.)

The file could contain the recruit's enlistment, discharge, camp, and medical records. Be sure to request *all* documents in the file, not just the enlistment or discharge paper. The following statement is cited on the Civilian Personnel Record Center website at <http://www.archives.gov/facilities/mo/st_louis/civilian_personnel_records/civilian_records_faqs.html>:

Figure 3: CCC personal history form.

The Privacy Act of 1974 and the Office of Personnel Management directives require a written request, signed and dated, to access information from civilian personnel records. Written authorization of the person of record, or proof of that person's death, is also needed.

Your request letter should contain the full name of the CCC enlistee, his Social Security number if known, birthdate, and the statement that he served in the CCC and approximate dates of enlistment. If the enlistee is living, he must sign the letter. If he is deceased, provide a copy of his death certificate and the signature of his authorized representative or next of kin. Personal visits, phone, and e-mail requests are not acceptable. Mail a letter containing the above information to:

National Personnel Records Center
Civilian Personnel Records
111 Winnebago Street
St. Louis, MO 63118

The enrollment form provides the name, address, post office name, and county of residence, and date and place of birth of the enlistee. It also lists a physical description including height, weight, and color of eyes and hair. This document states whether the father and mother were living and the number of brothers

and sisters of the enrollee. It gives the occupation of the principal wage earner, which is sometimes a WPA job. The form also provides the education experience of the enlistee. If one or both parents worked for the WPA, request their records from the same facility (figure 1).

The personal history section provides the camp(s) number and name(s) where the enlistee served. This form lists the name of the father, his nationality, education, and occupation. The same information is available for the enlistee's mother. The form also lists the name and address of the "designated allottee" for the monthly paycheck. The enlistee signed this document (figure 3). The civilian record also provides the company record. The discharge record provides a record of the CCC service (figure 4).

Case study

A friend shared the documents regarding her cousin Philip Judson Anderson. Look at the wealth of information that can be gleaned from the records.

Philip, who lived in Galva, Illinois, in June 1936, was born on 21 April 1917 in Toulon, Stark County, Illinois. He listed his nearest relative as his uncle, Harold J. Trimmer, of West Jersey, Illinois. Philip joined the corps and served in Camp Galva, Company No. 2604, from 13 July 1936 to 15 May 1937.

The records indicate that Philip was a single male who had never been married or divorced, nor had any children. His father was A. H. Anderson who was from a German-Swedish background. A. H. completed twelfth grade and worked as a lather. Philip's mother was Georgia Anderson of English-Irish nationality who completed eighth grade and worked as a housewife. The records indicate that since Philip was in a local company, his pay allotment was not required or registered.

Philip attended elementary and junior high school

in Los Angeles, California, then graduated from Toulon High School. In 1934, Philip apparently went back to Los Angeles to work as a laborer in an aluminum foundry until it closed. He listed tractor and truck driving and farming as his skills.

While in the CCC, Philip took engineering drawing classes and received excellent grades. The company commander stated Philip was "honorably discharged to secure employment."

Philip was 6 feet 1½ inches tall, weighing 155 pounds. He had blue eyes, brown hair, with a fair complexion. He had 20/20 vision in both eyes. The record indicates that the physician listed Philip as normal in all other categories during the examination. Prior to the CCC he worked as a farmer. While in the CCC, Philip worked with soil conservation.

All of this information was gleaned from the CCC records obtained at the Civilian Personnel Records center.

CCC Museum

The National Association of Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni (NACCCA) museum, located at Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis, Missouri, houses memorabilia from this important time in the life of our ancestors. The museum has copies of some, not all, of the newspaper, *Happy Days*. They have many camp and personal photos from various camps. The staff is busy cataloging the photos by camp number. CCC alumni and their families have donated uniforms, tools, camp equipment, photos, and documents. Additional donations are accepted and appreciated. The book listed below, *The Tree Army*, is also available at the museum.

On a recent visit, one genealogist found a photo of her father's camp. For a nominal fee or donation, the staff will search the records for information on the camp in which your ancestor participated. You need to know the camp number and location. If you do not know that information, it is available on the civilian record listed previously. First request the civilian record, then request assistance from the museum. Further information about this national museum is available on its website at <http://www.cccalumni. org/>. Some states and areas have local organizations and museums as well. You may contact the national museum at:

NACCCA Museum
16 Hancock Avenue
P.O. Box 16429
St. Louis, MO 63125
314-487-8666
naccca@aol.com

The recruits took the following oath:

I, _____, do solemnly swear that the information given above as to my status is correct. I agree to remain in the Civilian Conservation Corps for the period terminating at the discretion of the United States between _____ unless sooner released by proper authority, and that I will obey those in authority, and observe all the rules and regulations thereof to the best of my ability and will accept such allowances as may be provided pursuant to law and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto. I understand and agree that any injury received or disease contracted by me while a member of the Civilian Conservation Corps cannot be made the basis of any claim against the government, except such as I may be entitled to under the act of September 7, 1916, and that I shall not be entitled to any allowances upon release from camp, except transportation in kind to the place at which I was accepted for enrollment. I understand further that any articles issued to me by the United States Government for use while a member of the Civilian Conservation Corps are, and remain, property of the United States Government and that willful destruction, loss, sale, or disposal of such property renders me financially responsible for the cost thereof and liable to trial in the civil courts. I understand further that any infraction of the rules or regulations of the Civilian Conservation Corps renders me liable to expulsion therefrom. So help me God.

Figure 4: CCC blacksmith in Prince Georges County, Maryland. (Photo courtesy of Library of Congress American Memory Collection.)

Figure 5: CCC discharge.

If you think your ancestor participated in the CCC, obtain his record, read about the history of his camp(s), and walk in his footsteps.

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Nickerson, Basil C. *Your CCC, A Handbook for Enrollees*, rev. ed. Juneau, Alaska: the author, 2002.

The National Association of Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni Museum. <http://www.cccalumni.org/>

Ann Carter Fleming, CG, CGL, is an author, lecturer, volunteer, past president of NGS, author of The Organized Family Historian, *and co-author of* Research in Missouri. *She is on the board of St. Louis Genealogical Society and Friends of Missouri Archives. She is also is on the faculty at IGHR at Samford University.*

Black and white and read all over

By Patricia Walls Stamm, CGRS, CGL

Whenever I peruse an old newspaper, the old childhood riddle of, "What is black and white and read all over?" pops into my head. New genealogists rapidly learn the benefits of looking at old newspapers for the obituary of that long forgotten ancestor. But they can provide us with so much more!

Newspapers have a rich history in this country. They might have a short run like the Massachusetts' *Publick Occurrences* that was published for only one day in 1690. Or they might have an extended run such as the *Connecticut Courant* which began publishing in 1764 and continues to this day.

Many consider newspapers as journals; some consider newspapers as snapshots of the era. But newspapers provide us with invaluable information on our relatives and on the environment that surrounded our families. They reflect the daily morals, attitudes, and conditions of the area they serve. They provide a glimpse into our ancestors' everyday life.

Differences abound

The 1800s brought big changes to the nation as well as to newspapers. With the debut of the penny newspapers, they became affordable to families.

Men were migrating across the country by railroads that traversed the land. Information passed between cities on transcontinental telegraph. With every new town that sprung up, a paper appeared shortly thereafter. As towns grew, the Fourth Estate multiplied. By 1860, St. Louis, Missouri, a gateway city of 160,733 people, had ten newspapers.

From their meager start at two pages, newspapers matured into a variety of sections. Depending on the place and time, some papers were printed daily while others were printed weekly or monthly. In early editions, text was small and tight. There were few, if any, graphics. Stories ran down one column and up into the next. Banner headlines were reserved for the front page while slightly enlarged or bold type signified the start of the next article. As time passed, graphics were replaced by photographs. Typeface became larger and stories were segmented. Additional newspaper history is detailed in *American Journalism: A History of Newspapers in the United States through 260 Years, 1690 to 1950.*[1]

Each paper developed its own personality. To see this, just read through them! Papers in the same city would have different headlines and stories. Metropolitan papers published news from around the world, across the nation, or throughout the state, while giving limited space to personal items.

The smaller regional newspapers were in direct contrast to the metropolitan papers. They provided

more local coverage on both the people and the community. Many surrounding neighborhoods, that could not support a newspaper themselves, supplied a weekly or monthly column.

Specialized papers are often overlooked. These papers are devoted to religious sects, occupational groups, political parties, and ethnic languages. They provide articles that interest their targeted readers. They include stories on the respected and well known members of their community. In the case of ethnic papers, often there are stories and communications from the native land.

It was reported

Newspaper research involves a commitment of time and energy. But it is worth it! You will see the stories that affected your ancestors. There were articles about floods, tornadoes, fires, disasters, and scandals. One banner headline from the *Missouri Republic* on 2 June 1917 read:

> *Tornadoes crosses 5 States;*
> *42 Dead Nearly 300 Injured,*
> *Two Missouri Towns Suffered by*
> *Blow*

One front page story reported that a teacher saved "… children by marching them out of schoolroom into a cyclone cellar." Another article detailed the various businesses that were destroyed and listed the injured residents. A further piece had particulars on the community efforts supplying aid for the victims.

Additional pages were filled with articles on the preparation for the World War I draft registration, graduating eighth graders, farm club winners, and the rising property values. Other stories dealt with accidents, fires, deaths, robberies, and personals such as "An Alderney cow valued at $70 was stolen from G. R. Robinson of Webster Groves, last week."

Reports on military action always made the paper. Early requests for military script or bounty land warrants appeared throughout the paper. During war years, columns may assert, "Four St. Louis Area Men Killed in Action." Columns reported troop movement and details of battles. Papers listed the local service personnel who were missing in action, prisoners of war, or killed in the line of duty. Sometimes, they would print a list of approved pensions.

Newspapers also reported various government and association meetings. The paper might publish city or school board minutes, a list of teachers, or newly elected club officers. Events sponsored by the local fraternal organizations, ladies auxiliaries, church groups, or political rallies had detailed articles. Sometimes a photograph, with a list of participants, would accompany the item.

Maritime columns would give ship schedules, various river water levels, and advertisements for cargo or passenger boats. Notices of relayed messages may include such information as the captain's name, type of cargo, or passenger lists.

Many papers printed some type of short historical reviews. Features such as "50 Years Ago" would document major and trivial happenings. One renowned genealogical column, "Notes and Queries," ran in the Boston *Evening Transcript* from 1876 to 1941. It had an assortment of queries, answers, and abstracts of genealogical records.

Some early newspapers devoted a column to various received telegrams. On 26 August 1863, St. Louis received this wire that told of the results of a dropped box of percussion shells.
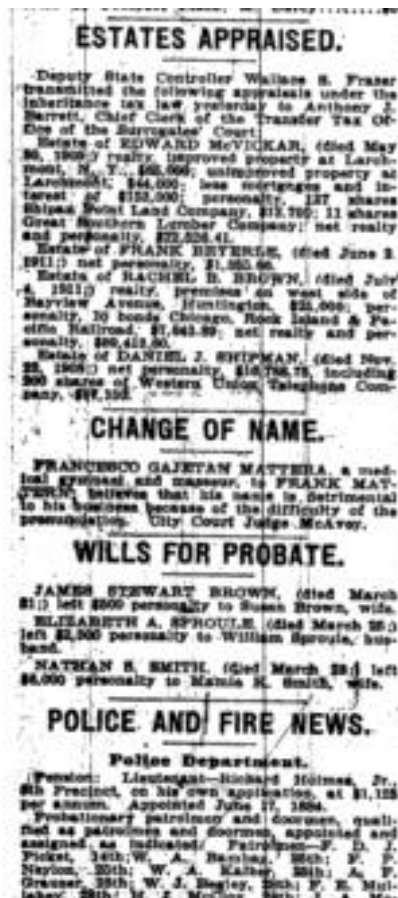
> *The explosion of the Steamer City of Madison at Vicksburg proves to have been a frightful affair. She was holding ammunition and had on board 400 tons of artillery, small arms and ammunition, and 200 packages of powder. …exploded and finally communicated with the whole shipment....*

Before an area legal newspaper began, local papers consistently published official announcements. In burned counties, these postings impart valuable research clues. Some notices were printed daily, while others appeared weekly. In the *Watchman-Advocate*, dated 3 November 1916, proceedings from the previous week were printed. There was a list of fines,

probate actions, sheriff and trustee's sales, tax defaults, approved chattel mortgages, and application for building permits. A real estate transfer read, "Elizabeth Munnemann and hus. to Wayne J. Stedelin, north 140 ft lot 7 blk 15 South Overland Park: $10."

They also published the circuit court cases, including divorces, dram shop petitions, jury participants, births, as well as marriage licenses and burial permits issued. One page was devoted to the upcoming voting ballot. Several pages later, the candidates, some with pictures, had a brief biography and explained why they were qualified for the office. Earlier papers printed a list of unclaimed mail held by the local post office.

Town or area columns provided a diversity of ignored genealogical information. Small boroughs had their individual reporters that shared stories of visitors, illnesses, church socials, parties, weddings, anniversaries, and special recognition of their residents. From the area of Dwyer, Missouri, the following was published:

> *Mr. and Mrs. Henry Meyer and son Joseph Meyer spent Sunday afternoon at the home of Ernest Zimmer and family. Mr. Meyer is president of the Producers Market Company and an extensive fruit grower and farmer near St. Charles Rock Road.*

Expanded Sunday editions contained feature material including serialized stories, comics such as the *Katzenjammer Kids*, book reviews, activities, and regional sporting events. Pictorials, revolving around assorted topics, current fashion, or neighborhoods, would grace an entire page.

Celebratory announcements appeared in the Society section. Anniversaries, graduations, and engagements were printed. Wedding articles detailed the ceremony, attendees, gifts, and the couple's future

plans. Features included homemaking tips, new recipes to entice a family's appetite, or the weekly menu at the local school cafeteria.

Advertisements appeared almost from the beginning of newspapers, selling land as well as dry goods. Steam boats and railroad schedules and fares were printed. Often, travelers would sell surplus or large items prior to departing their current home. One such ad appeared in the Burksville, Cumberland County, Kentucky, newspaper in November 1910:

> *For Sale*
> *As I have sold my farm and am preparing to leave, I have the following things which I wish to sell: One good nice bey horse, works any where, good harness horse safe for women to drive; about 18 head of nice hogs for sale; also Farming tools and one good Studebaker wagon. Those wishing to purchase will do well to call and see these things at once, as I am going to dispose of them at once.*
>> *W.E. Hillis, Waterview, Ky*

Finding the papers

Current papers are available through the local library. But how do we locate the discontinued newspapers? Look for regional or national Union Lists for newspaper files. Two helpful books are *History and*

Bibliography of American Newspapers, 1690–1820 and *American Newspapers, 1821–1936*. For German ancestors, check out *German-American Newspapers and Periodicals, 1732–1955*.[2] These books are arranged alphabetically by state, county, and town. They list the newspapers, publication dates, and repositories.

Occasionally, a locality was too small for its own paper. Examine the surrounding area for the next town or even the county seat. At times, border towns relied on a paper across the state line to report their news.

In 1985, the Library of Congress joined the National Endowment for Humanities in establishing the United States Newspaper Program to preserve our newspaper heritage. Their website <http://www.neh.gov/projects/ usnp.html> has a link into the individual state projects. Here, one will see the state's coordinating agency with the number of pages microfilmed and titles catalogued to date. Microfilmed newspapers are available to researchers throughout the country by interlibrary loan. There is worldwide access through OCLC's WorldCat website at <http://www.oclc.org/oclc/union/ usnp.htm>. (See Drew Smith's article on page 55.)

Many private individuals have abstracted a variety of newspaper information. Check out your local county under the USGenWeb Project at <http:// www.usgenweb.com>. Individual states may furnish information on either current or past newspapers, library holdings, obituaries, or articles. Additionally, there is the USGenWeb Archives Obituary Project at <http://www.roots web.

com/~usgenweb/obits/> and Newspaper Abstracts at <http:// www.newspaper abstracts.com/ index.php>. (See Richard Wilson's article on page 51.)

Both Ancestry and ProQuest have digitized newspaper collections. Leslie Corn's article in NGS *NewsMagazine* 30 (December 2004) on the "Historical Newspapers Online" provides tips on effectively using the ProQuest collection. Check with your local library about subscription availability.

Newspaper research requires diligence, dedication, and time. But in the end, genealogists, who use these journals, will say, "They are black and white and have relatives all over!"

Notes

1. Frank Luther Mott, *American Journalism: A History of Newspapers in the United States through 260 Years*, rev. ed. (New York: Macmillan, 1950).
2. Clarence Saunders Brigham, *History and Bibliography of American Newspapers, 1690–1820* (Worcester, Mass.: American Antiquarian Society, 1947); Winifred Gregory, *American Newspapers, 1821–1936: A Union List of Files Available in the United States and Canada* (1937, Reprint, New York: Kraus, 1967); and Karl Arndt and May Olson, *German-American Newspapers and Periodicals, 1732–1955*, 2d ed. (Heidelberg, Germany: Quelle und Meyer, 1965)

Patricia Walls Stamm, CGRS, CGL, is a professional researcher, lecturer, and instructor at St. Louis Community College. She is a current APG board member and is a member of NGS, Genealogical Speakers Guild, Delaware Genealogical Society, and a life member of both St. Louis Genealogical Society and State Historical Society of Missouri. She can be reached at pat.stlu@att.net.

Research in the Library of Congress

By Barbara Schenck
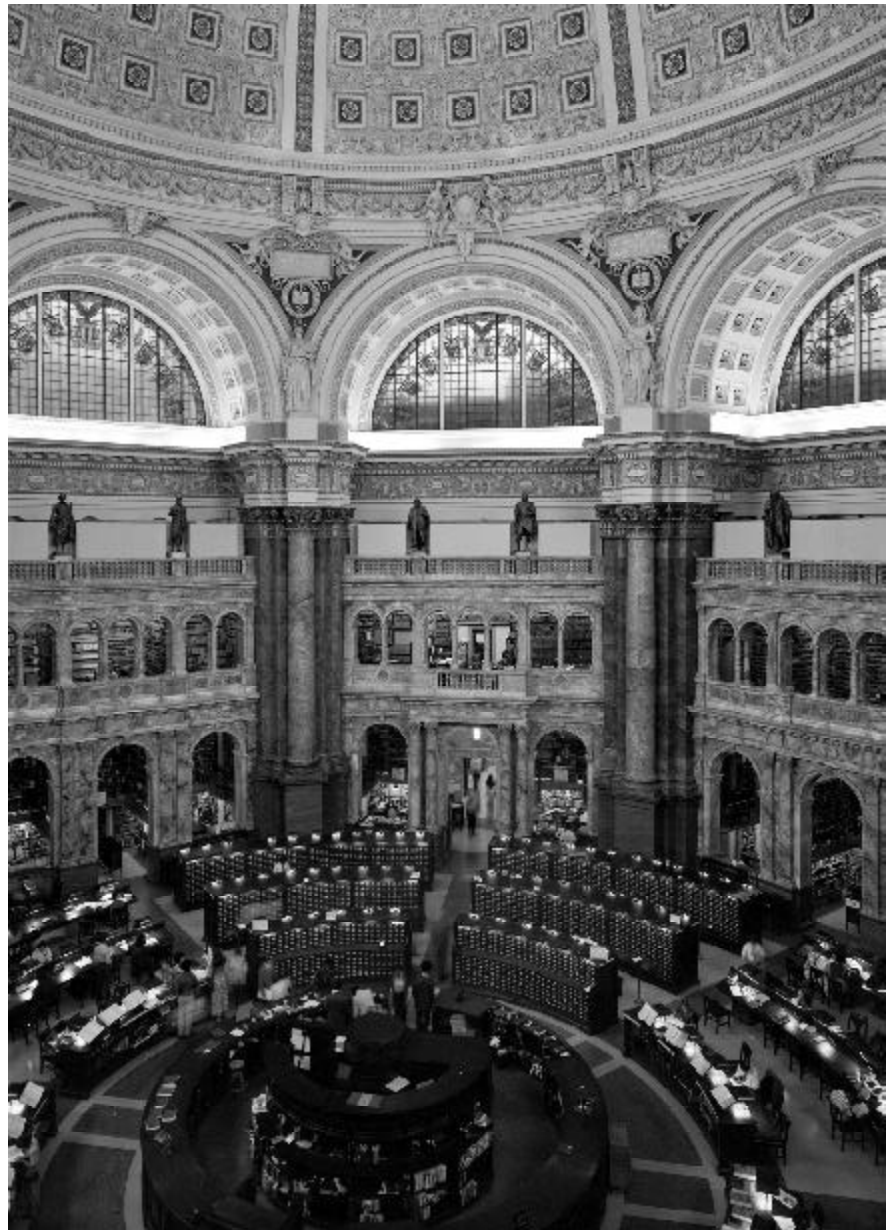
Main Reading Room, Library of Congress (photo courtesy of Library of Congress American Memory Collection).

