

# Ancestors West



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
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# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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Established in 1972, the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society became incorporated as a nonprofit 501(C)(3) organization in 1986. Its aim is to promote genealogy by providing assistance and educational opportunities for those who are interested in pursuing their family history.

Library: Sahyun Library at the SBCGS facility, 316 Castillo St., Santa Barbara.  
Hours: Sunday 1-4 P.M.; Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10 A.M. -3 P.M.  
Phone number: (805) 884-9909

Membership: Benefits include *Tree Tips* (monthly newsletter) and *Ancestors West* (quarterly).

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Donor - \$60; Patron - \$125; Life - \$1000

Meetings: First Presbyterian Church, 21 E. Constance Ave. at State St., Santa Barbara, California  
Regular monthly meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month except August. Meetings begin at 10:30 A.M. and are preceded at 9:30 A.M. by sessions for Beginners, Help Wanted, and Computer Help

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## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

### WHAT DID YOU DO IN THE WAR, DADDY?

In the last issue of *Ancestors West*, Volume 30, Number 1, page 21, the article, "Library of Congress 'Lessons of War' Online," describes the Veterans History Project and how everyone can participate by contributing memoirs, oral interviews, letters and other items from veterans and civilian supporters.

"Veterans from World War I, World War II, and the Korean, Vietnam and Persian Gulf wars, and the civilians who supported them, are coming forward to record their personal stories and contribute personal documents for a growing archives at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. The goal is to collect, preserve and share with future generations the stories of all American war veterans."

I know of at least five World War II veterans I can interview. I have three uncles who served in WWII who are living; one is in Washington, D.C. I may have to go there to do his interview and maybe even stop off at the National Archives while I'm there.

Visit [www.loc.gov/folklife/vets/kit.html](http://www.loc.gov/folklife/vets/kit.html) to print your field kit containing project forms, sample interview questions for veterans and civilians, guidelines, information about indexing and transcribing, and FAQs.

This would be a good project for our society to become involved in. All we need is a few good men (and women) to organize and recruit other members to assist in this worthwhile endeavor. I've printed out my forms, and tomorrow I'm making my D.C. plane and hotel reservations.

#### LIBRARY SUBSCRIBERS PLEASE NOTE:

#### CORRECTION

Volume 30, Number 1, Fall 2003/Winter 2004 should have been numbered 1 & 2.

For some inspiration and tips on interviewing, see page 30 for "You'll Never Know If You Don't Ask."

While browsing through a knitting magazine the other day, I came upon an old poster from the American Red Cross saying,

"Our Boys Need  
SOX  
Knit Your Bit."

The poster was from 1918 and supported a knitting campaign that supplied comfort items for the Army and Navy during World War I. Volunteers received detailed instructions for knitting socks and other clothing items. While this may not be of interest to some of you, you may still want to visit their website at [www.redcross.org/museum/exhibits/ww2.asp](http://www.redcross.org/museum/exhibits/ww2.asp) for some nostalgic World War II poster slide shows, activities such as knitting garments, a pattern for making ditty bags and a recipe for donuts. My favorites (besides the sock pattern) were the overseas and homefront scrapbooks where you can virtually drag and flip the pages. This web site may get you in the mood for interviewing your fathers, aunts and uncles, brothers and sisters who were veterans of any war.

Contact Michol Colgan if you would like to help organize this or any other project for our society.



*Dorothy Okşner*, Editor

## LOST IN RUSSIA...PART 2

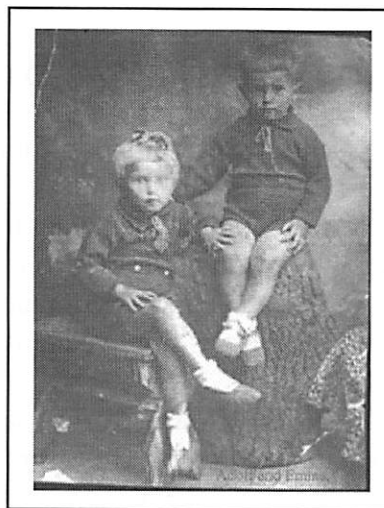
By Valerie Renner Ingram

*In our last issue, Fall 2003/Winter 2004, Vol. 30, No. 1 & 2, Valerie told the story of her search for her half-brother, Adie, and half-sister, Emma, her father's first children whom he left in Russia in 1944. In Part 2, Valerie describes her journey to Russia to meet them.*

Our journey began bright and early on September 16, 2003 as my sister, Angie, and I headed for the Spokane airport at the crack of dawn. We would meet up with part of Robert Schneider's tour group in Denver, and the remaining few, which included our cousin, David, in Washington, D.C. It was a long journey from our side of the world, and we would not get to Ukraine until almost noon on the following day.