Doing research in the Library of Congress (LC) is like going shopping at the Mall of America—in a word, overwhelming. Faced with such an abundance of goodies—more than 119 million items in all formats, languages, and on virtually every subject—what's a researcher (or shopper) to do?

You can, of course, "window shop" both in person and online by just "wandering" through the buildings (where permitted) or through the website at <http://www.loc.gov>. Doing so—with a spirit of adventure—can be a lot of fun. But a little—or a lot—of preparation can actually accomplish more than aimless wandering.

If you're going to Washington, D.C., and intend to visit the Library of Congress in person to do research, you probably already have a list of items you want to find. But even so, if it's your first time, you should consider investing 90 minutes of that time to attend one of the genealogy specific orientation sessions at the Genealogy and Local History Room in the Thomas Jefferson Building. These orientation sessions are held twice a month (current and several future months' schedules are listed on the Web at <http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/tours.html>).

To sign up for one of the sessions, visit the website and choose the one that fits in with the time of your visit. On the morning of your session, be sure to show up
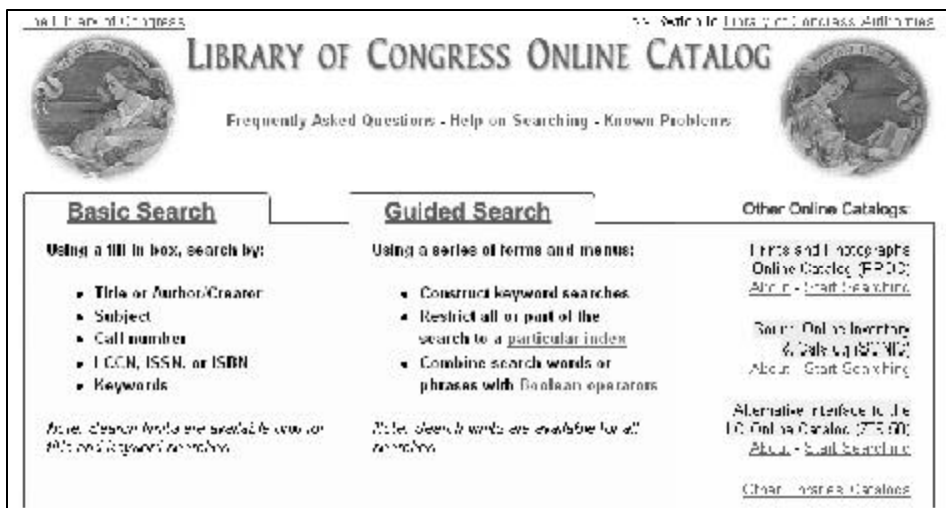
Figure 1: LOC Online Catalog at <http://catalog.loc.gov>.

half an hour early at the James Madison Building to apply for a "Reader's Registration Card," which you will need to access any materials you wish to view. Don't forget to bring a picture ID. You'll need one. The session itself will be held in the Thomas Jefferson Building. Don't forget your walking shoes, either!

If you discover that your visit to the Library of Congress does not coincide with one of the orientation sessions offered, don't despair. Contact the LC Genealogy and Local History Reading Room at 202-707-5537 to discuss your needs with them. It is possible that they can arrange a tour or otherwise help you get oriented so you will not waste valuable time. And if you are looking for a more general introduction to the Library of Congress collections, consider the Humanities and Social Sciences Division's 90-minute research orientation for first-time users that offers a general introduction to the LC collections and resources.

But what if you're not going to Washington?

No problem. You can get just as overwhelmed right in your very own home these days as you can on the floor of the Library of Congress. This is because a lot of the materials that heretofore were only accessible to those who could travel to our nation's Capitol are now available for examination on the Internet.

In other words, lucky you.

So with the wonders of the Library of Congress at your fingertips, what should you do first?

It depends, of course, on what you're looking for. Just like my holiday shopping list is going to be different from yours, so my genealogical research list will differ too. But some of the things I've looked for are the same sorts of things you might want to look for as well.

The online catalog at <http://catalog.loc.gov> is a good place to start, and the page of tips at <http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/tips.html> can help you use the catalog more efficiently.

Because the LC is noted for its vast collection of genealogies and family and local histories, books like *Johannes Schenk of Bushwick, Long Island and His Descendants: a genealogy*, that don't turn up in just any old library, are very often found here.

So if you have a list of surnames, now's the time to break it out. You can check your surnames of interest against the transcriptions of the Family Name Index found in *Genealogies in the Library of Congress, A Bibliography* and in *Genealogies Cataloged by the Library of Congress since 1986.* If you want to check out specific places where your ancestors lived, you can do that in the five volumes of *United States Local Histories in the Library of Congress, a Bibliography.*[1] Many larger city and university libraries have these collections. But if there aren't copies near you, you can also put surnames and place names into the Library of Congress's online catalog directly and see who turns up.

That's what I did.

Johannes Schenk popped up right away—in both hardback and microform copies. The microform copy was great news because, while the Library of Congress policy prohibits it from lending its books on genealogy and family and local history, it will lend microform copies of them via interlibrary loan. In fact, the majority of its collection of genealogies published between 1876 and 1900 has been microfilmed and is available to researchers in this manner.

While we know that finding someone else's printed family history doesn't excuse us from doing our own work, it's very nice to be able to have a look at what earlier genealogists have done.

I now have a list of secondary source information—other genealogists' and family historians' research efforts—that I can request and read in microform at my local library as soon as they arrive from

the LC.

While these have to be read at the borrowing institution (yes, you do have to get out of your pajamas sometime!), other books, maps, pamphlets, and photos are available directly from your computer.

In the collection called American Memory, you will find a treasure trove of American voices and views in a variety of media. While these may not be material that your own ancestors created, they speak of experiences that many, many Americans shared.

If your ancestors went west on the Oregon Trail as some of mine did, you can read scans of actual handwritten diaries of other trans-continental travelers who made the same trip. They might even have mentioned or known your family. And even if they didn't, you will come away from having read of their experience with a greater understanding of that time and place in American history.

Did your ancestors travel the Natchez Trace? Did they settle the plains of Nebraska? Did they go on the Trail of Tears to the Indian Ter-ritory? Did they come from China to work on the railroads or in far western mining camps? Did they come to America on a slave ship? Did they participate in the effort to settle as free blacks in Liberia? Did they come through Ellis Island? Take a series of photos? Make a quilt? Write a song? Ride a bronco? Brand a cow?

Americans who did all those things preserved their memories for their descendants (that's all of us) in the LC. To hear them tell those tales in their own words, to see the world as they saw it, photographed it, painted it, drew it, knew it—visit the American Memory collection. Your understanding of your country's history—and your ancestors' lives—will be the richer for it.

If the American Memory project is the Library of Congress's self-conscious attempt to make Americans aware of their past and to display it, the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMC) is the opposite.

It is, in short, a cataloguing system of items in the nation's attics and smaller repositories and is overseen by the Library of Congress. While the Library itself does not possess the materials that are catalogued in NUCMC (pronounced NUCK-MUCK), you can get a feel for the number of institutions whose collections are catalogued by checking out <http://www.uidaho.edu/special-collections/iil.htm>. NUCMC can tell you about the existence of primary sources you never dreamed of—and where to find them.

I, for example, have record-shy ancestors who lived in Edgefield County, South Carolina, for about a hundred years. I can count on the fingers of one hand the times they show up in land sales (three), jury lists (two), and church records (none). But because of NUCMC, I now know that I have not exhausted the possibilities of finding them. NUCMC has catalogued jail books and sale books and execution books for Edgefield that I didn't know existed. I don't know yet that my folks are in those books, but the search has new life. And if I do find them, you can bet my ancestors won't be just names
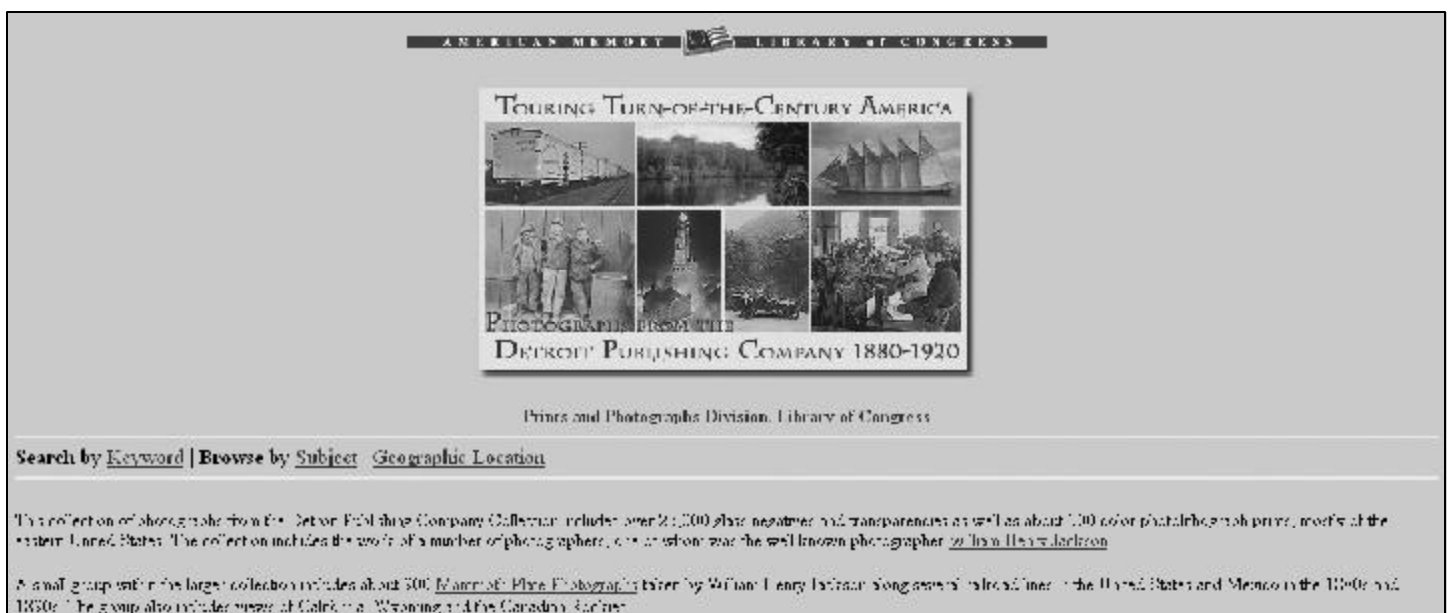
Figure 2: "Touring Turn-of-the-Century America" collection on the LC American Memory website.

and dates on a page to me, but will have life and details and context of their own.

Do you see a lot of possibilities for research? Yeah, me too. But for good measure let me toss out just one more—the availability of research already done for you. Not genealogical research, but historical research, geographical research, sociological research. You name it, and some enterprising doctoral candidate has probably already written a dissertation about it. And the LC, in its catalog of Dissertation Abstracts, can tell you so.

Were your ancestors Basques who settled in Nevada and Wyoming? Were they Iroquois dealing with incoming Europeans? Were they Irish or Cornish miners in Butte, Montana, in the early twentieth century? Check out Dissertation Abstracts. Get your local library to request a copy of one that interests you on inter-library loan. You just might learn something.

The Library of Congress provides so many collections, so many catalogs, so many options for bringing America's past to life, that it's hard to pick just a few to recommend. When you are looking for ways to understand your family history more fully, take a look at what the Library of Congress has to offer.

One old rumor has it that the LC has a copy of every book ever printed. The truth is, it doesn't. But after you've spent a while checking out its website, you might be forgiven for thinking they have just about everything else.

Note

1. Marion J. Kaminkow, *Genealogies in the Library of Congress, A Bibliography* (1972, 1977, 1981, 1986, Reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2001); Library of Congress, *Genealogies Cataloged by the Library of Congress Since 1986* (Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress, 1992); and Jack Kaminkow, ed., *United States Local Histories in the Library of Congress, a Bibliography* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1976).

Barbara Schenck has been researching her family lines for 30 years during which time she's learned more American, English, Cornish, Irish, Scottish, Welsh, German, and French history than she ever learned in school. Fleshing out the lives of her ancestors is almost more fun than creating characters for the books she writes in her day job as novelist Anne McAllister. She can be reached at jas17@aol.com.

Communities of Kinship:
Antebellum Families and the Settlement of the Cotton Frontier

A number of years ago, I was introduced by a senior genealogist to a colleague of hers in this way: "I'd like you to meet Harold Hinds, he's from the other side." A puzzled expression disappeared only when she added, "He's a historian." Luckily she didn't say I was from Gary Larson's *Far Side*! Yet, she did have a point, for professionally trained historians and professional genealogists have at times seemed to be eyeing, or even ignoring, one another across a deep moat. So I eagerly await each attempt to bridge that apparent gap, and Carolyn Earl Billingsley's monograph is an especially important attempt.

She will need no introduction to most genealogists. Her and Desmond Walls Allen's *Beginner's Guide to Family History Research*[1] is a masterful brief introduction to genealogical research. Many may not know she is both a professional genealogist *and* has a Ph.D. in history from Rice University. Indeed, the monograph under review here is her revised dissertation.

Her book is primarily aimed at historians, but it also offers much of substance for genealogists and personal family historians (more about that below). Basically her argument is that kinship is as significant an analytical concept as the holy trinity of contemporary historical scholarship: race, gender, and class. She persuasively argues that incorporating kinship into our reconstruction of the past will further elucidate many historical events. She demonstrates this by examining the southwesterly migration, following the southern frontier, of one group of her ancestors—a Keesee kinship group (Thomas Keesee Sr. and his descendants). In particular, she uses kinship to deepen our understanding of migration and settlement patterns, religious affiliation and ministers' families, kinship's links to economic and political power, and the weakening of southern family ties following the Civil War.

Her methodology borrows primarily from two fields, genealogy and anthropology. Genealogists will find much that is familiar. But even if she applies a genealogical approach, her book is not a genealogy. Rather she compiled an extensive genealogy of Thomas and his descendants as a database, which was then used to reveal when and where kinship helps explain one family's past. It is significant that her compiled genealogy would not meet the Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS). She notes that much that has been adopted from other researchers is uneven in quality, and that "not every descendent has been tracked."

The "Keesee database is far from a complete accounting of all branches… this is a broad base of data that is not consistently deep." However, it is quite adequate for her purposes: "the data for the Keesees are complete enough to more than hint at the complexities of kinship ties in the antebellum south" and to reveal kinship's key role in southern life (for a superb discussion of her database see pp. 29–36 in the book). While you will certainly want to compile as accurate, comprehensive, and well-documented a family genealogy as possible, Billingsley amply demonstrates that even a less complete genealogy and one not fully meeting the GPS, can be sufficient to aid in providing many a key insight into relationships within a personal family history.

Her other methodological leg is drawn from the many sophisticated kinship studies undertaken by anthropologists. And here she makes a point less familiar to genealogists (who rarely cite anthropological kinship studies) than to historians who of late are much taken by anthropological
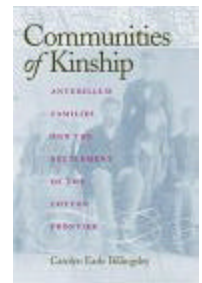
methodologies. While she draws on her extensive Keesee compiled genealogy for the data necessary to reveal the key roles kinship played on the cotton frontiers, she does not simply trace bilateral descent as one would in compiling successive generations in a genealogy. Rather, kinship for Billingsley, and for anthropologists, is not a given, not simply biological descent; but rather kinship is socially constructed. Cultures differ significantly in regard to which kinship links are highly valued, and as to whether fictive kinship, or ties based neither on biological descent or marriage, such as godparentage, is central to kinship. If you are pondering how to transform a compiled genealogy into a personal family history, the Billingsley concept of "effective" kinship should be required reading. "The range of effective kinship refers to the extent to which a genealogical connection played a role in" people's lives. "If the family connection was not acknowledged, considered, or known or did not act as a factor in the decision or activities of the two related individuals, then these individuals' relationship did not fall into the range of effective kinship. This is not a clear-cut issue… [for] the most salient point is that the range of effective kinship was fluid" (p. 20). Thus a personal family history might not give equal attention to all descendants, but rather might use effective kinship as a means to focus on those kinship relationships which have greatest explanatory power and can significantly structure a story.

There is much more of value in Billingsley's fine study. If you buy one historical work this year, purchase *Communities of Kinship*.

And then read, and reread it. Few works have more to offer historians *and* genealogists. It's available for $19.95 (paper edition) from the University of Georgia Press, or via interlibrary loan.

Note
1. Desmond Walls Allen and Carolyn Earle Billingsley, *Beginner's Guide to Family History Research*, 3d ed. (Conway, Ark.: Research Associates, 1997).

Harold E. Hinds Jr., Ph.D., is Distinguished Research Professor of History at the University of Minnesota-Morris. He serves as a director of the Minnesota Genealogical Society, associate editor of Minnesota Genealogist, *and president of Stevens County (Minnesota) Genealogical Society. He can be reached at hindshe@mrs.umn.edu.*

'New Means and New Machinery:' the problem of World War I soldier naturalization research

By Marian L. Smith

I n early May 1918, Congress acted to speed the naturalization of more than 123,000 alien members of the United States armed forces. Two months later, through the cooperation of the military, the courts, and the Bureau of Naturalization, nearly all of those aliens had been naturalized as U.S. citizens. To accomplish such a monumental task while still meeting legal and record-keeping requirements, the Naturalization Service had to "devise new means and new machinery" to perform the work.[1] These new methods proved confusing at the time and continue to impact genealogical research today. Difficulties associated with World War I (WWI) soldier naturalizations include inaccurate and incomplete records, trouble finding the records, and lingering confusion over whether certain soldiers were naturalized or not.

One modern difficulty involves our definition of terms. Most legal literature adopts the term "WWI soldier (or military) naturalization" for anyone naturalized under the Act of 9 May 1918 (as amended). Congress passed this law to speed the naturalization of members or veterans of the U.S. armed forces who served during the First World War. Some of the veterans did not naturalize under the 1918 Act until later in the 1920s and 1930s. At the same time, some popular literature applies the term to the naturalization of any soldier or veteran during the war years, regardless of when the soldier served or what law governed his naturalization. This definition covers the naturalization of Civil War and Spanish-American War veterans as long as the veteran applied for and was naturalized during the WWI years. Importantly, it also applies to soldiers who served and naturalized during WWI under the general naturalization law of 1906 but claimed none of the exemptions or waivers available under the 1918 Act.

This article focuses primarily on the naturalization of soldiers under the Act of 9 May 1918, regardless of the naturalization date. Research for the article relied largely on Federal copies of naturalization records, namely Certificate Files (C-Files) held by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

Legislative background

Congress first acted to ease the naturalization of soldiers during the early years of the Civil War. The Act of 17 July 1862 provided that honorably discharged soldiers could be naturalized in any court, without a previous declaration of intention, after

*Figure 1: Form 3-L, used by soldiers often confused as to their
citizenship status.*

residing one year in the United States.[2] This law set a
pattern followed during WWI: the naturalization could
occur in a court far from the soldier's home, there
would be no declaration of intention (first paper), and
no information regarding the soldier's immigration or
U.S. residence was required. But unlike the earlier
law, World War I's Act of 9 May 1918, allowed for the
naturalization of active-duty soldiers as well as dis-
charged veterans.

Because the 1918 Act only covered naturalization
of soldiers up to six months after honorable discharge,
it was later amended and expanded to accommodate
soldiers who somehow escaped or had been excluded
from the WWI soldier naturalization mill. An Act of
19 July 1919, allowed soldiers stationed overseas to
file their petitions for naturalization while abroad so
they might be heard upon the soldier's return. Another
1919 amendment extended 1918 Act provisions to
American Indian soldiers previously barred from
naturalization on racial grounds, and further amend-
ment in 1935 extended the provisions to Asian soldiers
also previously barred because of their race.

Seeds of confusion

The need to naturalize more than 100,000 soldiers
within a period of months sowed the seeds of confu-
sion still evident today. Local cooperation between
courts (state or Federal), military officials, and U.S.
naturalization examiners led to a patchwork of proce-
dures and practice across the nation. Deadlines caused
sloppy paperwork and "new machinery," while expe-
dient, increased the risk of losing records. And confu-
sion at the time of naturalization resulted in later
difficulties when soldiers requested delivery or re-
placement of their naturalization certificates.

One new method adopted for soldier naturalization
in 1918–19 was employment of soldiers as temporary
naturalization examiners at military camps.[3] These
soldiers assisted applicants in completing the petition
form and helped the U.S. naturalization examiner
filing petitions. Like professional examiners and court
clerks, the soldiers often completed the forms in a
hurry with little attention to the accuracy or complete-
ness of information. For example, Frank Altieri was
naturalized on 22 November 1918 by the Supreme
Court of New York County, New York. His petition, in
hurried longhand, shows his residence only as "U.S.
Navy," occupation as "sailor," date and place of birth,
and—fortunately—a supposed date of emigration or
immigration as 28 September 1913. A copy of this
petition should be found among the court's records.

Altieri's USCIS C-file also includes a witness
affidavit form printed specially for use under the 1918
Act and contains the names of two fellow soldiers who
swore they knew Altieri since 1 May 1918. Both
witnesses were musicians and fellow members of the
Pelham Bay Band. Altieri's naturalization certificate
indicates his residence at Pelham Bay at the time of
naturalization, information absent from the petition
itself. Like many WWI soldier naturalization petitions,
Altieri's offers less information than would be ex-
pected. His petition essentially reveals only his date
and place of birth and a possible date of arrival (with-
out naming a port or ship). The fact that Altieri was a
musician at Pelham Bay is only found on the C-file's
affidavit and certificate, documents typically not
found in court records.

Not all WWI soldier naturalization records lack
specific information. Stanley Maniak of Olathe,
Kansas, was naturalized at the busiest time, on 4 June
1918, in the District Court of Geary County at Junc-
tion City, Kansas. While his petition shows his occu-
pation and residence only as "soldier" and "Fort
Riley," it contains complete immigration information

including port, date, and ship (easily verified at the Ellis Island Database). Furthermore, the petition reveals that Maniak arrived in the U.S. in 1913, lived in Kansas since May 1916, and filed a declaration of intention to naturalize in October 1916 in the District Court of Johnson County. Fairly complete petitions like Maniak's (and other Geary County soldiers) are an exception to the rule. Unfortunately, too many WWI soldier naturalization records resemble Frank Altieri's and offer few clues about the immigrant.

While many WWI soldier naturalization petitions lack complete information, all should bear some notation referencing the Act of 9 May 1918, or its amending act of 19 July 1919. This reference is usually found in the block reserved for listing the applicant's children, but may be found anywhere on the form. Petitions for WWI veterans who naturalized years later may cite amending legislation passed 6 November 1919, 26 May 1926, 25 May 1932, or 24 June 1935. Any petition of a soldier or veteran that does not cite the 1918 Act or its amendments should be complete in all details, refer to a prior declaration of intention, and be filed in a court with jurisdiction over the soldier's residence. Without reference to the special legislation, the record might document the naturalization of a soldier, but it would not be a WWI soldier naturalization.

Figure 2: Affidavit, or application form, used to obtain a replacement certificate of naturalization.

Compounding the problem of hastily prepared petitions was the use of loose-leaf petition forms. Bureau of Naturalization officials developed the loose-leaf format in 1918 to allow for the rapid preparation of many petitions at the same time. Traditional (since 1906) naturalization petitions prepared in sequence by clerks of court began and ended their lives in bound volumes. The loose-leaf petitions could be gathered at the end of the day for later binding. While expedient, the loose-leaf solution risked loss of documents "in the shuffle." The result was some soldiers who believed they were naturalized but for whom no record existed.

The use of loose-leaf petitions also baffled many naturalization examiners and clerks of court. Correspondence from field offices in June 1918 suggests that many soldier petitions may have been filed in the regular court petition books and it is unclear whether this mistake was ever corrected. Furthermore, the numbering of petitions may not be uniform. Some court records may continue the sequence of the regular petition volumes, while others numbered military petitions in a separate sequence.[4] World War I soldier naturalization petition numbers should include a suffix of "M" (i.e., 324-M), but research in the C-files reveals many 1918 Act naturalizations that lack any "M" in the petition number.

Naturalization certificates could also be lost in the shuffle. At many military camps the company commanders decided to hold the soldier's certificates within their personnel files and delay delivery until the soldier's discharge. Stanley Maniak's certificate issued by the Geary County, Kansas, court was later entrusted to the commander at Camp Custer, Michigan, but when Maniak wrote asking for the certificate after discharge he learned the document could not be found. When Camp Sheridan in Alabama prepared to close in 1918, officials attempted to return all naturalization certificates remaining in their files to their proper holders. But many of the certificates were undeliverable. In this case, the remaining certificates were all sent to the Bureau of Naturalization in Washington, D.C., to be filed in the appropriate C-files and await the claim of the rightful owners. In another case, all

Figure 3: Robert McNie naturalized under the 1918 Act in 1936.

undeliverable certificates for soldiers naturalized at Camp Kearney, California, were deposited in the Bureau of Naturalization office at San Francisco.

Continuing problems

Given the shuffle of military personnel files, it should not be surprising that many discharged soldiers later experienced bureaucratic nightmares when trying—often in vain—to obtain their citizenship papers. One of the lucky ones was Luigi Paladino of Easton, Pennsylvania, who was naturalized at Camp Humphries on 3 July 1918, by the U.S. District Court at Alexandria, Virginia. Upon his discharge in December 1918, military officials handed Paladino a small document showing all his naturalization information and directing him to request his certificate from the Bureau of Naturalization in Washington, D.C. He followed through with his request in March 1919, and the certificate was mailed to him two months later. His request letter and the reference document both survive in Paladino's C-file.

Soldiers who received their certificates of naturalization could also lose them. Three soldiers naturalized at Fort Riley in Kansas serve as examples.

Zygmunt Podlas of St. Joseph, Missouri, took his certificate with him when fighting in Europe. "I left my Red Cross bag at the depot in a small city in France while in the U.S. Army," Podlas reported in 1920, "and I have never located it since." Walter Christensen of McClellan, Minnesota, lost his certificate in a 1920 house fire. And after Michael Malyk returned home to New York City his small cousin got hold of the paper and mutilated it beyond use.

These three soldiers, like many thousands of others, later filed an "Affidavit for Issuing New Naturalization Paper in Lieu of one Lost or Destroyed" with the Bureau of Naturalization. These applications for a new, or "in lieu" certificate caused the Bureau to wrestle with the difficulty of verifying citizenship from often incomplete records created under the 1918 Act. The records did not always contain enough information to make a positive identification. Research for this article turned up an alarming number of cases where veterans returned in lieu certificates claiming, "it's not me." Some of them likely never returned the certificates, and for the rest of their lives proved citizenship using someone else's

paper. The affidavits requesting in lieu certificates, as well as all related correspondence and a copy of the new certificate, are all found today in the C-file. Also usually in the C-file is a copy of a notice sent to the clerk of court that issued the original certificate, suggesting that court records can contain clues to additional documents in the C-file.

Another form used by WWI veterans to claim their naturalization papers was Form 3-L. Bureau of Naturalization officials developed the form for soldiers who claimed to have been naturalized while in the military but who never had a certificate. The document began with a letter asking the soldier to complete the form and provide information about when and where they were naturalized. Too often, the forms revealed widespread confusion among soldiers who mistakenly believed they became citizens simply by serving in the military. If the Bureau successfully verified the soldier's naturalization, the form was filed in the C-file.

If the Bureau could not verify the naturalization provided on Form 3-L, the form and any related papers remained in the Bureau of Naturalization Correspondence Files, in a sub-series devoted to "Soldiers and Sailors," now at the National Archives (NARA) in Washington, D.C. Russian-born Joe Feldman of St. Louis, Missouri, filed form 3-L in August 1925 claiming naturalization by enlistment in the Army in April 1920. He was mistaken, and so his form remains in file 35/1006 at the National Archives. Correspondence from WWI soldiers and veterans can also be found scattered throughout additional sub-series of the Bureau's correspondence.[5]

Problems and potential solutions

The fact that many WWI soldiers naturalized far away from their legal residence often leaves researchers with no starting point for their research. John

Olsen Kregnesmo of San Francisco was naturalized in San Diego, California, in July 1918. Benjamin Toomey of Lansing, Michigan, was naturalized at Fort Riley, Kansas, in June 1920. William Forcenitti of Philadelphia was naturalized at Camp Lee, Virginia, in June 1918. Normal rules instruct genealogists to search for naturalization records at a court with jurisdiction over the alien's residence. But in the case of these and countless other WWI soldiers, that rule will never lead to a record.

New online indices to court naturalization records will begin to address the problem of locating WWI soldier naturalization records. The Suffolk County (New York) Naturalization Project, for example, offers an Internet search tool devoted to locating WWI soldier naturalizations among that court's records.[6] Another helpful tool (though not online) is the Bureau of Naturalization's Index to Naturalization of World War I Soldiers, 1918, at NARA. The Bureau's index contains a national index of all WWI soldiers naturalized during 1918 and 1919, with a few gaps, notably those performed at Camp Devens in Massachusetts.[7]

While the Bureau index and various court indices are available at the Archives, at courthouses and research centers, or online, they typically do not contain enough information to identify a soldier whose name is moderately common. Court indices usually contain just the soldier's name, along with the date of naturalization and reference to volume and page numbers. Even the Bureau index referenced above contains only the name, date of naturalization, certificate number, and court. The seeds of confusion planted by the 1918 Act also sprouted in the Bureau's (now USCIS) Master Index, where a small portion of WWI soldier naturalization index cards fail to include the soldier's birth date. If searching for a 1918 WWI naturalization of a soldier with a common name, even USCIS may not be able to sort out a specific record.
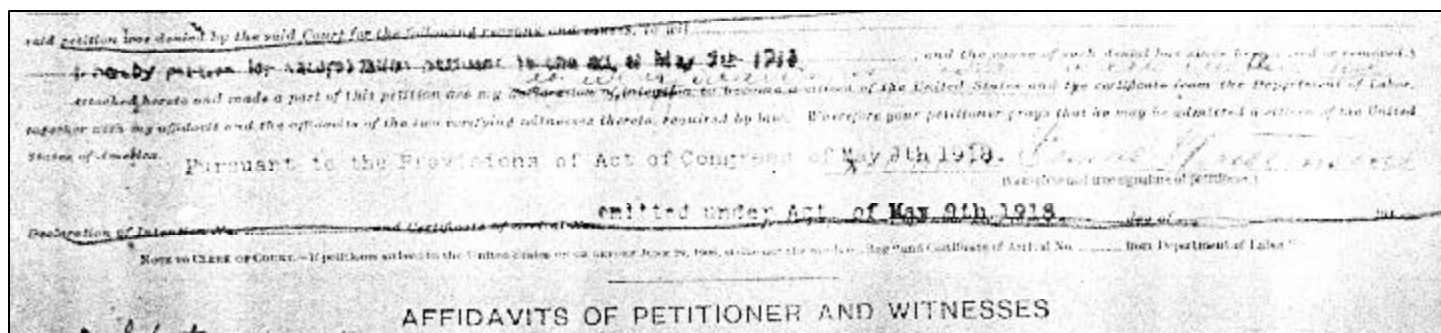
Figure 4: A detail from a petition showing how the clerk crossed-out the language requiring a declaration of intention and replaced it with a citation of the 1918 Act.

Researchers generally prefer to search for naturalization papers among court records because court records are available for public use. But in the case of WWI soldier naturalization records, genealogists may want to reconsider the value of USCIS C-files. As noted above, the new means and machinery adopted for the naturalization of WWI soldiers created both drawbacks and benefits for researchers. Drawbacks include the existence of only one surviving court record—the petition—that frequently contains incomplete information. Most WWI soldier naturalization C-files contain documents in addition to the duplicate petition, including witness affidavits, replacement certificate applications, and correspondence, all of which may contain important clues. And—in most cases—the problem of petitions buried in the records of obscure courts far from home can be overcome when USCIS searches its comprehensive, nation-wide index of all naturalizations since 1906.[8]

Notes

1. Assistant Secretary of Labor to the Attorney General, 13 July 1918, file 3917/, entry 26, Record Group (RG) 85, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
2. The Act of 26 July 1894 also allowed honorably discharged veterans of the Navy and Marine Corps to naturalize with no prior declaration of intention.
3. Entry 26, RG 85, includes a sub-series of correspondence with military camps regarding naturalization of soldiers stationed there. File series 3912/ consists of separate files for correspondence with more than 260 different camps.
4. File 3923/, entry 26, RG 85.
5. Soldiers and Sailors (35/series), including Joe Feldman, file 35/1006, entry 26, RG 85. Additional series of interest within this same entry are the 106799/series, Certificates of Arrival for Soldiers, and 3920/series, Sundry correspondence with the AGO relative to soldiers certificates of naturalization.
6. Spearheaded by the Italian Genealogy Group, the database can be found at <http://www.italiangen.org/suffolk.stm>.
7. Index to World War I Soldier Naturalizations, 1918. entry 29, RG 85. A separate index to WWI Soldier naturalizations at Camp Devens is located on microfilm at the USCIS History Office and Library, Washington, D.C.
8. Requests for C-Files should be made via Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. For instructions on how to make a request, download a request form, and more, visit <http://uscis.gov/graphics/aboutus/foia/request.htm>.

Marian L. Smith is the senior historian at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security (formerly the Immigration and Naturalization Service). She regularly lectures and publishes on the history and uses of immigration and naturalization records. Her research focus primarily

Figure 5: This small form directing Luigi Paladino to obtain his naturalization certificate from the Bureau of Naturalization was found in his C-file.

involves official records held by her agency or the National Archives.

The 'new' 1890 census fragment for Delaware

J ust when you (perhaps) thought there wasn't anything more to learn about the 1890 census ... there is! A small but useful fragment of the 1890 census for Delaware is now available as part of the new National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) Microfilm Publication M1919, *List of Selected African Americans from the 1890 and 1900 Federal Population Censuses of Delaware and Related Census Publications "Agriculture in the State of Delaware"* (1901) and *Negroes in the United States* (1904). 1 roll.

The history of this census fragment

The Delaware census fragment was buried deep within the Bureau of the Census administrative records that were transferred to the National Archives decades ago. Let me tell you the story of how and why this fragment was created in 1901.

Following the taking of the Twelfth Census in 1900, the Census Office (as it was then called) published a variety of statistical reports based upon data collected in that and previous censuses. These reports included a series called *Census Bulletin*, of which 247 individual titles were published. By the way, the Bureau of the Census was permanently established on 1 July 1903 and it will be referred to as the Census Bureau in the rest of the article. Temporary census offices supervised the taking of the 1790–1900 censuses, submitting returns to the President (1790), Secretary of State (1800–40), and Secretary of the Interior (1850–1900).

In 1901, Le Grand Powers was the Chief Statistician for Agriculture. In September 1901, Powers, or clerks under his supervision, drafted proposed *Census Bulletin No. 100* on *Agriculture in the State of Delaware*, published 30 September 1901. It appears that, a few days before publication of this bulletin, someone within the Census Bureau disagreed with or questioned the conclusions reached about "Negro" farmers. As a result, a search was undertaken to locate all African-American ("Negro") farmers in the Twelfth Census of the United States (1900) for Delaware, and then locate as many of them as possible in the Eleventh Census of the United States (1890) for Delaware. On 28 December 1901, Henry Gannett, the Chief of the Geographer's Division, summarized the search results in a letter to Professor Walter F. Wilcox, another chief statistician for the 1900 census. Of the 818 "Negro" farmers in Delaware in 1900, the Bureau was able to locate 454 in the 1890 Delaware population and agricultural schedules. The Geographer retained these lists in his files, which were accessioned into NARA decades later.

Since the results of the Geographer's 1890–1900 compilation were not available until De-

Figure 1: 1890 List.

Figure 2: 1890–1900 Consolidated List.

cember, it is likely that the "rejected paragraph"—as the problem language was called—was published unaltered in the *Bulletin*. "Negro" farmers are mentioned several places throughout the publication, so it is difficult to guess whether specific published language was questioned. However, since the results of the search of the 1890 census included each person's occupation, most likely the "disputed text" consists of these sentences, which speak to improvement in occupational status:

> *Of the farms in 1900, 818, or 8.4 percent, were operated by negroes or those of negro descent. In 1850 the negroes owning farms in Delaware, as in the other slave states, were so few in number as to be a negligible quantity. Hence it can be said that practically none of the negroes operating farms in 1900, or of their negro ancestors, were farm owners at the middle of the nineteenth century. In 1900, 332 farms were operated by negroes who owned the whole or a part of the land contained therein; 471 were operated by negro tenants; and 15 by salaried negro managers. A very small number of these farmers were the descendants*

of men who had risen in their lifetime from wage service or slavery to farm tenancy or ownership. The great majority were born in families that occupied industrial positions much lower than the ones in which they now stand.[1]

It is significant that the list of "Negroes" in Delaware in 1890 has survived, since it fills a gap for the otherwise nonexistent Delaware 1890 Federal population census schedules. On 10 January 1921, a significant portion of all the 1890 census schedules were either burned (25 percent) or significantly damaged by water (50 percent) in a fire at the Commerce Department Building, Washington, D.C. On 21 February 1933, Congress authorized their disposal, and they were finally destroyed either in 1934 or 1935. In 1942 and 1953, NARA accessioned the remaining fragments of the 1890 census discov-

ered in Census Bureau offices. Those fragments, containing some 6,160 names from Alabama, Georgia, Illinois, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, South Dakota, Texas, and the District of Columbia, have been reproduced as National Archives Microfilm Publication M407, *Eleventh Census of the United States, 1890* (3 rolls), and are indexed by National Archives Microfilm Publication M496, *Index to the Eleventh Census of the United States, 1890* (2 rolls). For more information, see Kellee Blake, "'First in the Path of the Firemen': The Fate of the 1890 Population Census," *Prologue: Quarterly of the National Archives and Records Administration* 28 (Spring 1996): 64–81, online at <http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/spring_1996_1890_census_1.html> (Part 1) and <http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/spring_1996_1890_census_2.html> (Part 2).

What records are included in M1919?

First, M1919 includes the entire folder, "Delaware: Negro Farmers Named and Located by Enumeration Districts and Hundreds as

Reported in the Censuses of 1890 and 1900" from the large record series called the "Geography Division Subject File, 1889–1950" in the Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. The folder has these items:

♦ The "1890 List," a roughly alphabetical list of 454 African Americans giving the surname, first name, 1890 Enumeration District (ED) number, 1890 ED description, and occupation for each.