As we arrived at the Odessa airport, it was obvious we were in a strange country before we even left the plane. Out of our windows, we could see old planes sitting in various areas along the runway, probably many that no longer worked judging from their appearance. As we taxied to a stop, the plane was met by armed guards that came aboard the plane and checked each of our passports, tickets and IDs before we were allowed to go through the doorway and down the stairs. At the bottom of the stairs was another armed guard who made sure we got onboard the small trolley-type bus that carried us no more than 30 yards to the terminal. As we were entering the terminal, David tried taking a picture, and was told "NO PHOTOS!" There were no smiles, no friendly greetings, and it was a little spooky to us as we were used to arriving places where people smiled and welcomed you to their city. We had been forewarned about the serious atmosphere we'd encounter at the airport, which helped calm our fears a bit, but the knowledge of how fearful our father had been of the Russian officials that had controlled this land where he was born and raised sure didn't help us feel very at ease either.

Inside the terminal, we had customs papers to fill out and baggage that had to be claimed and taken through their inspections. If the people there had smiled, it wouldn't have been so scary. Once



EMMA AND ADOLF, "ADIE"

This is the photograph my father brought from Ukraine that hung on our wall and was buried with him.

out the door, though, it was like a breath of fresh air. The rest of our tour group was already outside waiting for us, and we were greeted by Inna Stryukova, whom David and I had met at the GRHS<sup>1</sup> Convention in Rapid City just two weeks prior, and of course, Valentina Fromm (the wonderful lady who had found our brother and sister) was there to meet us as well, with a big hug, big smile and tears of joy in her eyes. Now this was a friendly welcome!

We spent the first week in Ukraine touring our ancestral villages of Franzfeld, Karlsruhe, Katharinental, Landau, Sulz (or rather, what's left of it), Speier, Muenchen, Rastadt, Christina and Felsenburg (as well as the Renner Chutor), and it was very obvious that our father's spirit was traveling with us, as doors were opened for us, and things we didn't know before were suddenly made clear.

In Franzfeld (now called Nadlimanskoye), the ancestral village of my mother's KIEFEL family, the first German house that we stopped at didn't have a very friendly owner. As Inna was trying to get his permission for us to take some pictures of his house and yard, he slammed his scissors that he was holding down on top of his rock wall fence and spat out a Russian phrase that Angie and I had only heard at home when Dad accidentally hit his thumb with a hammer. We knew without a doubt

that he didn't want any Americans around. On our way to the second house, we picked up a villager who was alongside the road and who had told us he knew which were German houses, as well as the people that lived there. As we were leaving the next house, a car pulled up and a man came up and asked if we were interested in some German records they'd found while remodeling a house. Inside one of the walls was a glass jar with Russian documents that pertained to some German families. We told him "Sure, we'd love to see them," and off he went to get them. Five minutes later, he returned with the Mayor of Franzfeld and showed us the documents over the hood of his car. They wanted to sell us the documents but didn't like the price we were offering, so they decided they would sell us copies for \$10. David and I couldn't believe we were standing in the middle of the street in Franzfeld with original Russian documents in my hands. Next stop was the old Franzfeld German cemetery, but it was so thickly overgrown with brambles and lilac bushes we couldn't even see past the bushes.

In the Karlsruhe (now Stepovoye) Museum, we discovered that David's RUFF family and my RENNER family were next door neighbors way back from the very beginning of the village of Karlsruhe. The director of the Museum, Antonina Melnitskaya, took us through Karlsruhe and helped us find the original Ruff and Renner houses. It was an awesome experience to be standing in the yard of our ancestor's first home in a strange land and to see parts of the original house, outbuildings and rock wall that were still standing.