♦ The "1890–1900 Consolidated List," an alphabetized list of African Americans giving surname, first name, 1900 ED number, 1890 ED number, 1890 ED description, and occupation for each.

♦ The "1900 List" of 818 African Americans found in the 1900 census giving the surname, first name, 1900 ED number, 1900 ED description, occupation, and name of hundred (geographic unit in Delaware) in which located for each. Two Census Bureau employees worked on this project, so there are actually two lists.

♦ A letter and memorandum that together describe what these lists are and how they came to be created.

Second, M1919 includes three related Census Bureau publications from Publications of the U.S. Government, Record Group 287.

♦ *Census Bulletin No. 100, Agriculture in the State of Delaware* (Washington, D.C.: Census Office, 1901). As noted above, this 10-page *Bulletin* was authored by or under the direction of Le Grand Powers, chief statistician for Agriculture. This bulletin's language resulted in

the compilation of the census fragment described above.

♦ Excerpt from *Twelfth Census of the United States, Taken in the Year 1900*, vol. 5, Agriculture, part I (Washington, D.C.: Census Office, 1902). Agricultural statistics comprised the fifth and sixth volumes of the Census Office's national comprehensive six-volume statistical report derived from the data collected during the 1900 census. Volume 5, pages xciii (93) through cxx (120), compared whites and "colored" farmers in a section called "Farms Classified by Color or Race of Farmer," which is reproduced in M1919.

♦ *Bureau of Census Bulletin No. 8, Negroes in the United States* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1904). The Bureau published this comprehensive 333-page report because the Bureau frequently received requests for information on this subject. The bulk of the data and analysis were done by W. C. Hunt, the Bureau's chief statistician, and Professor W. F. Wilcox of Cornell University, a special agent of the Bureau. W.E.B. DuBois, Ph.D., of Atlanta University, compiled pages 69–98 relating to "The Negro Farmer." The statistical data and analysis were compiled not only from the 1900 census, but also the 1870–1890 censuses.

Who will find M1919 helpful?

M1919 serves several research audiences. First, for African American genealogists with Delaware ancestors, M1919 reproduces heretofore "lost" data from the 1890 census of Delaware regarding 454 African Americans and corre-

lates those individuals to their 1900 census location (enumeration district). It includes a list of all 818 African American farmers in Delaware in 1900.

Second, for persons researching Delaware farmers of any race, *Agriculture in the State of Delaware* (1901), provides interesting and useful background data.

Third, persons researching African American history and genealogy anywhere in the United States during the 1870–1900 era will find *Negroes in the United States* (1904) full of useful statistics and analysis.

For more information

For more information about surviving 1890 census fragments and statistics, see "1890 Census" at <http://www.archives.gov/research_room/genealogy/census/1890_census.html>.

For more detailed information about the Delaware 1890 census fragment (M1919), see <http://www.archives.gov/research_room/genealogy/census/1890_census_delaware.html>.

Note

1. *Census Bulletin No. 100, Agriculture in the State of Delaware* (Washington, D.C.: Census Office, 1901): 3.

Claire Prechtel-Kluskens, a microfilm projects archivist at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), Washington, D.C., served as NGS registrar (1996–98) and director (1998–2000).

Without a Will: Intestate Estates

By Michael John Neill

Wills are an excellent genealogical source, often indicating family relationships. Unfortunately for genealogists, many individuals do not leave a valid will and testament and die *intestate*. Their lack of planning does not mean that records do not exist. It does mean that the distribution of the deceased individual's assets was governed by state statute. The records of the settlement of an intestate estate can provide significant genealogical clues, in some cases more than if a will had been left.

Books and packets

The court responsible for overseeing the distribution of these assets will typically be based at the town or county level, depending upon the location. The court will approve an administrator, usually an heir or a creditor. The records of the estate's settlement may be recorded in bound volumes or packets of loose paper. The written journals may include orders to appoint administrators, petitions to sell real and personal property, notices of final settlement, and additional items. In addition to the journal entries, there may be a packet of loose papers that contains original documents, including letters of administration, receipts, inventories, etc. The type and quantity of material available will vary at different locations and for different time periods.

Who gets what?

Because state law governs intestate inheritance, practices have changed over time and may differ from one state to another. One of the key changes over time is the treatment of the widow.

For much of American history, a surviving widow would typically have a dower interest in her husband's estate (usually providing her with the use of one-third of the real property during her lifetime). In many cases she was unable to sell or bequeath the property herself. Over time, widows (and women in general) acquired more property ownership rights. If the records are not clear, it may be necessary to refer to applicable state statutes for assistance in interpreting certain estate records. Law libraries, university libraries, and other repositories may hold copies of out-of-date state statutes. Additionally, guides for probate or for estate administrators were published in several states. These guides may provide specific information on the implementation of state statutes. For example, a guide for estate administrators printed in the mid-1850s in Illinois indicates the amount of bond typically required for an estate administrator.

Search everything

Regardless of the time period and location, it is imperative that the genealogist locate as many records as possible, both the bound volumes and the packets of loose papers. Not all jurisdictions will have both types of records, though. Ancestry's *Red Book,* Everton Publisher's *Handy Book for Genealogists,*[1] and the Family History Library's state research guides provide more specific details on the kinds of records in individual localities.

In jurisdictions with both kinds of records, there will be significant overlap in their content. The journals were intended as the "official" record of some of the loose papers. However, there may be references or clues contained in one record that are not recorded in another.

Descent and distribution

State statutes provide fairly specific guidelines for how an estate is to be partitioned when there is no will. The portion of the estate that does not go to the surviving spouse is usually portioned amongst any children. The balance of the estate (or the entire estate in the case of no surviving spouse) is usually allocated to heirs *per stirpes*, where the children of a deceased heir split that deceased heir's share equally. If the intestate individual leaves no descendants, then the intestate estate is usually inherited by the surviving siblings, if there are any, or the siblings' descendants, *per stirpes*. Typically if the deceased has no descendants and no siblings who left descendants, the estate
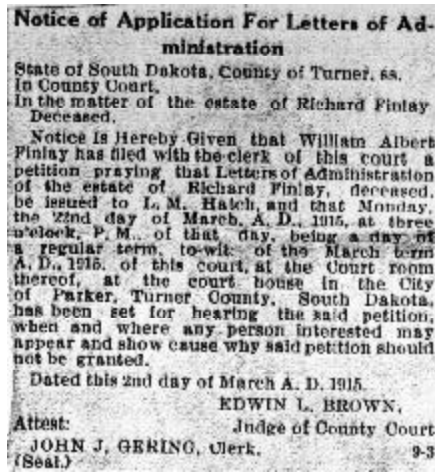
will go to descendants of the grandparents of the intestate individual. State statute should be fairly specific as to who can inherit and how.

Look at the money

Some records will clearly state the heir's relationships. Others will not. One way to ascertain the family structure is to look at the amount received by each heir. What follows is a list of heirs and amounts from the mid-nineteenth century estate settlement of Michael Smith:

George	$900
Mina	$900
Ernestine	$300
Henry	$300
Barbara	$300
Susan	$300
Thomas	$200
James	$200
Eliza	$200

On the surface, one could conclude that the individuals who received equal amounts of money were related equally. This would be a reasonable conclusion and in many cases would be true. However in this situation, there is a slight difference. George and Mina both received the largest portion of the estate (¼ each) and it would be reasonable to conclude that the estate was initially split four ways and that Michael had four siblings who survived him or left heirs. Ernestine, Henry, and Barbara (in the aggregate) also received $900; and Susan, Thomas, James, and Elizabeth received $900 in the aggregate. However, not all of these individuals received the same amount. An analysis of other records indicated the family relationship. Ernestine, Henry, and Barbara were all the children of a deceased sibling of Michael. They split this sibling's share equally. The remaining four individuals also split the share of another deceased sibling of Michael. Susan was this sibling's wife and Thomas, James, and Eliza were this sibling's children. As his

widow, Susan received one-third of his $900 share. The remaining amount of this sibling's share ($600) was split three ways, resulting in $200 for Thomas, James, and Eliza.

Are there other rules?

Special allocations may be made for surviving parents. Sylvia Rampley died in Illinois in the 1890s leaving no descendants. Her mother and ten siblings were her survivors. At the time of her death, the surviving parent received a double share of the estate. Consequently the estate was divided into twelve parts instead of eleven. Mother, Nancy, received 2/12 of Sylvia's estate.

It can get even worse

Sylvia Rampley's estate consisted only of the estate she had inherited from her father Riley upon his death in 1893. Riley's widow, Nancy, received one-third of this estate and the balance was divided equally among the eleven children. Consequently upon Sylvia's father's death, she held a 1/11 interest in her father's estate, subject to the dower of her mother. When Sylvia died with no heirs, her intestate estate was split as mentioned in the previous paragraph. Sylvia's 1/11 of her father's estate was split 12 ways, with 2 shares going to mother, Nancy, and 1 share going to each of her siblings. Allocating Sylvia's 1/11 twelve ways results in a 1/132 of Riley's estate for Sylvia's siblings, and a double share of 2/132 for Nancy. This also affected the shares Sylvia's siblings held in their father's estate. After the death of Sylvia, each of Riley's surviving ten children owned 13/132 of their father's estate. They owned the 1/11 they originally inherited upon their father's death and the 1/132 they inherited upon the death of their sister.

For whom should I look?

Intestate probates are always helpful to the genealogist. Those cases where the deceased left no children of their own are the most useful. My grandmother inherited from her grandmother's sister in

PERSONAL PROPERTY [NOT DEEMED ASSETS]

ARTICLES	VALUE Dollars	Cts.
All family pictures		
A pew or other sitting in any house of worship		
A lot or lots in any burial ground		
The family Bible		
All school books used by the family		
All other books used as part of the family library		
All wearing apparel and clothing of the decedent and his family		
The provisions for the family necessary for one year's supply, either provided or growing, or both		
Fuel necessary for one year		
Cook stoves, utensils and pipe		
Heating stoves and pipes	3	00
Bedsteads		
Bed and bedding	5	00
Sofas		
Chairs		
Tables		
Stands and dressers	3	25
Kitchen safes (or cupboards) and dishes		

1954. This sister survived all her siblings and many of her nieces and nephews as well. The resulting probate file listed more than 50 living relatives and their addresses in 1954, all descendants of a woman who died in 1903 and her two husbands, one of whom died in 1855.

Any other records?

If you know an ancestor or a relative died intestate, consider looking for court and land records in addition to probate records. When John Rampley died in 1907 he was survived by his wife. Based upon contemporary inheritance laws, his widow received her one-third of his estate. The remaining two-thirds of his estate went to his siblings. Because there was not agreement on where to draw out the new property lines, widow Anne filed a partition suit in the county court against her in-laws. These records list relationships and indicate that John had obtained the property from his parents.

Your relative might not have left a will, but if he/she died intestate and had a real or personal estate of any value, intestate probate records may hold clues about your family's past.

Note

1. Alice Eichholz, ed., *Red Book: American State, County and Town Sources*, 3d ed. (Provo, Utah: Ancestry Publishing, 2004); and George B. Everton, ed., *The Handybook for Genealogists*, 10th ed. (Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers, 2002).

Michael John Neill is a weekly columnist for the Ancestry Daily News *and on the faculty of the Genealogical Institute of Mid-America. On the math faculty at Carl Sandburg College, he coordinates a week-long series of genealogy computing workshops and lectures nationally on a wide variety of genealogy and computer related topics. He may be contacted via his website at <http://www.rootdig.com>.*

I ♥ City Directories

By Connie Bradbury

Long before I became addicted to family history research, I loved city directories. I could find out who my neighbors were, who lived on the next block, and who lived next to that boy who sat in front of me in algebra. Then I discovered I could look up a phone number and the city directory would tell me to whom it was assigned.

Then I became an addict and learned what a wonderful tool city directories can be to genealogical research.

One of my first genealogical experiences was researching a family in a large city. I quickly learned that decennial censuses are not the total answer. I needed something to fill the gap in between. Like a bolt of lightning, I thought of city directories.

Let me digress for a moment. I learned there were city directories for a particular location in Missouri. I found a person who was willing to search "city directories" for that locality so I wrote him, asking him to search the Polk's city directories for the locality for a specific period of time. He required payment up front, which was sent. I got a response from him saying he had searched the telephone directories for the locality, plus some others, but did not find my person.

I was not a happy camper. How could someone advertise in a national genealogical publication that he would search "city directories" and then search phone directories? Since then I have been very careful to be explicit that I want Ayer's or Polk's or by any other name *city directories* searched—I do not want phone directories searched.

Being the descendant of a few generations of railroaders, I always look to see what lines served the location. City directories will frequently have a section for businesses exclusively, arranged by the type of business, then alphabetically by the name of the business. Hospitals, institutions, and schools are also included. I used the listings of mortuaries from an early twentieth-century city directory, plus a city map for the approximate time period, to determine which one might have made arrangements for the remains of a great-uncle.

For whatever reason, I had not located a death record for him. I suspected my family fable of when he died was just that—a fable. Once I noted the mortuaries closest to where he last lived, the problem was to determine the mortuary's line of descent. I had to work from both ends. Fortunately, I had access to several years of mortician and funeral home directories. Sometimes the ads in those directories will tell how long they have been in business and even the name they previously did business under. I

started with the city directory in which he last appeared and the list of the mortuaries. Then I looked at a fairly recent list of mortuaries and funeral homes to see if any of them claimed to be in business more than 50 years; or, if any were located approximately at the same address as those from the city directory. They were not. I went to a ten-year-old mortuary directory and again compared. I noticed one particular mortuary was at a different address—an address closer to the neighborhood he lived in. I knew it was a long shot but I placed a phone call to the mortuary. The lady I spoke to explained they were very busy at that moment but she would look it up and call me back. I gave her my phone number and asked her to please call me collect. About four hours later she called me. She found record of my uncle's burial but he had not died in that city or even in that state. His body was shipped there for burial and the mortuary handled the arrangements.

Combine with other tools

This is a good example of how city directories paired together with other resources and tools helped solve a problem that could have been unsolvable. If your ancestor was in business and advertised in the city directory, his or her photograph may appear in the advertisement. The advertisements in the older city directories might give

you a "picture" of what the business looked like from the details included.

Directories for cities and towns on waterways contain wonderful information on transportation on lakes, rivers, and canals. Considering that in the 1800s many men were employed to build canals, I would not only use them for my ancestor's name but I would want to know what companies were providing the transportation. This could lead me to business records or manuscript collections. I might not find my ancestor mentioned in those collections but the information would provide great historical background information and facts for the times and places my ancestor lived.

Spot checks

When I do city directory research, especially if I am not sure the person will appear (and if I have to order the microfilms from the Family History Library), I will do spot checks, like 1930, 1935, 1940, etc. When I find the person I search every edition published during the time the family lived there.

I was researching a Mack family in Chicago. I have a

letter written by one of the daughters to her brother in Alaska in which she says, "Do you remember 42 years ago when we first came to Chicago?" That would have been about 1871, the year of the Great Chicago Fire. Were they there at the time of the fire? I don't know. I start finding them in the city directories a few years later. By watching the addresses I was able to identify names of children for whom I only had nicknames. I could determine when one, then the other, moved (to Colorado, which I already knew but not when or from where). Also I was able to identify a name mentioned in one of the letters as a brother-in-law of the writer of the letter. She only gave his surname, calling him "Mr.," but by locating him in the city directory, I followed him through the years to when he is no longer listed but there is a female at the same address listed as "the widow of." She definitely was the sister of the letter writer whom I had been

unable to find or even determine if she moved to Chicago with the family or stayed behind in Connecticut.

Some interesting finds

- Cincinnati, Ohio/Northern Kentucky 1839–40 city directory listed where each person was born—a decade before the Federal census recorded the information.
- Detroit, Michigan, city directories for 1884–86 list the names, ages, and date of death of those who died in the city. The listings were based on mortuary records.
- Iowa City, Iowa, 1891–92 city directory listed the names of the enumerators for the 1890 census.
- Jackson, Michigan, city directory for 1900 included an explanation of how the streets were numbered (e.g. beginning at a particular corner in the city and going north or south from there). Most twentieth century city directories for larger cities have this information. It's a wonderful tool to help identify exactly where an ancestor lived, especially when the modern complexion of the neighborhood is nothing like it was 50 or 100 years ago.

RENSSELAER DIRECTORY, 1915   1031

Prentiss
" Joseph W proofreader h 1802 Fourth
Presley James bds 133 Third av
" James T machinist h 133 Third av
Pressey Earl C bookkeeper h 144 Third av   [way
Price Elmer J laborer bds 1490 Broad-
" Fred K engineer D & H h 1437 Broad-
   way
" George clerk 905 Sixth bds 903 do
" John A engineer D & H h 1490
   Broadway
" John F laborer h 1490 Broadway
" William D engineer B. & A h 824
   Broadway   [h 80 Academy
Pride Emmett G janitor Huyck's mills
Priest Victor W mattressmaker h 41
   Nelson av   [av
Proctor Charles R trainman bds 3 Akin

Rabbitt
" Patrick jr N Y C roundhouse h 20
   Fourth av
" Walter brakeman N Y C bds 20
   Fourth av
Rabe August watchman h 104 Central av
" Bertha bds 104 Central av
" Charles pedler bds 1524 Fifth
" Frederick fireman Rensselaer Water
   Co bds 104 Central av
" Frederick pedler h 1533 Third
" Frederick A driver h 1604 Sixth
" George bartender bds 1524 Fifth
" Henry saloon Fifth cor Fowler av h
   1524 Fifth
" Henry A pedler h 1578 Fifth   [Fifth
" William clerk 21 Partition bds 1524
Race Julia G bookkeeper bds 61 Pine
" Nathan S engineer N Y C h 61 Pine

Figure 1: Note the entries for Presley. These are father and son. You can often determine when someone comes of age by when the person is listed in a directory.

DEATHS IN DETROIT

FROM MAY 6, 1885, TO MAY 31, 1886.

Name and Age.	Date of Death.	Name and Age.	Date of Death.
Abraham Mary, 73	Feb 9, 1886	Allen Mary W, 61	June 23, 1885
Ackley H (col'd), 44	Nov 19, 1885	Allen William L, 76	March 1, 1886
Adams Catharine M, 58	May 18, 1885	Allweyer Theresa, 39	Dec 30, 1885
Adams Julia, 28	Feb 24, 1886	Amas Emily (col'd), 60	Sept 15, 1885
Adams Winnie K, 25	Sept 23, 1885	Ambridge Florence, 21	July 3, 1885
Adams Robert (col'd), 42	Nov 13, 1895	Anciaux Rev T, 56	Nov 2, 1885
Adams Sarah, 61	March 14, 1886	Anderhalt Francis J, 84	Feb 20, 1886
Adams Winnie, 18	Oct 13, 1885	Anderson Adna L, 35	Sept 8, 1885
Ada Matilda, 36	Oct 23, 1885	Anderson Melinda, 54	March 29, 1886
Aker William, 20	Oct 20, 1885	Anderson Robert, 88	March 18, 1886
Aley Jane, 73	Oct 10, 1885	Andrews Mary A, 71	Aug 13, 1885
Allen Alonzo B, 42	Feb 4, 1886	Angel Louis, 19	March 31, 1886
Allen Anna, 30	Aug 18, 1885	Aughlin Mary, 77	Aug 12, 1885
Allen Isabella, 81	Feb 7, 1886	Appelt Rosalia, 70	April 6, 1886
Allen Mary A, 40	Feb 10, 1886	Archer Louisa, 43	Jan 30, 1886

Figure 2: Some late nineteenth-century Detroit city directories list deaths from mortuary records.

- 1907 Tanana Valley (Fairbanks, Alaska) city directory lists births, deaths, and marriages occurring in the year prior. These are not even registered with the Department of Vital Records in Juneau.
- Everett, Washington, 1923 city directory published a list of taxpayers in Snohomish County.
- Beverly, Massachusetts, 1930–31 city directories published by Crowley and Lunt also provide the names of people married, born, and died 1929–30.

On the APG-L mailing list, several people provided interesting examples found in city directories.

- Carolyn Y. found interesting ads and quotes in the Madera, California, 1914 directory, such as:

  THINK THIS OVER
  The Man who advertises a little and then says advertising does not pay is like unto the man who burns one match beneath a fire-barrel kettle of water and then says fire will not heat water.

  She also found:

  Richards, Martha A (wid Wm W) res. 146 Foote
  Richards, Wm W (aged 57) died Aug 19, 1900

  What a terrific find, especially when researching a common surname in a large city!

- Another member of the list, Donn D., found what he calls his favorite off-beat listing. This is from the Wilmington, Delaware, directory for 1891: Location of telegraphic fire alarm boxes, and number of bell-strokes for each. Each box location, described by street intersection, was followed by a two-digit hyphenated number, indicating the number of strokes on the city hall bell (e.g., two, followed by five) that identified the box from which an alarm was struck, directing the volunteer fire companies to that location.

Problems

I need to mention the problems with using online databases of city directories. You must put yourself into the persona of the indexer. What kind of mistakes do you make? Typo? Unable to read the handwriting? If so, come up with variant spellings and search for all of them. One APG subscriber said she was searching for her maiden name, Daulong, but missed entering the "g." Big surprise, up popped Francois Daulon. It was the first reference anyone in the family had found for her ancestor.

When they exist for a locality, city directory research should be the backbone of your research plan.

One final thought, I have used modern city directories to see if there is someone currently living at the same address as the object of my research, or even someone nearby or across the street. I call them and tell them what I am doing and ask them if they have lived there longer than XX number of years. If they haven't, I thank them and say, "Then I guess you didn't know such and such family." You would be surprised how many times they say they didn't but I should call so-and-so because they used to live right next door but they moved a few years ago!

Connie Bradbury is a researcher, lecturer, teacher, and author, and has pursued genealogical research since 1972; professionally since 1980. She specializes in Alaska, Native Alaskan lineages, and northwest tribes with Alaskan tribal connections. She's the co-author of Alaska Sources: A Guide to Historical Records and Information Resources. *Connie can be reached by e-mail at bradbury@acsalaska.net.*

Prerequisites to genealogical research

D oes your family tree have strong, well-documented roots? Have you built a proper foundation for your genealogical research? If not, it's *never* too late to go back and catch up. Through experience, we have learned that there are a few things that need to be seen as "prerequisites" to genealogical research. These are the essential first steps that will provide a solid foundation on which to build the rest of your genealogical research. There is no better time than the present to review your own research and make sure that you have not skipped over any of the following points. If you did, go back and do it now before proceeding any further.

■ **Start with yourself**. That seems obvious, but many people put themselves in their database with the information they "know," but never bother to obtain documentation. Starting with yourself means just that—and you should document your own life as thoroughly as anyone else's. If you don't already have a copy of your birth certificate, get one. Put a copy of your marriage certificate with it. Add baptismal certificates, diplomas, school report cards, photos of the places you've lived, a list of schools you attended, and so on. While you're at it, do you have a medical history? You should—it will be of great value for your children or grandchildren.

■ **Work backwards**. Again, that seems obvious, but there is a temptation, when you get to a certain point in your research, to make assumptions. Sometimes it goes something like this: "I *know* that James had to be a grandson of Joseph, I just can't seem to figure out which of Joseph's sons was his father—so I'll record Joseph as his grandfather and fill his father in later." If you can't figure out which one "must be" James' father, try working through the other family members to find a "back door" answer—don't make assumptions. Instead, look for as much information as you can find on all of those sons (and daughters) of Joseph—even the obscure. Somewhere in there you may find just the clue you need—it might be in a sister's marriage documents,

a brother's will, or a church record for the family.

■ **Talk to your family**. Have you exchanged information with all of your aunts, uncles, cousins, and (of course) siblings? Have you talked to your parents and grandparents (and, if you're fortunate enough to have them around, your great-grandparents)? Ask questions, ask to look at (and copy) photographs and documents, and ask to look at (and photograph) heirlooms. Ask more questions, and write down what you learn. Also get copies of any public information—birth certificates, marriage certificates, death certificates, wills, etc. Research everyone possible in the census (i.e., anyone living in census years 1930 and earlier). Of course, be sensitive to individual emotional points and don't press when it gets painful, but do ask about whatever you can. Build the family history through anecdotal history—that is, stories around the specific dates and places; get the why and how in addition to the what, when, and where. When you copy photographs or documents, or photograph heirlooms, make sure that you document when and where you saw them, who owns them, and any comments on the history of the item. Respect the privacy of your relatives in sharing information on their lives or even their ancestors. You may be quite willing to have everything about your family posted in very public places (more cautions about that another time), but others may not. Be sure you have the permission of anyone in a photograph who is still living before publishing or posting. It's very simple, if they don't give permission, you cannot post on the Internet. And don't forget to scour the attic and garage of anyone who will give you permission to search.

■ **Document everyone**. You will find that your direct ancestors are often the ones in the family who left no records—it's just Murphy's Law (even if your name isn't Murphy). Don't be disheartened—look at the rest of the family. Our rule is siblings plus one generation down and up. That is, in each

ancestor's family, we get everything we can find on all the children, their marriages, their children, and their in-laws. Often you will discover that those in-laws became relatives of others in the family at another time—the available pool out there was small in some times and places, and in-laws of family members were a good place to look for potential mates. Learn all you can about each person. Don't just stop at the vital events (birth, marriage, death). There's so much more to learn from census, city directories, tax lists, wills, land records, church records, etc. Glean all you can from them. Even indirect relatives may teach you a lot in this way.

- **Document as you go**. Your documentation should allow anyone to reconstruct your research without any previous knowledge of your family and without

asking you any questions. It may be quite obvious to you today where you obtained that bit of information, but once you have looked at several documents on the same person, you will *not* remember. Every piece of information on every person needs to be documented individually. For example, every time you find a birth date for John Anthony Richardson, note what you found and exactly where you found it. It may seem redundant for a while, since they may well have the same information. But what if the tenth place you find a birth for John Anthony Richardson has a different date than all the others? Is it automatically wrong? What if it is the official birth registration? When you go back to all those other places, you may find that they all used one common source that may have been incorrect. Of course, the birth registration *may* be wrong, but you will have to analyze it carefully to determine which is more likely. Use standard source citation formats. Many genealogy software packages now will aid you in formatting your citations. Elizabeth Shown Mills' *Evidence! Citation and Analysis for the Family Historian*[1] is the current standard for genealogical writers. It's critical that you get the basic information on any source (author, title, publisher, and date published for books; film or fiche number for microforms; person, location, and date for verbal information). Include the repository where the information was found—you may end up visiting lots of libraries in the course of your research, and which one had the reference you now need may be difficult to remember. If you need to doublecheck something—or refer someone else to a source—it's much easier if you know where it was.

- **Use forms as aids**. Family group sheets, pedigree charts, and time lines are the backbone of genealogical records. If you are using a computer program, it will generally print these for you. Even if you are doing them manually, they are worth the effort by providing you with a "snapshot" of what you know so far. Pedigree charts track your direct

ancestors, generation by generation; family gro[...] sheets put together all the children with the par-ents; time lines put events into a sequential context. In addition to these, using other forms can be helpful by giving you a framework to fill in the data you fi[...] without having to copy every colu[...] heading on a document. For example, census records have a huge amount of inform[...] in columns. You can search two or three more families in the amount of time it would tak[...] to write down the column head-ings. If you didn't write down [...] headings or use a form, the informatio[...] could easily be conf[...] with another column and lead you on a wild goose chase based on erroneous informatio[...] You can create your own forms, or you can do an Internet search on "gene-alogy forms" for sources of downloadable (often free) forms. Several of the books listed at the end of this article also include sample forms that you can use.

■ **Use the LDS Family History Centers (FHC) and Family History Library (FHL)**. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (also known as the Mormons) has collected a magnificent array of genealogical data in books, microfilm, and micro-fiche. Some of this information is now also avail-able online at <http://www.familysearch.org.> The Church provides this information at no cost as a service to the public. Take advantage of it…. But not until you are properly prepared! You should not visit the Family History Center in your neighbor-hood (or the Family History Library in Salt Lake

[Salt Lake City] in person or on the Web until you [h]ave exhausted your home sources, documented what you have, created family group sheets, pedigree [ch]arts and timelines, and analyzed your data to determine what you [wa]nt to find next. Once you have [done] that, you are [rea]dy to look at the Fam-ily [H]istory [Libr]ary [Catal]og to determine what [r]ecords can be [help]ful to you. The first [step is] to do a "literature review"—a search for exist-ing records based on the sur-[na]me. Sometimes this is helpful, [but] more often there's not enough to [relat]e to your family specifically—but it's still worth the effort. The second step is to [d]o a location search—a review of the records [avai]lable for a specific place (city, county, state, [coun]try). If you have determined that you need birth information for your grandmother's siblings, for example, you will want to start where you know (or suspect) they lived when those siblings were probably born. There are a tremendous number of records available through the FHC, so chances are good that you will find some records from the time and place you need. In addition, the Church website has a large assortment of reasonably-priced (or free) research aids. Click on *Order/Download Products* then *Family History Research Products* for a listing of how-to aids, locality research helps, and research forms for downloading. The FHL and some FHCs also have a variety of research guides, language helps, and other aids available.

■ **Surf the Internet**. Don't do this too soon in your search. You need to have documented records from your home search, family group sheets, and pedigree charts for everyone you have found, and other information readily at hand. When you're ready, start with an objective, not just a random search. Look for a specific person, preferably in one or more specific places and times. You can search on your favorite search engine, FamilySearch.org, one or more of the commercial websites, Rootsweb, GenWeb, library sites, society sites, even e-Bay can sometimes provide an unexpected gem. Before you even turn on the computer, have a log file (this can be a simple spreadsheet or a word processing document) open where you can cut and paste the URL and name of the site, and the results of your search there. Remember, this is another resource and needs to be documented just like any other. Note the date, what your search criteria were, and any other comments ("wonderful site—go back often" or "don't waste my time here again" or "good for Iowa information"). The comments will be helpful for you the next time to make the best use of your available time. Don't forget to log negative as well as positive searches—you don't want to do the same fruitless search repeatedly.

Starting your research on a firm foundation can save you time (days, months, even years) of fruitless searching later. Getting off on the right foot is essential to good genealogical research. If you already started your research, make sure you haven't neglected any of these tactics to strengthen the roots of your family tree.

Resources

Croom, Emily Anne. *Unpuzzling Your Past,* 4th ed. Cincinnati: Betterway Books, 2001.

Dollarhide, William. *Genealogy Starter Kit,* 2d ed. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1994.

Renick, Barbara. *Genealogy 101*. Nashville: Rutledge Hill Press, 2003.

Note

1. Elizabeth Shown Mills, *Evidence! Citation and Analysis for the Family Historian* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1997).

Gary Smith is a trustee of the Ohio Genealogical Society and secretary/treasurer of the Great Lakes Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists (APG); Diana Crisman Smith is a director of the Genealogical Speakers Guild and chapter representative of the Great Lakes Chapter of APG. They have both been interested in family history since childhood and have been speaking and writing on genealogical topics for more than ten years, both individually and as a couple. They can be reached by e-mail at talkgenealogy@aol.com.
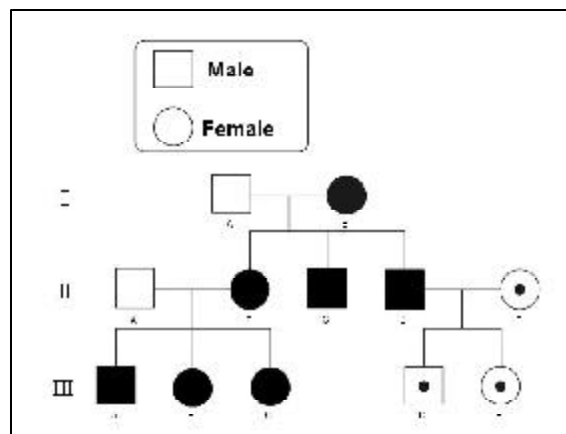
mtDNA: the forgotten test

Figure 1: Descent of mtDNA.

Analysis of the Y chromosome has become one of the most exciting developments in genealogy. More and more genealogists are using Y chromosome testing to help validate their genealogies. You cannot open any major genealogy journal without seeing advertisements from surname groups recruiting individuals with the same surname who are willing to donate their DNA.

Y chromosome analysis is appealing and easy to incorporate into genealogy as its descendency parallels the male surname. For instance, Joseph Clark's son, John, will have the same Y chromosome markers as his father and subsequently, John's son, Tom Clark will have Joseph's and John's Y chromosome markers. And so it continues, the Y chromosome markers follow the surname down through the generations, a genetic testimony to the male or Y line. There is, however, another genetic test available to genealogists, and that is the mitochondrial DNA or mtDNA. Because of its particular form of inheritance, it is more challenging to incorporate into genealogy. However, just as Y chromosome analysis can help support the relationship in a surname line, mitochondrial DNA, or mtDNA, can help substantiate the all maternal line. This line has been called the umbilical line or, perhaps a better term, the M line.

Most human cells have a nucleus and cytoplasm. The cell nucleus contains chromosomes, the basic unit of heredity, consisting of the molecule DNA. This is where the Y chromosome resides. DNA also is present in the cytoplasm outside the nucleus in structures called mitochondria. Mitochondria are small ovoid-shape structures in the cytoplasm that function to produce energy for the cell. There may be a few dozen to several thousand of these structures in a given cell each with its own DNA, called mtDNA.

Obtaining a sample

Procuring a sample for mtDNA testing is identical to submitting a sample for Y chromosome testing. Virtually all the companies who offer mtDNA testing collect your DNA by sending you a kit with what looks like a couple of small toothbrushes and several small vials with an antibacterial solution. You simply scrape the inside of your cheek, put the material in the vial, and mail it back to the com-
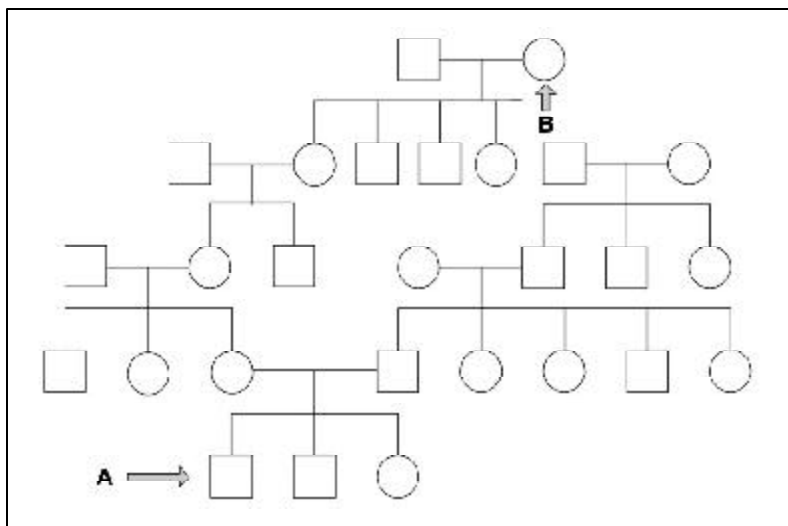

Figure 2: Is B the great-great grandmother of individual A? (Males depicted by squares; females by circles)

pany. A few weeks to a month later, the results of your mtDNA test will be sent to you. Many companies will also maintain your mtDNA results in a database, notifying you when some other individual is tested and matches your DNA.

While all men pass their Y chromosome on to their sons, men do not pass their mtDNA onto their children. The mitochondrial DNA in all children comes solely from the mother; there is no contribution from the father. At the time of conception, it is the mtDNA in the fertilized ovum from the mother that is passed on to her children, both sons and daughters. Subsequently, when the daughters marry, they will pass the same mtDNA onto all of their children. All the mtDNA in the cells of your body is a copy of your mother's mtDNA and the mtDNA in her body is a copy of her mother's, your maternal grandmother. Your mtDNA then is identical to your maternal grandmother, or her mother, your maternal great-grandmother, and her mother and so on. If you will examine Figure 1, you will see that the mtDNA (black circles and squares) is passed from the mother to all of her children, but it is only the daughters who subsequently pass the same mtDNA on to their children. In Figure 1, woman IB passes her mtDNA to her children IIB, IIC, and IID but it is only the woman IIB who can pass the same mtDNA on to her children IIIA, IIIB, and IIIC. Notice when the son IID marries, it is IIE's mtDNA (central dot) that is passed on to their children IIID and IIIE. If the women IIIB and IIIC marry and have children, they will pass on the

mtDNA they received from their mother IIB and their maternal grandmother IB.

A benefit to genealogists

This unique inheritance can be of benefit to genealogists. The maternal or M line where every member is a woman is the hardest to trace genealogically because the woman's surname changes to her married name each generation. Each will be first identified by their married surname. Genealogists know that determining a woman's maiden name can be a daunting process. All of us have women in our family tree who are only known by their married surname; the maiden name defeats us. In figure 2, hypothetical individual A has traced his ancestry back three generations on his paternal side and four generations back on the maternal side. He believes that the woman (B), who lived in the nineteenth century, is his great-great grandmother through the pure maternal, or M, line. On the other hand, he is not sure. He has narrowed the choice down to two women living in that time and place, but which is his great-great grandmother? He picks the mostly likely candidate, finds her parents (who might be his great-great-great grandparents) and advertises in a genealogy magazine

for M line descendants of that couple.

Responding to the advertisement, individual D contacts A (figure 3). She is the descendant of C, through an intact M line, who is the sister of A's possible ancestor B. She adds her ancestors, marked with a diagonal slash to the pedigree. What about the mtDNA?

Figure 4 shows the mtDNA descent. The black filled in boxes and circles show all the individuals who may have the same mtDNA of
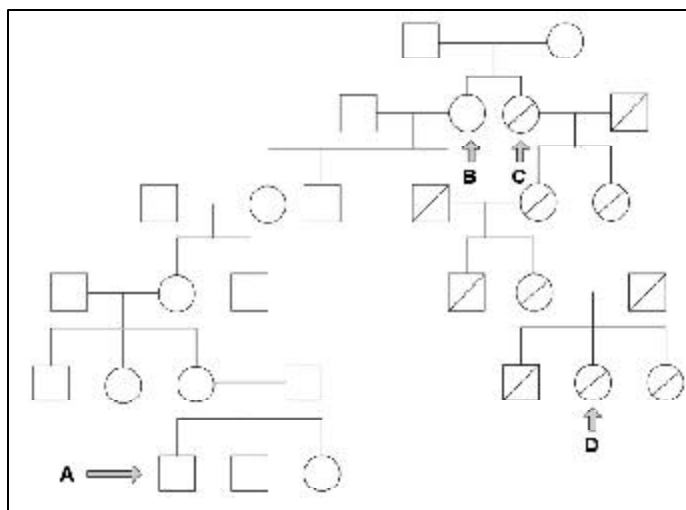

Figure 3: Individual A's paternal side removed from chart and replaced with individual D pedigree who traces her ancestry back to C, known to be the sister of B.

the sisters, B and C. There are two M lines, one from ancestor B to present day individual A, and one from individual C to present day individual D. If B and C are sisters than they would have the same mtDNA inherited from their mother. Unlike Y chromosome testing, there are few "non-paternity" events, so if there is a true descendancy from individuals B and C, then the M line descendants should have matching mtDNA. If individual B is truly the ancestor of A, then the mtDNA passed down

through the two M lines should be identical and individual D should be a match with individual A.