What a surprise at the museum in Katharimental (now called Katerinovka) when we saw a headstone on display that belonged to one of our JOCHIM ancestors. The director of this museum, Nina Ovsyanizkaya, took us on a guided tour of the village and told us many facts that we'd not known before. The village was built in the shape of a cross with two main streets intersecting each other. Here we found that David's and my JOCHIM family lived right behind my BERNHARDT family. No wonder they married each other.

When we arrived in Speier, it was a feeling as if we were coming home. My sister and I wanted to

walk the main street of Speier as this was where our grandfather, Christian Renner, had finally been shot and put out of his misery after days of torture. We felt that this would be the closest we'd ever be to our grandfather whom we'd never met, but had heard so much about. As we were walking down the street, we both suddenly got the chills (yet the air temperature was probably close to 90 degrees that day), and the hair on our arms and on the back of our necks rose up. We turned to each other and we knew this was the spot where our grandfather had died. Our eyes filled with tears and we huddled together to talk about what we were feeling. Another tour member saw that something was happening and ran to get David who was walking ahead of us. He came running to see what was going on, and as soon as he saw us, he knew. He told us that he knew beforehand that something was going to happen here in this village. He just knew it. And, where was it that we had "felt" our grandfather? In the street in front of a government building, of course.

The total devastation of the village of Sulz wrenched our hearts. In 1957 the most fertile area was totally wiped out and made into an international military maneuvers field. All we saw were heaps of rubble where houses once stood and rows of stumps through the empty fields where the fruit orchards once produced the tastiest apricots, peaches and plums. All that remained was the bridge, and even parts of its side rails were gone...either destroyed in the bombing practices or carted away by some poor villagers to be used for something else.

In Muenchen and Rastadt, the ruins of the cemeteries were so vast and so complete that it brought tears to my eyes and anger into my thoughts. Why was this demolition necessary? Headstones were not only knocked over but also completely defaced so that nothing could be read. Iron crosses were twisted and forcefully bent, with the nameplates ripped off and destroyed. And for what purpose? Were the Russians trying to deny that the German people had lived there and thrived? It just made no sense.

Our last day in Nikolaev arrived, and it was the day we were to visit Christina, Felsenburg and the

Renner Chutor. In Christina, our resident guide, Koval Gennady, a teacher at the school, showed us where the old cemetery was. To our total surprise, the headstones were still in excellent condition, although they had all been toppled over by natural causes we were told, but judging by the size of these stones, that was very hard to believe. We uncovered as many of these stones as we could and made notes as to what was inscribed. We hated to leave but the afternoon was slowly ending, and we still had two places to visit. We did a quick trip through Felsenburg and then headed to where we believed the Renner Chutor was. The excitement was building as our van got us closer and we found the village called Rivne. Valya found an old lady who was able to tell her that the Renner Chutor was just up the road. We were there. The house was still standing and was in excellent condition. The lady and her mother who lived there welcomed us into their house and showed us around. They told of finding a silver inkpot and some Russian coins that were hidden inside a wall and found when they were doing some repairs. They told us of the generosity of the family of Renner brothers that had built the house and had lived there, and how when they were forced to leave, had given their hired help golden coins and feather blankets. They confirmed the story that our father had told us that night that he'd drawn all of his children together to tell us about his life. Yes, there had been a shop for a blacksmith on the chutor, and yes, there had been a mill. There were two wells, one for the Renner family and another one on the other end so that the villagers from the area could also get fresh water.

The woman who lived there had a teenage daughter who was undergoing chemo treatments for a brain tumor. As my sister and I were going to the van to get a gift and some money to leave with this family, Inna (our interpreter) came and told us that the lady had just told how they had sold everything of value that they owned to pay for the treatments for their daughter. There was no money left and the daughter was due for another treatment the following week. Inna told us if we had any extra money, this family could use it. Angie, David and I pooled what we could and I took it to the

lady. As I placed the money in her hand, she grabbed my hand and kissed it with tears streaming down her face. She cried that they had been praying all week that someone would help them raise the money they needed, and who should provide it in the dark of the night but the very descendants of the people who built their house. It was a very emotional scene, and all of us left with tears in our eyes.