As with Y chromosome testing, when two individuals such as A and D "match," it just means that they have a common ancestor. The test does not tell them from which ancestor they descend or when that ancestor may have lived. In the example shown here, however, it does support the hypothesis that B is the ancestor of A. A review of figure 4 also shows that there are other females who may have passed the mtDNA on to their children suggesting that other M lines may have live descendants and can also be tested. There will also be lines that have "daughtered out." This is a term used in Y chromosome testing and refers to a line that has no sons to carry the Y chromosome, either because there are no children or only daughters, hence the line has "daughtered out." The same term, perhaps more accurately, can be used to describe the end of an M line—either there are no children or only sons, the line is "daughtered out."

Using mtDNA results

As this example shows, using mtDNA is not simple since unlike Y chromosome testing, it is not linked to a surname. To use mtDNA, you must first construct a pedigree chart such as figure 2 and plot the descent of mtDNA. Perhaps, you also have a problem ancestor, a woman like B who you believe is your ancestor through the maternal line but can't prove it, perhaps because the documentation is lacking or incomplete. You would then need to find someone

alive today who would have the same mtDNA, and who is willing to donate a DNA sample for testing. That individual can be male or female; both will have their mother's mtDNA. If it matches yours, you have additional evidence that an individual is indeed your ancestor through the M line. Another use for mtDNA might be to bypass incomplete information because of adoption. Generally, within historical time, mtDNA should either not mutate or change or at most show only a slight change. Two individuals descended through M lines from a single woman in colonial times should have the same mtDNA sequence. As with all DNA testing, matching mtDNA can't prove that the gene-

alogy is correct but it can add important supporting evidence.

Dr. Shawker is a research physician who has written more than 200 scientific publications and Unlocking your Genetic History: A Step-by-step Guide to Discovering Your Family's Medical and Genetic Heritage *in the NGS guide series. He is president of the Prince George's County Genealogical Society (Maryland) and is chairman of the NGS Family Health and Heredity Committee. He has spoken at numerous genealogical conferences, including NGS, the National Institute on Genealogical Research, and the New England Historic Genealogical Society. He can be reached at Shawker@smart.net.*
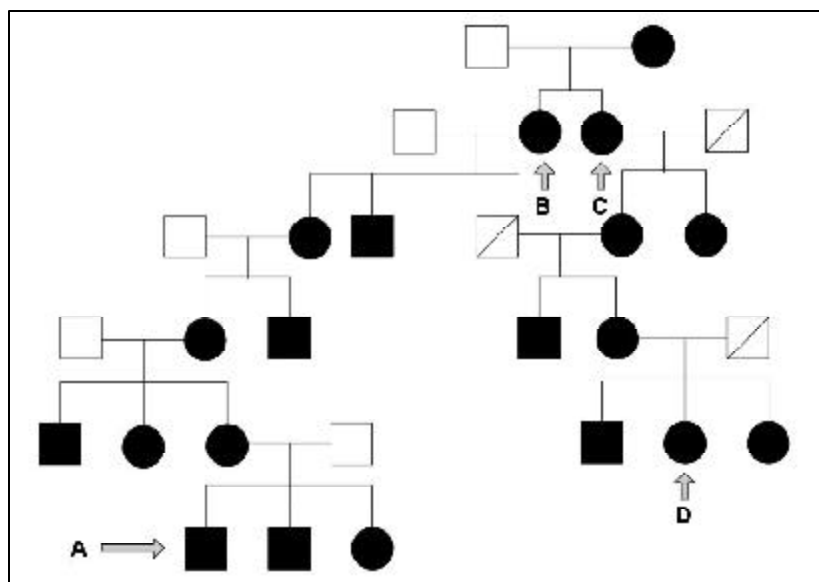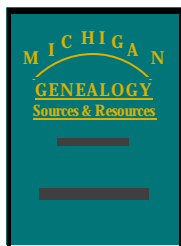

Figure 4: Assuming B and C are sisters, their mtDNA should be identical and subsequently passed intact to A and D.

Key points for evaluating websites

By Cyndi Howells

When family historians find something useful online for their research they are often heard to say things like "I found it online" or "I found it on the Internet." And it's usually said with conviction and a sureness that indicates they believe what they found is accurate. I'm afraid there appears to be something very official and authoritative about a website. There is something about the organized and digitized display of data that lends validity to that data in the eye of the reader. So, the first questions I want to ask the person who "found it online" are "Would you readily accept anything you find published in a book? Or printed in a newspaper? Do you believe everything you see on television?" If they already know that they shouldn't fall for everything in those media, why are they so prepared to take what they find online as accurate and factual?

The first rule in genealogy is to prove the names, dates, and places through documentation and evidence. We're ultimately trying to get to the original records and sources whenever possible. Records are generated by human beings. Indexes, extractions, and transcriptions from those records are generated by humans. And the technology that makes it possible to digitize that data is also created by humans. Human beings are not perfect. We make mistakes. And we have many opportunities to make mistakes with genealogical information along the way.

From the time census data are recorded during an interview with the person living in the house, to the time that same census data are digitized for the Internet, it has passed through many possible error zones. If you have ever worked on a project to transcribe or index data, you know that there are many phases the data might go through. Using our census example, the possible error zones can include some or all of the following:

☐ From the household dweller to the census enumerator
☐ From the enumerator's notes to the final census book
☐ From the census books to the microfilm cameras
☐ From the microfilm to the transcriber's eyes and then into his or her handwritten or hand-typed notes
☐ From the notes to the typed index
☐ From the index to a printed publication (such as a book, magazine, or journal)
☐ From the printed form to a newly digitized form in a database
☐ Conversion from one database software program to another as each phase of the project determines the need for new options to digitize and publish the data
☐ Conversion from a dataset to a final presentation in a book, on a CD, or in HTML on a website

Each of these phases can lead to mistakes because of spelling errors, assumptions, miscommunications, misinterpretation of handwriting, poor eyesight, lack of proofreading, poor typing skills, inferior quality of microfilm, and poor software programming that results in a loss of data. Without a doubt, there is a lot of room for error. Keeping all this in mind and knowing that you must ultimately get to the original source of information, you must look at websites with a discerning eye and use your best critical judgment of the data you find online.

First impressions

What is the old saying? Don't judge a book by its cover. The same goes for websites. It is safe to say that I have seen just about every type of site imaginable—the good, the bad, and the ugly. A good website should contain quality data. A good website isn't necessarily the prettiest thing you've ever seen. We are not all born artists. Laying out and designing a nice looking website can be a challenge. Long-time genealogists might know their way in and out of a research facility blindfolded and may be able to run rings around

you and I when it comes to documentation. But that same person could decide that a flamingo pink website with a frilly font would be the best way to display her data. So, don't let the first impression fool you. Judge the data and the research behind it, rather than the presentation style.

Similarly, a slick-looking, beautiful work of art does not mean that the research behind it has been as carefully done. I've seen some gorgeous sites online, many without one bit of actual, real-live, valid content. It is extremely easy to be lulled into a sense of confidence with a site that pleases your senses. Use the other side of your brain and look behind the spit and polish for the real substance.

Who made this information available online?

When you find a website of interest ask yourself three series of questions. First, is it a personal website, belonging to a fellow genealogist? Or is it a commercial website? The motivation for placing the data online can be quite different for a personal researcher versus a commercial entity. A family historian is most likely publishing data online in order to share with others and make connections with cousins. The personal site may lead you to feel comfortable with the data because you can

relate to the owner's need to share what they know with others. However, just because you can relate to the rationale for publishing online doesn't mean the person has the same level (or higher) of research knowledge and ability as you do. Keep in mind that they might be new to genealogy or they might be a seasoned veteran.

A commercial site is generally created in order to generate revenues, or to offer convenient services online for a fee. This does not mean that the motivation is negative in any way. After all, where would we be without some of the valuable, fee-based sources online such as the census? But you do need to remember that sometimes products are rushed to market. A project to transcribe a particular record set might have been done in a time crunch, thus leading to a certain percentage of errors or inaccuracies. Of course, the same can be said of the personal website if the person publishing the data rushes what he is doing.

Second, determine if the site belongs to a genealogical society, a historical society, a library, or another public or government

entity. It's very easy to automatically assign authority to those groups. But it's important to remember that human beings run those groups and participate in the projects to publish the information you use from their websites. The same care should be taken to evaluate the data that you would use on a personal or commercial website.

Can you tell if the site you are using is the official website for the group? I've often run into websites that were put online by volunteers, loaded with helpful information about a society or a library. But those sites aren't always the officially sanctioned sites for the group. A volunteer maintaining a website for a group may or may not be an active participant in that group. No matter how well-intentioned the person might be, the material may be out-dated. Look for an official site whenever possible.

Is it clear from the information on the website where in the world the group is physically located? I've known many a person to be led astray by a website titled as the "Washington County Public Library" only to find that it wasn't in the state they thought it was. After navigating the site you should be
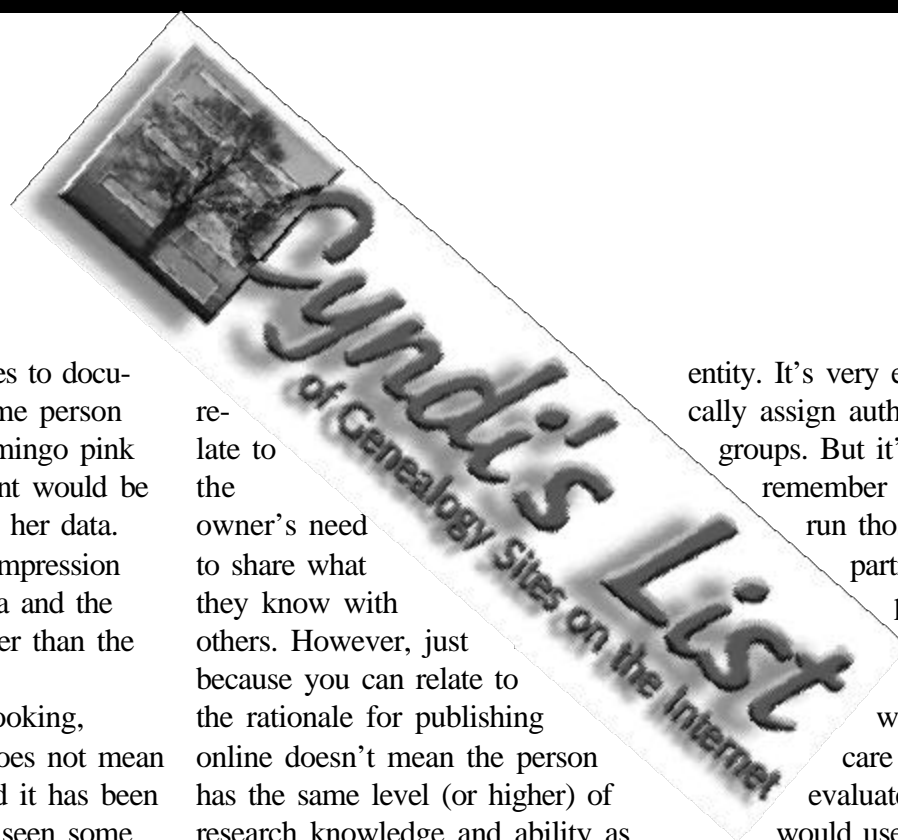
able to tell where the group, library, or government resides. Similarly, are you able to find contact information for the group? A physical address, phone number, or e-mail address will go a long way to making it easier for you to ascertain details about the group in question.

Third, does the author clearly identify himself or herself on the site? Is there a real, live name associated with the author? Or should you really begin a correspondence with fluffyhead@ aol.com? A real name lends credibility and a sense of seriousness given to the research materials published on the site. Does the site contain contact information for the author? Again, an e-mail address or mailing address will help you to alleviate a lot of hassle as you go about determining the reliability of the sources for the data in question.

Where did this information come from?

Now that you know who made the information available to you online, you next need to determine where the information came from in the first place. On a personal website, did the data come from family stories and tradition? That is, of course, where we all start on our path in genealogy. That is the majority of what you will find online as well. In my experience, most personal websites are made up of a compilation of home sources. There aren't often sources citing documentation and records. You should review the site you are visiting and try to determine if the data come from research with verifiable records. Look for foot-

notes, endnotes, bibliographies, or other indications that the researcher has been to a library, archives, or other research facility.

Data on a commercial website may come from a variety of sources. Some of the materials have been acquired from other businesses through merger, some purchased from individuals or from libraries, government departments, or genealogical, and historical institutions. And in some cases the data is generated (many times automated by technology) by the commercial entity itself in order to provide the material on its website. As you use the materials, does the site indicate the original source of the material? Treat each individual data set independently and look for the original source.

For example, when looking at the Search Court, Land & Probate Records page on Ancestry.com at <http://www.ancestry.com/search/rectype/default.aspx?rt=36>, you can choose from a list of possible data sets. The description for the Berks County, Pennsylvania Estate Records, 1752–1914 data set states: "This database is a part of the more than 750,000 records held by the Berks County, Pennsylvania Register of Wills/Clerk of the Orphans' Court whose office is located in the Berks County Services Center in Reading, Pennsylvania. The indexes were compiled by the staff of these offices and volunteers over a period of eight (8) years. The records were typed either from the indexes themselves or, for those records not indexed, from the actual documents." This description clearly helps lead you back to

the original source of the material.

Some commercial and noncommercial sites host lineage-linked databases. These are large compilations of personal databases that have been submitted by visitors to the website. Some people will tell you that these databases are filled with a lot of junk and unverified data. They are right. But the databases can contain good pointers to get you started in a new direction or give you a hint about a place or a date. Just remember that you will have to follow up on anything you find in such a compilation. You want to get to the researcher who submitted the data and discuss his or her sources.

What you are really hoping for is to find that the data you are viewing came from research done with verifiable records. In the case of a library or government website, can you tell if the data came from a collection of previously published material? Perhaps from a book, an index, or a series on microform that was previously available? If so, you may have already used this material on one of your past research trips to that facility. Does the site indicate the original source that the previously published material is based on? If the original source was a book with a typed index, how was that book originally created? You may find that it was extracted from a roll of microfilm, which can then lead you to the original source. In the end, did the data come from sources that can be located if you physically visit the library or government office yourself?

Format and structure

Overall it is never safe to assume anything about what you find online. But sometimes evaluating the format and the structure of a Web page can give you hints about the reliability of the research done by the author. On a personal website you should look to see if the information has structure and a specific format. Is the data displayed in a traditional ahnentafel or descendant outline report? Does it appear that a genealogy software program formatted the data? Or does it appear that the author entered the data freehand? The

information necessary to accomplish the research, but doesn't ensure that he or she would heed what was learned. If it appears that the site was created free-hand without any logical structure, you might be safe to assume that the person who created the site is relatively new to genealogy and may not have any sources other than what you see.

Sources

Are sources for the research cited on the website? If so, are they complete? They might be listed in a clear, bibliographic format that is

does the author indicate that sources are available upon request? Some researchers are wary of publishing their sources online. Contact them to find out more about their research.

Can you use what you find online?

Now that you have found the information and looked carefully at what you found, are you free to take it and incorporate it into what you are doing? First, honor the wishes of the website's author. Read and familiarize yourself with each of the following if available on the site: a FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions), disclaimers, a privacy statement, or a copyright statement. Look in navigational tools or in the footer near the bottom of the front page on the site for such information.

Does the author of the website indicate any preferences about duplication of his or her research? Or does the author indicate any limitations to observe? Many times you might find a statement on a site making it clear that you can use the site for your own personal research, but that commercial use is prohibited. If you plan to publish a book or contribute to a commercial database, you should honor the disclaimer on the other person's site. If you plan to publish your own website at some point in the future, be sure to get permission to use other people's information first. Be sure to spell out exactly what you intend to do with the data.

> # What you are really hoping for is to find that the data you are viewing came from research done with verifiable records.

answer to these questions helps you determine the level of experience that the author has in genealogical research. If there is a structure and specific format that is recognizable, chances are they have been exposed to a variety of traditional forms and charts used in family history. This should mean that the person didn't become a genealogist on Friday and publish her family history online Saturday after an interview with Grandma. If the site looks to have been generated by genealogy software, you might be safe in assuming that the author has at least been at the research game long enough to have purchased software, installed it, and entered family data. This would expose the researcher to a bit more of the

easy to decipher. Or they may be shown in strict citation format common to genealogists or specific software programs. They should include title, author, and publisher; call number or film number; volume and page numbers; website title, author, and address. Most important of all—if you had to recreate each piece of datum by locating each of the original sources, could you do so yourself based on the citations shown? Complete and detailed sources on a website should indicate a higher level of understanding of the genealogical research process. At the least, they indicate that you can feel more comfortable with this data than you might without the sources. If no sources are available,

If things aren't clearly defined on the site, do not assume that it means you are free to do as you please. Be courteous and respect

If things aren't clearly defined on the site, do not assume that it means you are free to do as you please.

the work done by others. Always ask first before using anything found on a website belonging to someone else. All works online are protected by copyright—whether they contain a copyright statement or not. If it isn't clear whether you are able to copy material from the site, it is better to err on the safe side. Contact the author and get permission first. Be sure to document that permission. Also give credit where it is due. Indicate in your sources and documentation that you gained the data from that person. Of course, you might get permission to copy from a website. But you shouldn't assume that the author of the website obtained all necessary permissions from other people before publishing data on his or her site. If the data were copied from other sources without permissions and without adhering to the wishes of the original author, you might be in for a spot of trouble. It is always safest to ask detailed questions when asking for permission. For example, "Is this your original work? Or did it come from another genealogist?"

10 things to keep in mind

1. A pretty site doesn't necessarily mean thorough, quality research.
2. A homely site doesn't necessarily mean poor research.
3. Don't assume anything about data found on a site.
4. A site that seems to be "official" may not be. Follow up

whenever in doubt.
5. Sources available on the site still need to be verified.
6. A lack of sources on a site indicates that you should follow up with the author.
7. When in doubt, always verify data yourself.
8. It isn't free to copy just because it is published online.
9. When in doubt, ask permission before copying, reprinting, distributing or modifying data that were published online by another person.
10. *Anyone* can publish *anything* on the Internet. It's up to you to evaluate what you find before you incorporate it into your research.

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Cyndi Howells, a genealogist for more than 24 years, is the creator of Cyndi's List*, author of three books for genealogical research on the Internet, a member of the board of directors for the National Genealogical Society, and active member in several other genealogical groups. She can be reached by e-mail at* cyndihow@oz.net.

Making the most of the USGenWeb Project

By Richard S. Wilson

I f you have never used The USGenWeb Project, or have not accessed it lately, you are missing an extraordinary FREE genealogical resource. In this article I would like to explain some of the tools that are available to you from this fabulous site.

Overview of The USGenWeb Project

The USGenWeb Project consists of a group of volunteers working together to provide Internet websites for genealogical research in every county and every state of the United States. This project is *not* a commercial enterprise and information found on its pages is freely available to the public.

Organization is by county and state. The website at <http://www.usgenweb.org/> provides you with links to all of the state websites that, in turn, provide gateways to the counties. The USGenWeb Project also sponsors important "Special Projects" at the national level and provides an entry point to all of those pages, on the website.

Although the basic unit of Web pages is at the county level, state websites include very important information as well, including such resources as postings of unknown county queries, family reunion bulletin boards, state histories, maps showing the changing county boundaries, and more. Many states also have ongoing projects as diverse as the transcription of Civil War regiments or the reuniting of families with lost photos, Bibles, etc.

As you explore the state and county websites, you will see considerable variation as each page or database is the creation, property, and responsibility of an individual volunteer. But you will also find that all of the counties will provide links for you to post queries, access the state's home page, and access the archives. All of the volunteers who make up The USGenWeb Project are very proud of this endeavor and hope that you will find their hard work both beneficial and rewarding.

Brief history of The USGenWeb Project

The USGenWeb project had its roots in discussions that occurred on the GenWeb mailing list hosted by Gary Hoffman. In March and April of 1996, Jeff Murphy laid out a framework and began to solicit volunteers and organized the Kentucky Comprehensive Genealogy Database Project—The KYGenWeb Project. It began as a discussion on the Internet mailing list, KYROOTS-L.

The KYGenWeb Project took shape in a very short time. The idea was to provide a single entry point for all counties in Kentucky, where genealogical data about each county could easily be found. In addition, the data on all county sites would be indexed and cross-linked, so that a single search in a master index could locate all references to a given surname across all pages and databases associated with the project. This preliminary discussion quickly turned into a reality, and the project grew so quickly that by mid-July all of the counties in Kentucky had Web pages.

In June 1996, as the KyGenWeb Project was nearing 100 percent county coverage, interested volunteers decided to create a similar set of pages for all states, establishing The USGenWeb Project. Jeff Murphy set up a main page for the states that included

WELCOME TO THE
AZGENWEB PROJECT
ARIZONA GENEALOGY ONLINE
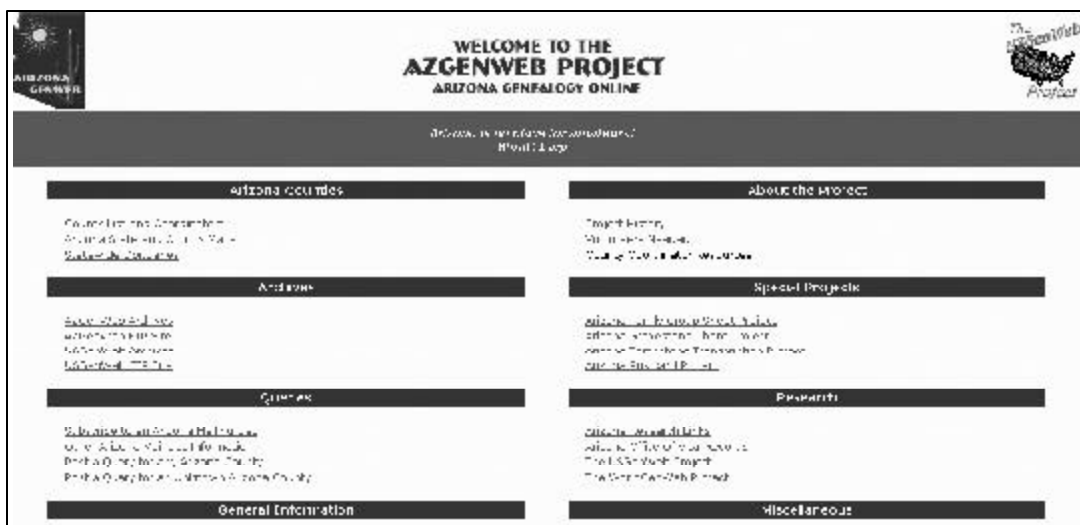
a template for volunteers to use. Announcements were made to genealogy mailing lists and newsgroups and news of this project was spread by e-mail and word of mouth. Volunteers were found who were willing to coordinate the efforts for each state, and additional volunteers were sought to create and maintain websites for every county in the United States. By July 1996 most states were online with state home pages and most had several volunteers. Since I am the California State Coordinator, I should mention that the first California USGenWeb Project Web pages were uploaded on 16 July 1996 by me.

Although The USGenWeb Project was originally designed to be organized by state and county, much genealogy data cannot be limited to a single county, or even a single state. So, USGenWeb Special Projects have evolved to collect and disseminate data that go beyond county and state lines.

Organization of the resources

State Pages—Each state as well as Washington, D.C., has its own page. From the USGenWeb site, you can go directly to a state's home page. Let's take the California state USGenWeb page for example: The main state page is located at <http://www.cagenweb.com/>. You don't need to know that because you can get to the state page of any state in this project by putting in the address <http://www.usgenweb.org/ca/> (you can change the "ca" to any state's standard postal abbreviation to get to that state's main page). From each state page you can find a link to every county page for that state. You will also find research information and repositories that apply to the entire state.

County Links—A county coordinator maintains

each county Web page. Even with more than 3,000 U.S. counties, you will find similarity between the USGenWeb pages. State coordinators support county coordinators and mailing lists are provided for national and state lists.

Look up or Reference Pages—Each county Web page has a link to a reference or look up page. This page is provided so people can list resources that are available for the counties, such as county histories, cemetery, or vital record books. People with an interest in the county can then request "look ups" from the reference books.

Query Pages—Each county Web page also has a link to a query page. This page is provided for people to post queries about research they are working on in the county. You can also read the posted queries on each query page. If you find a common interest you can then e-mail the person who posted the query.

Additional County Pages—Many county sites have links to additional pages. They may be history pages, surname pages, or lists of people with Web pages about their ancestors who lived in that county. These additional pages are up to the county coordinator to decide on.

Additional USGenWeb projects

There are three search engines set up to help you search the USGenWeb Project Digital Library:

♦ Projects Archives at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~usgenweb/newsearch.htm>

♦ National Archives at <http://searches.rootsweb.com/htdig/search.html>

♦ State Archives at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~usgenweb/ussearch.htm>

Remember that searching these three search engines will give you results of everything in the

Archives, however, they do not check the actual USGenWeb Project county pages at all. So, remember to check the state and county pages as well as using these three search engines.

conceptualized in August 1999. It became a reality in August 2000 under the coordination of Kelly Mullins and Tina Vickery.

The USGenWeb Digital Library (Archives) was developed to present actual transcriptions of public domain records on the Internet. This huge undertaking is the cooperative effort of volunteers who either have electronically formatted files on census records, marriage bonds, wills, and other public documents, or are willing to transcribe this information to contribute. The coordinator is Linda Lewis. There are several Projects that are being undertaken by The USGenWeb Archives.

The USGW Digital Map Library—This is an outgrowth of The USGenWeb Archives. The United States Digital Map Library is a new project currently being developed by USGenWeb Archives. The goal is to make useful, readable, high quality maps available to genealogists. Here you will find both archival maps and newly made maps based on scholarly research. The coordinator for the USGW Digital Map Project is Deb Haines.

The Pension Project—This project will endeavor to provide actual transcriptions of pension-related materials for all wars prior to 1900. Transcripts, extracts, and abstracts will be accepted and files will be placed in the USGenWeb Archives directory of the State and County of principal residence of the pensioner. The coordinator for the Pension Project is Joan Renfrow.

Church Records Project—This project was first

Marriage Records Project—Coordinator Mary Hudson and Assistant Patti Jepsen.

Archives Newsletter—This newsletter contains some of the newest submissions to The USGenWeb Archives.

Obituary Project—The project was developed in April 2000. Newspapers have given permission to archive published obituaries to help researchers. Obituary Archives Project Coordinator is Katy Hestand and her assistant is Linda Simpson.

Special Collections Project—As the Archives grew, it was apparent not all submitted data fell into the standard state/county category, but covered multiple counties or states. The project was developed in January 2000 to cover this special data. It also provides an entry page to scanned out-of-print books on family studies, historical books, and various journals, permanently stored for free access. These books are being scanned and placed online. If you are interested in volunteering to transcribe any of the books, or if you have a special collection that you would like to share with others for free access, please contact Linda Russell Lewis.

Family Group Sheet Project—This project is designed to help researchers locate family lines through online Family Group Sheets, benefiting from research already done by others who wish to share. This project is headed up by Bettie Wood.

Genealogical Events Project—This project is here

for the purpose of providing a place to list genealogical events that are taking place across the country. The coordinator for the Events Project is Kathy Hudson.

Kidz Project—Is designed to help kids learn their way around genealogical research. If they are exploring history in school by exploring their family history, this is a great resource for them. They can post queries to see if anyone else is researching their ancestors! If they are seeking an answer to a specific question, they can post it here. There is even a "how to" section to help them get going! The coordinator of this project is Angela DiBlasi.

Lineage Project—This project is designed to provide a place to list researchers who are looking for descendants of one particular ancestor who must have lived in the U.S. at one time and must have been born before 31 December 1850. Links include the ancestor's name, location, and dates, an e-mail link to the researcher, and the researcher's Web page on the family, if there is one. The coordinator for the Lineage Project is Freddie Spradlin.

Tombstone Project—This project was started to encourage people to walk cemeteries and donate copies of the surveys to the Archives. The project also provides links to cemetery transcriptions that are not archived in The USGenWeb Archives. These include transcriptions on County websites and on independent websites. The coordinator of The USGenWeb Tombstone Project is Pam Reid.

Projects of note outside of the USGenWeb Project

The Census Projects—There are two census projects, both call themselves USGenWeb Census Projects, but neither are associated with The USGenWeb Project. You can access them at:

♦ <http://www.us-census.org/>
♦ <http://www.rootsweb.com/~census/>

Although these two census projects originated with USGenWeb, they since have become separate projects, but are still a great resource.

Volunteers needed

For folks wishing to volunteer for The USGenWeb Project, there are several ways in which one may help. If you are interested in coordinating a state or county website, first check to see if the particular county or state is "Up for Adoption." If you find that it is, you should contact the appropriate state coordinator regarding adoption of the county or the national coordinator regarding a state website. In some areas (particularly the northeast and eastern seaboard areas), coordinators are needed to adopt town websites. The current state or county websites will provide information regarding adoption.

There are many other ways someone can help—check out the Special Projects page where you can find descriptions of all the different projects, as well as links to additional information on how to help or submit data. Several of these projects will take years to complete, like The Tombstone Project or The Census Online Project that require help with the transcription/submission of data.

All help is appreciated.

Richard S. Wilson is a nationally known genealogical lecturer. He speaks at major genealogical conferences and local societies and family history fairs. He has been doing family history research for more than 26 years and has used personal computers since 1979. He is currently the president of the Genealogical Speakers Guild and state coordinator for the California portion of The USGenWeb Project on the Internet. He is the author of Publishing Your Family History on the Internet *in book and video format, co-author of* The Internet for Genealogists: A Beginners Guide, *and author of the video* Digital Imaging for Genealogists. *He can be reached by e-mail at richard@rwilson.us.*

The world's largest library catalog

By Drew Smith, MLS

Record books will tell you that the largest library in the world is the Library of Congress (LC). Among its hundreds of miles of bookshelves can be found nearly 30 million books. Genealogists planning a trip to D.C. have no doubt consulted the LC's online catalog in advance to see what materials they might be able to examine during a research trip. But genealogists who lack the time or money to visit D.C. would reasonably hope to locate materials closer to home.

Of course, another option is the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City. Its online catalog also makes it possible to determine the existence of useful holdings, as the FHL is a repository for more than 300,000 genealogy books and several million microforms. Genealogists have long benefited by having microfilm shipped to nearby Family History Centers.

Nevertheless, a researcher still might wonder if nearby public or academic libraries, perhaps within easy driving distance, would have an especially helpful family history book. Yet the thought of having to search dozens or hundreds of individual library catalogs is enough to dissuade most researchers from ever finding out. Fortunately, an Ohio-based organization is in the process of solving that problem for anyone with access to the World Wide Web.

OCLC and WorldCat

In 1967, the Ohio College Library Center was formed to allow academic libraries in Ohio to share library resources. By 1977, membership had expanded to include libraries outside of Ohio, and in 1981, the name of the organization was officially changed to OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc. More than 50,000 libraries in the United States and many other countries now subscribe to the services of OCLC.

One of the most popular services provided by OCLC is its enormous union catalog, known as WorldCat. A union catalog is a catalog that identifies material from more than one library. At the present time, the WorldCat database contains more than 57 million records, and represents the holdings of more than 9,000 libraries around the world. This includes not only the LC, but also such well-known genealogical repositories as the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana. More importantly, the WorldCat database likely includes records for many of the public and academic libraries located close to where you live.

Libraries benefit from access to WorldCat because it makes it easier for them to catalog materials in their own collections when those same materials have already been catalogued by professionals at other libraries. As a result, local catalogers can spend more time in working with unique or unusual materials rather than with materials that have already been examined and described elsewhere.

Many public and academic libraries subscribe to OCLC's FirstSearch service. FirstSearch provides access to the WorldCat database (among other databases). Policies will differ from library to library, so patrons should check with their local public or academic library to see whether or not there is patron access to FirstSearch, and if there is, whether or not patrons have remote access from home. Like a typical library catalog, FirstSearch access to the WorldCat database allows the user to search for titles, authors, or keywords.

Figure 1: Yahoo! Search results.

WorldCat for the masses

Having to worry about whether or not you have easy access to the WorldCat database may be a thing of the past. In 2003, OCLC began a pilot program involving 30,000 OCLC member libraries. The two million most commonly catalogued items were put into a special database, and the database was made available to such search engines as *Google* and *Yahoo! Search*. Because of the success of the pilot program, OCLC has decided to make the Open WorldCat program a permanent program. This means that most of the 57 million records currently found in the WorldCat database will be accessible using popular search tools. (After 1 July 2005, only those libraries that subscribe to the WorldCat database will have their records kept within the Open WorldCat program.)

At the time of this writing, you can access the Open WorldCat program from *Yahoo! Search*, *Google*, and *MSN Search*, but it appears that only *Yahoo! Search* has indexed a significant number of WorldCat records. There is also a special edition of the Yahoo! Toolbar that is designed to search the Open WorldCat database (the toolbar is free to download from the Open WorldCat program website).

How easy is it to use *Yahoo! Search* to locate a book in the Open WorldCat database? All you need to do is perform a normal search for a keyword (such as words from the title of a book), and include "site:worldcatlibraries.org" as part of the search. For instance, if I were searching for the book *Seventeenth Century Isle of Wight County, Virginia* by John Bennett Boddie, *Yahoo! Search* would return a list of matching hits, as in the example in Figure 1.

The "Find in a Library" that is part of the results is an indicator that you are getting results from the Open WorldCat program. You can then click on the link to see more detailed information about the book (see Figure 2).

Notice that you can enter your postal code so that the Open WorldCat system can locate the nearest libraries holding the book. If the name of the library is a link, you can use that link to connect directly to that library's online catalog, which enables you to identify the call number of the book and whether or not it is checked in.

You can also identify libraries farther away. You'll often see a link that says "Show Regional Libraries." Clicking on that link will take you to a list of more libraries (in case you're planning a research trip or know someone there who can do a lookup for you).

The Open WorldCat program has resulted in an easily accessible, enormous catalog of much of the world's library holdings. Genealogists should take the time to explore this new resource!

Drew Smith, MLS, is an instructor at the University of South Florida in Tampa, where he teaches library/ Internet research skills and genealogical librarianship. He is the webmaster and listowner for Librarians Serving Genealogists. He is also a past leader of the Genealogy and Local History Interest Group of the Florida Library Association. Drew can be reached by e-mail at drewsmith@aol.com.
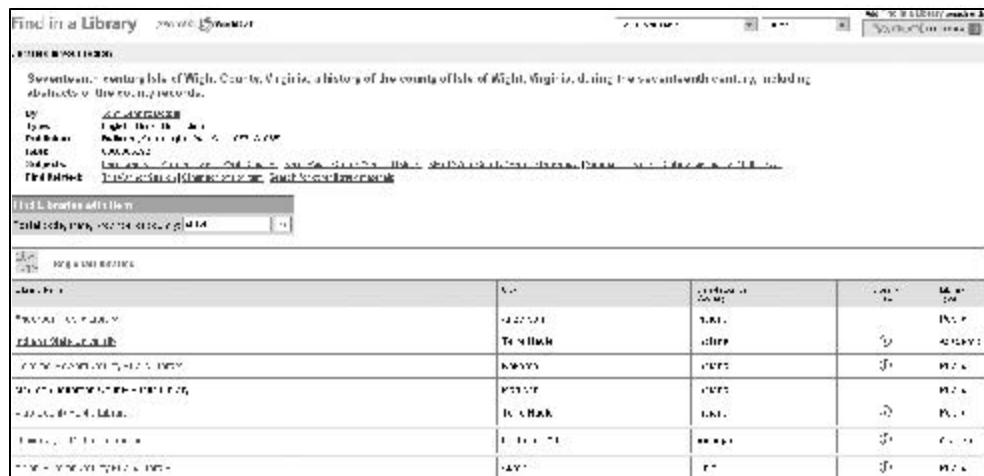

Figure 2: Find in a Library screen.

Writing and editing features in genealogy software

By William J. Zehner, CG

I f you have ever tried to print a narrative report from your genealogy program, you may have been surprised by the result. It probably didn't look quite like what you expected and you probably couldn't figure out how to straighten it up. Here are some things you need to know about twenty-first century genealogical authoring that may help you choose the right software or get the most out of what you already own.

Does quality matter?

A family history book is the final product of our long years of research. It is our message to countless generations yet unborn, so it needs to be a quality product that we, and they, will be proud of. Proper use of modern technology will not only make our books look much better, it can also greatly reduce the time and frustration associated with authoring.

Besides improving the appearance and readability of our family books with the addition of maps, charts, photos, and scanned graphic images of ancient documents, modern computers are marvelously well suited to those dreaded time-consuming tasks like layout, formatting, pagination, footnoting, spell-checking, and indexing, which were formerly done manually by the author. Well suited, that is, at least in principle.

There is a surprisingly large number of lineage-linked genealogical database software products available at very reasonable prices (some even free) that are very capable of handling most of the organizational tasks needed by family historians. Nearly all can link relatives together, log dates, places, and other facts and life events. Many also permit a variety of multimedia items (audio, video, and photos) to be linked to individuals and families in the database, and some even provide Web publishing options. By contrast, however, the narrative report writing features of most programs are sadly neglected.

It's your book

Every author has his or her own preferences about the way a family history book should look. There are hundreds of stylistic choices possible, including type fonts, sizes, and styles; page size, layout, and format; journal style; individual identification numbering; presentation order; details to include or omit; phraseology; navigation; number and location of graphics, and ... well, you get the idea. No genealogy software can be expected to accommodate all of these variables, and that is why *the ability to manually edit your report is vitally important*. Remarkably, many programs permit only very limited editing or none at all.

Whether a particular genealogy program is able to produce reports that can be edited is determined by the type of output file it produces. Four types occur in various genealogy programs:

1. Low-end programs produce only printer files (.prn) or PDF files, which cannot be edited without special software
2. Plain text files (ASCII, or .txt) are not useful for genealogy reports because they contain no formatting at all
3. By contrast, Rich Text Format

(RTF, designed as a universal format that can be imported by any word processor) is capable of supporting the high level of formatting required for a genealogy report. In practice however, not all RTF files are created equally. One way to find out if your word processor can read an RTF file produced by a particular genealogy program is to buy it and try it, but that wastes time and money that could have been spent researching your family (I'll discuss a second option later in this article.)

4. The last and best option is a file in the native format of your favorite word processor—if it supports styles—because styles make it easy and quick to change the appearance of an entire document with a few keystrokes. For example, the font size of every footnote in a document can be changed at any time by a single change in the footnote style box.

Help your reader find the way

A family history is primarily a reference book—not a riveting murder mystery that will be read cover-to-cover—so navigation aids are a must. Numbering systems help readers find their way around in your book. There is no reason to waste time inventing one, because many have been tried and only a few have withstood the test of time. Register, Modified Register (now called *NGSQ*), and Henry numbering are offered for descendancies in most programs, as is ahnentafel numbering for ascendancies.

Navigation and identification help your reader locate his ancestors among all the cousins. Most genealogies contain several individuals with the same name. How does your reader know which one is his relative, and how does he navigate between the parent section and the child section where that relative appears? The numbering system helps, augmented by coded structures that identify the individual. A typical child section in a descendancy might look like this example:

The children of Philip^2 and Sally (Doe) Bloe were:

$+$ 9 i. Benjamin R.^{3} Bloe, born 19 March 1789 in ....