As we arrived at our hotel in Nikolaev, there was a man waiting for our van to return. He had been waiting for hours as he had heard that some Renner women from the U.S.A. were staying there, and he needed to talk to us. His name was Alexander Renner, from Nikolaev, and he wanted to know if we were related as he was born in the village of Christina. It was late and the hotel was holding dinner for us, so I couldn't talk with him very long (especially without Inna to translate) so he gave me his address and a copy of his identification papers in case I discovered something, and later that night I did. He was in my database and was found in the same EWZ<sup>2</sup> files as my father's papers.

By 5 A.M. the next morning we were waiting for our train to take us to Kramatorsk to finally meet our brother and sister for the first time. We had six days we could spend with them. Valya came along with us as well as our interpreter, Marina Tinihina. These two were our constant companions during the whole trip to and from Kramatorsk, and we soon felt like a family. The train ride was our first and was an experience to remember. We passed through many industrial cities on our journey to Kramatorsk, and we got the impression that this part of the country was very industrialized. We passed nuclear plants, tall stalk chimneys that spewed black smoke and others that gave out white steam, and every so often we would pass through neighborhoods where we'd make out German houses and root cellars. The journey by train took 17 long hours, and it felt as if it would never end. As we passed through one village after another and darkness set in, the excitement was

**LOST IN RUSSIA** *continued on page 23*

## IRISH TO AMERICA— RECORDS OF THE EMIGRANT SAVINGS BANK, NEW YORK CITY

*By Cheryl Fitzsimmons Jensen, SBCGS Member  
cfitzjen@silcom.com*

In May of 1862, Martin Conboy of County Roscommon, Ireland, opened an account at the Emigrant Savings Bank in New York City. Martin was a soldier serving with the 37<sup>th</sup> Regiment of New York Volunteers and was stationed at Camp Winfield Scott near Yorktown. He opened his account by mail, sending a letter to the bank on May 12, 1862, and giving his personal information. He was “27 years of age, 5' 6" in height with a ruddy complexion.” He also stated that his mother, Sarah Conboy, lived in Ireland, and that he had a brother, Patrick, in New Jersey. Martin’s wishes were that Patrick would receive “all his effects ... in case of death.”

Anne Tully set sail from Liverpool aboard the ship, *Empire State*, in November, 1850. She had left her home in Shaiballymore, Ballygar, County Galway, Ireland and was about to embark on a journey across the Atlantic Ocean to New York. Her trip was cut short when the ship was shipwrecked and she was “obliged to put back to Liverpool.” Anne’s story continues. By 1874, she was living on 20<sup>th</sup> Street in New York City and was working as a domestic. She had a son, Eddie Cavanagh, age 12, whose father’s name was Michael. Anne’s mother, Mary Lawless, lived at Astoria, Long Island. Her father, Andrew, was dead.

People researching their Irish ancestors in this time period will be amazed that this information on Martin Conboy and Anne Tully was found in the records of the Emigrant Savings Bank of New York. Since records in the U.S. relating to Irish famine era immigrants are spotty at best and many Irish Catholic parishes do not begin until the early to mid 1800s, these bank records are a great source of information to those researching Irish ancestors in New York City between the years 1850 and

1883. These bank records may be the only source where one can find a birth date or birthplace for an ancestor, or the names of siblings and parents. Since these records encompass the time period of the Civil War, one might find information about an ancestor’s military service as with Martin Conboy. With this information, a search of the Civil War pension records might uncover additional information.

The Emigrant Industrial Savings Bank, founded in 1850, was an outgrowth of the Irish Emigrant Society, which worked to support newly arrived Irish in New York City. The bank was founded by members of the society to insure protection for its depositors. The bank first opened on September 30, 1850, from their location on Chambers Street in Manhattan, which was a convenient location for the Irish immigrants. The bank opening coincided with the flood of Irish immigrants arriving in America at the time of the famine in Ireland. Most depositors were Irish, but Germans, Polish, English, and other nationalities can be found in the records. Most depositors lived in New York City, but depositors living in New Jersey, Connecticut and other areas of New York state are also in evidence. There were approximately 170,000 account holders in the bank records. Most were individuals, but there were also accounts for organizations such as the Hibernian Benevolent Society, Sons of Erin and some Roman Catholic parishes. Account holders were not necessarily well off. One finds teachers and printers, but depositors also included many servants, domestics, and laborers.

The bank required personal information from each depositor for future identification. In addition to the expected questions of name, address, and birthplace, they often included questions such as “when did you arrive” (in the U.S.). “Have you siblings?” “Where do they live?” “What are your parent’s names?” “Are they living?” “On what ship did you arrive?” As with Anne Tully, additional information unique to that person might be included. Since many of the Irish immigrants could not read and write, the questions posed by the bank served to positively identify the depositors and identify family members still living in Ireland who

were often recipients of funds sent from family in America. Those living in Ireland were required to answer questions on family relationships in order to prove they were the intended recipients of the funds.

The original records of the Emigrant Savings Bank are held in the New York Public Library. They have been microfilmed and can be found in a few libraries across the United States, such as the New York Genealogical and Biographical Library. The Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society has copies of the eight most genealogically important rolls of microfilm from these bank records which are the only copies on the West Coast. The Emigrant Savings Bank records are laid out in a logical manner and can be easily accessed. The eight rolls of microfilm currently held by the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society's Sahyun Library are indexed as 974.7 U3 EMI, roll 1 through roll 8. These rolls include the "Index," the "Test Books," and the "Transfer, Signature and Test Books."

The first roll of film contains the indexes. There are three indexes and all three should be checked. First on the roll is index #1, 1850-1866, A through Z; index #2 runs 1867-1877, A through Z; and the third index includes 1878-1880, A through Z. The indexes are in rough chronological and alphabetical order. Each page of the index has two columns of names and both should be checked. One must scan all the Fs in all three indexes, for example, in order to locate all Fitzsimmons' entries. Once the person is located, a note should be made of the person's account number that is located to the right of the name. This number is used throughout the bank records. Be aware that some depositors appear to have more than one account and it is worthwhile to record all accounts associated with that person. It is important to also note that entire sections of the indexes are out of alphabetical order; for example one index reads, L-O-M-N-K followed by additional Os. This appears to be the result of inadequate space allocated for "O" entries and the overflow is placed in other parts of the index. It is important to note that if the index entries for a particular letter end at the bottom of a page, check elsewhere in the index for the overflow entries of

names beginning with the letter you are searching.

The next step after locating an account number is to check the "Test Books" and/or "Transfer-Signature-Test Books." When an account number is located in the index, check first to see if the number falls within the range of the extant "Test Books." These numbers include account numbers 1 through 66,756 for the time period 1850 through 1868. If the account number falls within this range, locate the depositor's number in the "Test Books." The "Test Books" along with the index were created when the person opened the bank account. They contain the responses given to the various questions posed to the depositors and were used by the bank as a test of identity for future bank dealings. These "Test Books" contain the most personal and family information. Some of the information for a depositor that can be found in the "Test Books" include name, occupation, current address, birthplace and residence in Ireland, date account opened, name of ship on which arrived, names of parents and if they are alive or dead, siblings and where they live, name of spouse, and names of children. Abbreviations are used in these books, for example, *Id* indicates Ireland, *fa* is father, *mo* is mother, and *arrd* is arrived. The name of the ship is preceded by *per*, for example, *arrd per Empire State*.

If an account number found in the index exceeds the number range of the surviving "Test Books," then the "Transfer, Signature, Test Books" should be checked. These books contain account numbers 28 to 69,994, 70,003 to 103,999, 104,403 to 122,999 and 155,001 to 170,000. This is roughly the period of 1850 to 1877 and 1881 to 1883. The "Transfer, Signature, Test Books" were supplements to the original "Test Books." Whenever a change was made in a bank account it was recorded in a "Transfer, Signature, Test Book." Changes included, for example, the death of the original depositor, loss of a bank passbook, or a new signature when, it appears, the depositor learned to write his or her name. When such a change was made it was recorded using the original account number. These records may include a signature for the depositor, residence, occupation, year born, where born, spouse and/or children's



names.

“Transfer, Signature, Test Books” dates extend to January 1883. This date is beyond the last date of the index, which is 1880. This indicates that there was probably an additional index that is now missing. It also suggests missing “Test Books,” since the “Test Books” end in 1868. A search could be made line by line through the unindexed portion of the “Transfer, Signature, Test Books.” However, in some cases an account number only is given with no depositor name. One could check the “relations” column for spouse or children’s names if that information is known.

Researching Irish ancestors who arrived in America in the middle of the nineteenth century usually yields few details. The records of the Emigrant Savings Bank are filled with personal information found nowhere else. These records bring enough detail to these individuals that they come alive.