  10 ii. Joe Bloe, born 1 April 1793 in ....

  11 iii. etc....

where Benjamin is assigned an identification number 9, the "i." indicates that he was the first-born child of Philip, the superscript 3 indicates that he is of the third generation, and the + indicates that he had children and will appear again in a later section of the book as a parent with his spouse and children.

The parent section for Benjamin might start like this:

  9. **Benjamin R.^{3} Bloe** (Philip^2, Adam^1) was born ....

indicating that this Benjamin Bloe, whose identification number is 9, is a member of the third generation and the son of Philip Bloe, who was in turn the son of Adam Bloe. Benjamin's name is bold in this

section so the reader can spot him easily. The generation superscripts are italicized so the reader can easily distinguish them from footnote numbers.

Fortunately, there is no need to invent a style system that will make your book easy to understand, because several styles have been developed over many decades by a number of scholarly genealogical journals. The two most widely used are the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* (*NGSQ*), previously called Modified Register and used for the illustration above, and the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* (*NEHGR*) or just Register. The BCG Standards Manual[1] provides specifications and many excellent examples of both styles. Most genealogy programs indicate both of these "styles" as options, but some have little in common with the named journal styles beyond the numbering system—which is but a tiny fraction of what a journal style encompasses.

Making your book credible

Citations give our family histories credibility. Genealogy uses a wider variety of source documents than perhaps any other science, but fortunately, there is no need to reinvent formats for each of them because standard formats have already been developed.[2] Unfortunately many software programs do not allow us to use them. Look for one with user-defined templates that allow you to format your citations any way you want. That way, you can set them up to match the templates in *Evidence*.

Footnotes or endnotes are used to reference our citations at the end of the page or the end of the document. Some programs permit only in-text ("embedded") source citations, which are highly distracting to the reader. All scholarly journals now use footnotes to save flipping back and forth from text to source, but many family historians feel that endnotes are less intrusive. Make sure your software supports the style you prefer.

Be forewarned that many programs produce text that appears to contain footnotes but actually contains nothing more than superscripted numbers. If we add, delete, or move a footnote while editing our text, our word processor depends on footnote codes embedded in the text by the genealogy software to allow it to automatically insert, remove, or move the footnote; renumber all the following footnotes; and rearrange them at the foot of the page.

To test this, if using a full-featured word processor like *WordPerfect*,[3] simply turn on Reveal Codes, position the cursor near a footnote in the text, and look
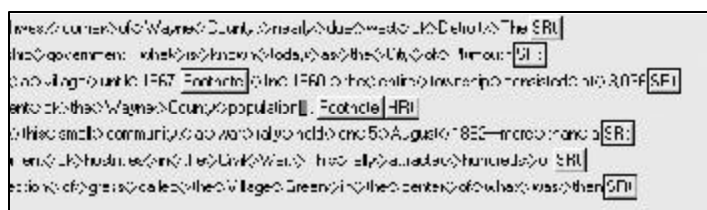
for the word *footnote*. With other word processors, insert the cursor in front of any footnote and insert a new footnote. If the following footnote numbers do not change, true footnote codes were not created by the genealogy program

and editing will not be possible.

Make it reader friendly

A good index is more than just a courtesy to your reader. When browsing in a library's genealogy section, family historians flip immediately to the index in the back of the book looking for their relatives. If your book has no index, readers who might otherwise have found their relatives there will simply return your book to the shelf and move on. Your index will be more helpful if it includes every name and place mentioned in the book. Females should be indexed by both their married and maiden names, but few programs do this for you. Hatcher[4] provides an excellent review of additional considerations that will make your index great.

As with footnotes, our word processor depends on special index codes embedded in our report by the genealogy software in order to automatically generate the index after we finish editing our text. Some programs produce what looks like an index, but without embedded codes. Adding or deleting any more than a few words in the report may shift text across page boundaries, causing the page numbers in the index to be incorrect. If the index codes are absent, our word processor cannot regenerate the index and it will complain that it found no codes when we attempt to generate the index.

Test results

If you are considering a new software product to help write your book, about the only way to determine whether it contains the features you want is to buy it and try it. That can waste a lot of time. To save some effort and expense, you can visit the Genealogy Authors' Software Guide at <http://www.northwestfloridagenealogy.com/genauthsoftguide>. There you will see the results of several products tested by the author. The test results reported there are intended to help family history writers choose, use, and understand the authoring features of their genealogical software and maximize the benefit of those programs. Additional products and new versions will be evaluated as time permits.

Notes

1. *The BCG Genealogical Standards Manual* (Orem, Utah: Ancestry Publishing, 2000), appendices E, F, and G.
2. Elizabeth Shown Mills, *Evidence! Citation and Analysis for the Family Historian* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1997).
3. *WordPerfect* is a registered trademark of Corel Corporation.
4. Patricia Law Hatcher, *Producing a Quality Family History* (Salt Lake City: Ancestry, Inc., 1996), pp. 165–180.

William J. Zehner, CG, lives in Lynn Haven, Florida. He is a member of APG and the International Society of Family History Writers and Editors. He teaches Introduction to Genealogy at the Gulf County Community College Lifelong Learning Center, and coordinates an annual family history seminar sponsored by the Panama City Family History Center.

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GenSmarts

As an old, emphasis on old, experienced researcher, my first reaction on hearing about *GenSmarts* was one of little interest. After all, I had spent some nine years as a volunteer and shift leader at our local Family History Center, so there were very few sources of information of which I was not aware. The possibility that a piece of genealogical software could scan my database and suggest possible avenues of research I had not checked was ludicrous. I was, however, willing to concede that it might be useful to a novice researcher.

I obtained a copy of the program and decided that the least I could do was install it and give it a run at my personal database. It is, by some standards, a small collection, only 1,420 individuals. However, the locations are from England, Lithuania, Canada, and the United States. Every event is fully documented, as the database is the basis for a family history, not a simple genealogy. Installation was straightforward: put the CD in the drive and then provide the key at the appropriate time.

Artificial intelligence (AI)

GenSmarts uses what is known as "artificial intelligence." This is the art of programming a computer to make the observer believe it can actually think. In actuality, it is nothing more than some very skillful programming. The computer is still a binary idiot, unable to count to two (one plus one is 10). In the case of *GenSmarts*, the program searches for missing or incomplete data, and then, after analyzing the data that are present, identifies possible sources that may help in finding the missing information. If the source is available online, it can then connect the user to that database.

The program can process database files from *Family Tree Maker*, *Roots Magic*, *The Master Genealogist*, *PAF*, *Legacy*, *Ancestral Quest*, and *Ancestry Family Tree*, or a GEDCOM file. The user may select the file to open or use a wizard that will search the computer and identify all files meeting the acceptable formats. The wizard starts automatically the first time you run *GenSmarts.* Subsequently, it can be accessed from the tool bar under "File." The wizard requires the user to select the database file type, GEDCOM file, or if the sample file is to be used. When used in conjunction with a supported program, a menu item in that program will open *GenSmarts* and analyze the person currently in focus.

Processing files

Once a file is selected, it is processed. The results are displayed on a series of tabbed screens. The first screen presents a list of all individuals in the file in a scrollable window. The information for any selected person is displayed in an adjacent box. Two other boxes display database information. It is possible to select multiple persons and then e-mail that information to interested parties. The
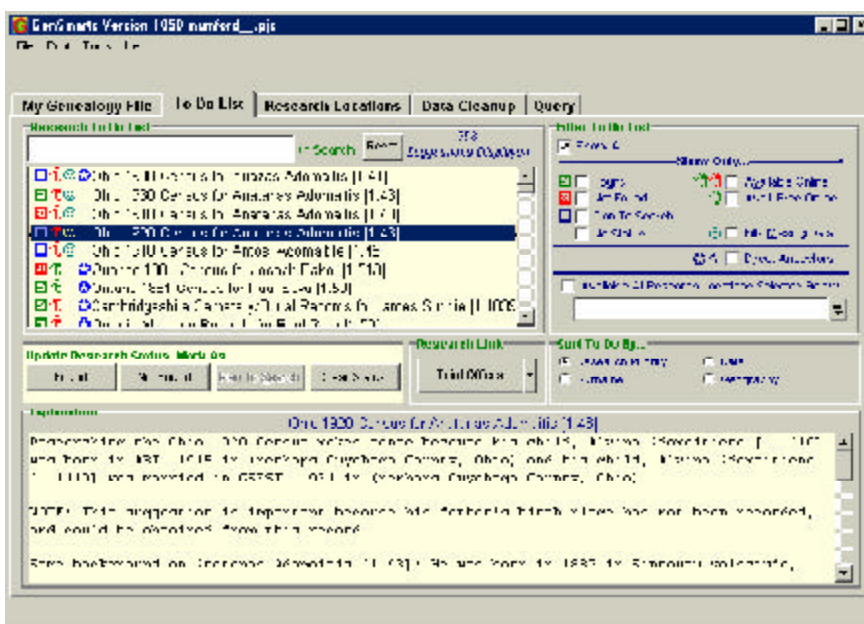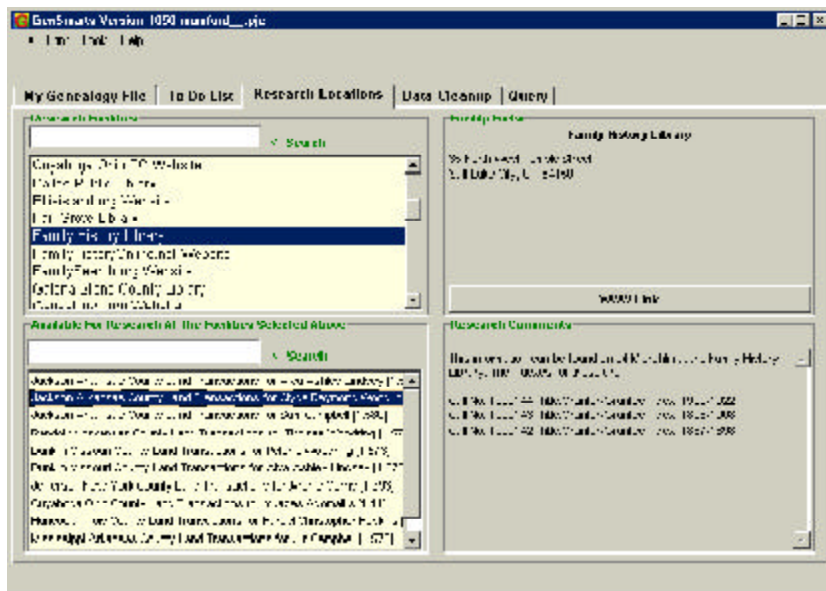
Figure 1: To-do list.

Figure 2: Research Locations.

user can also search for individuals and mark direct-line ancestors. This list may also be printed. Options allow the user to select the individuals desired, the amount of information, and if it is to be sorted by surname or date of birth.

The second screen is the "To-Do" list (figure 1). This list is the result of the application of the program's "intelligence." The program notes the missing data for an individual and then inspects the available information for that individual and that of family members. Based on its findings it will then offer suggestions as to where the researchers might find the missing information. The explanation as to how it arrived at these conclusions is displayed in a window below the "to-do" list. Icons preceding each name indicate if the data are available online and if the website is free or if a subscription is required. As a "to-do" item is researched, the user can place icons to indicate the status of the search. The list may be sorted by surname, research priority, date, and geography. The user can further filter the list by selecting a

specific repository from a preloaded list. A series of check boxes can be used to set the display to only those items marked by the various icons. This list may also be printed. As with the name list, options allow the selection of the "to-do" items desired, the amount of information, and if it is to be sorted by location or surname. As research is carried out, the user can use icons to indicate the status of a search. This list may be printed as well. As with the name list, options allow the selection of the "to-do" items desired, the amount of information, and if it is to be sorted by location or surname.

The third screen, Research Locations (figure 2), provides a listing of available repositories. Selecting a repository from the displayed list will show the address in the adjacent box. A button will open the browser to the website, if it is available. A box immediately below the repository list will display the "to-do" items that may have information for user-specified items. Comments concerning a specified item are displayed in the adjacent box.

The fourth screen, labeled Data Cleanup (figure 3), is composed of three tabbed screens: place names, save issues, and estimating. The program does not actually edit the files but alerts users to concerns relating to these items. When initially starting the program, the user is requested to select the most commonly found country in the database. Selecting a name helps in the data analysis process. *GenSmarts* uses, or expects, four levels of place documentation: country, state, county, and city. This works well for the U.S. but is inappropriate for the U.K., Canada, and Australia. Location information is very important to the decision making process within *GenSmarts*. The Data Cleanup screen's tab for locations displays all the locations that do not meet the program's requirements. They are coded in six groups, A through F. A indicates the program could not use the supplied data while F indicates the location information is missing. The other ratings indicate various levels of usability of the data. These ratings are also prioritized with the A indicating items that would benefit most from improved location information. A Customized Geography Form permits the user to add locations to those stored within the program. By using this feature and limiting location information to four levels that correspond roughly to the country, state, county, and city format, the program will be more effective.

The second tab, Save Issues, is associated with any changes the user makes related to the tagging of a direct ancestor or a "to-do" item. When any changes are made to these items, the program records them. If there are any changes to the information,

the program will identify them here allowing corrective action to be taken. If you are working with multiple databases with different individuals, this feature can be disabled.

The third tab, Estimating, lists those individuals for which the program did not estimate a date and provides an explanation in a second box.

The last of the principal screens is Query. This screen allows the user to create a query for an individual that may not be listed in the database. Once the available information has been entered and the generate command issued, a Suggestions screen appears similar to the one in the "to-do" list, itemizing possible sources.

Limitations

GenSmarts is a program that has great potential. The current version is limited as it stores primarily United States locations and a limited number for the United Kingdom, Canada, and Australia. It also uses a limited number of repositories, although the list is constantly being augmented as upgrades are released. Other limitations can be laid at the foot of today's crop of genealogical software. Programs vary markedly in the amount of data recorded and in the method of recording it. Much of the background information a researcher requires to plan future research is often relegated to notes, which are very possibly recorded elsewhere due to lack of note capacity in the genealogical software. For AI to function effectively, it requires massive amounts of data. This information must be stored in consistently defined fields, something that is not happening in today's software. As a result, *GenSmarts* must restrict the data it uses for analysis to the most common items.

In an effort to overcome this limitation, the developer has introduced a new feature that allows the user to define the analytical rules applied to a record. At the present stage of development, this feature will be of limited use to most users. Training materials are available on the website for those inclined to experiment with the process.

Since I first installed *GenSmarts* last May, there have been a number of upgrades. Each new version has increased the usefulness of the program. This program has a bright future. I must admit I have found some useful information that, while I knew it was available, *GenSmarts'* online capabilities simply made acquiring it so much easier. The current version of *GenSmarts* will serve the majority of the United States users very well and will provide some help for those with United Kingdom, Canadian, and Australian family members.

Bill Mumford lives in Turner Valley, Canada, and is the originator of the Genealogical Software Report Card, located on the Web at <http://www.mumford.ca/reportcard>. He can be reached at mumford@mumford.ca.
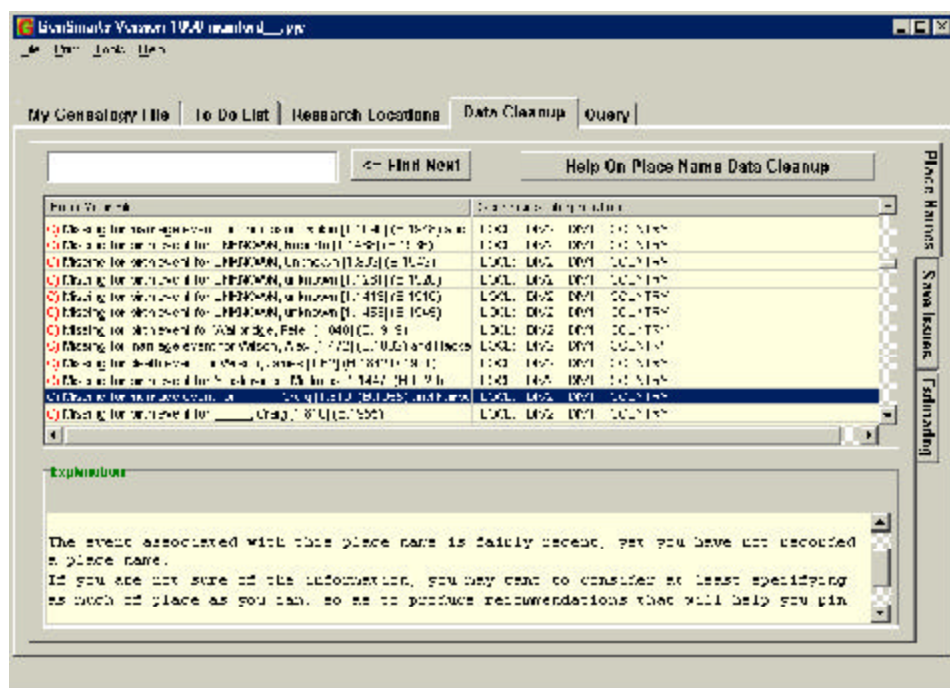

Figure 3: Data Cleanup.

Upcoming Events

May

6–7 May 2005
Annual Genealogical Conference, Nebraska State Genealogical Society, North Platte, Nebraska. <http://www.rootsweb.com/~nesgs/2005conf.html>

7 May 2005
"Improving Research Success Onsite and Online," Alabama Genealogical Society, Inc., Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama. <http://www.archives.state.al.us/ags/Spring2005_Seminar_flyer.pdf>

7–8 May 2005
"Trace Your Pilgrim Ancestors: A Two-Day Guided Research Program in Plymouth, Mass," sponsored by NYG&B, Mayflower Society Library, Plymouth, Massachusetts. <http://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org>

14 May 2005
Grand Lake Ancestor Fair at the Community Center, Grove, Oklahoma, sponsored by the Delaware County Genealogical Society. For information contact <dcgsinc@hotmail.com>.

27–29 May 2005
"Cross Border Heritage," Ontario Genealogical Society, Windsor, Ontario, Canada. <http://www.ogsseminar.org>

June

1–4 June 2005
"Tennessee Crossroads," NGS Conference in the States and GENTECH Conference, Nashville, Tennessee. <http://www.eshow2000.com/ngs/>

9–11 June 2005
"German-speaking Ancestor Family History Research Seminar," Palatines to America 2005 National Conference, Ft. Wayne, Indiana. <http://palam.org/>

12–17 June 2005
The Institute for Genealogy and Historical Research, Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama. <http://www.samford.edu/schools/ighr/ighr.html>

19–24 June 2005
Summer Camp for Family Historians 2005, Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. <http://www.genpa.org/>

24–25 June 2005
Gottscheer Heritage & Genealogy Association Annual Meeting, Marina Del Ray, California. <http://www.gottschee.org>

July

8–9 July 2005
South Carolina Genealogical Society Annual Workshop, South Carolina Archives And History Center, Columbua. <http://www.scgen.org>

9 July 2005
German workshop, German Interest Group—Wisconsin, Janesville, Wisconsin. <http://www.rootsweb.com/%7Ewigig/workshop2005_page1-general_info.html>

10–16 July 2005
The National Institute on Genealogical Research, National Archives building, Washington, D.C., and College Park, Maryland. <http://www.rootsweb.com/~natgenin/>

14 July 2005
Kansas Genealogical Society, Dodge City, Kansas <http://www.dodgecity.net/kgs/>

21–23 July 2005
9th Annual Angelina College Genealogy Conference, Lufkin, Texas. <http://www.angelina.edu/genealogy.htm>

26–29 July 2005
"Building A Lasting Legacy," 37th annual BYU Genealogy and Family History Conference, BYU Conference Center, Provo, Utah. <http://ce.byu.edu/cw/cwgen/>