If one found, for example, their Hawkins ancestors in these records, the information given at the time they opened their bank account would be impressive. Ann Hawkins was born in 1816 in County Galway, Ireland, lived at 65 Cherry Street and was a housekeeper. She was married to Michael Hawkins, also born in County Galway, and they had arrived in New York on Christmas Day in 1848 aboard the ship *Irving*. Michael was serving with the 63<sup>rd</sup> New York Volunteers. Ann and Michael had two sons also serving in the Civil War, and there were also three other sons and three daughters in the family.

This is an exciting resource for Irish researchers and one of the most detailed of any Irish records in the United States. These microfilms will be of great interest to Irish-Americans with 19th century Irish connections—and perhaps an indispensable genealogical resource.

*See page 10 for film descriptions and page 11 for instructions on using the films.*

## MAINE TOWNS ARE DISSOLVING

*The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 2004 by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at [www.eogn.com](http://www.eogn.com).*

If you have ancestry in small towns in Maine, you may want to be aware that the towns are disappearing. The town of Madrid (which is not pronounced the same as the city in Spain), with a population of 180, unincorporated in the year 2000. Atkinson, a town of about 330 people, is in the midst of dissolving the town government now. The tiny town of Centerville in Washington County with a population of only 25 people has started the paperwork to do the same. The town of Cooper in Washington County has also expressed interest in deorganizing. According to Doreen Sheive, an administrator in Augusta, Maine’s unorganized territories currently include 417 townships and 76 offshore islands, which cover roughly half the state.

“They’ve got absolutely nothing. They don’t have any fire department. They don’t have a police department. No water department. No sewer department. There’s nothing,” said Rep. Jim Annis of neighboring Dover-Foxcroft, who wrote the bill proposing Atkinson’s deorganization. The town’s residents cite a growing tax load with few residents to share in the tax burdens. The state’s property tax is based on a tradition of old English law, where municipalities are responsible for assessing property value and taxing it.

In western and midwestern states with unorganized territory, tax is often assessed at a county level.

The town records of these now-defunct governments will be moved to the Maine State Archives.

It does seem ironic that in the midst of high population growth and expansion in much of the United States, small towns in Maine and probably elsewhere are shutting down their local governments.

## EMIGRANT SAVINGS BANK RECORDS- FILM DESCRIPTIONS SURVIVING DEPOSITOR'S RECORDS, 1850-1883

Index 1850-1880 film # 974.7 U3 EMI roll 1

Index #1 1850 through 1866 A through Z

Index #2 1867 through 1877 A through Z

Index #3 1878 through 1880 A through Z

Test Book 1 film # 974.7 U3 EMI roll 2

Test book #1 - Deposit account numbers 1 through 12,482  
Date range Sept. 30, 1850 - Sept. 4, 1856

Test Book 2 film # 974.7 U3 EMI roll 3

Test book #2 - Deposit account numbers 12,483 through 25,000  
Date range Sept. 4, 1856 - August 9, 1860

Test Book 2a and 3 film # 974.7 U3 EMI roll 4

Test book #2a and 3 - Deposit account numbers 25,001 through 32,521  
Date range Aug 10, 1860 - Nov. 22, 1862  
Deposit account numbers 32,522 to 40,129  
Date range Nov. 24, 1862 - April 16, 1864

Test Book 4 and 5 film # 974.7 U3 EMI roll 5

Test book #4 and 5 - Deposit account numbers 40,130 through 47,702  
Date range April 16, 1864 - July 7, 1865  
Deposit account numbers 47,703 through 58,999  
Date range July 7, 1865 through May 20, 1867

Test Book 6 film # 974.7 U3 EMI roll 6

Test book #6 - Deposit account number 59,000 through 66,756 (last Test book account number)  
Date range May 20, 1867 - Aug. 24, 1868

Transfer- Signature-Test Book 1 and 2 film # 974.7 U3 EMI roll 7

Transfer- Signature- Test book #1 and #2 - Deposit account number 28 through 69,994,  
Date range Oct. 3, 1850 - March 8, 1869  
Deposit account number 70,003 through 103,999  
Date range March 9, 1869 - July 31, 1874

Transfer- Signature- Test Book 3 and 6 film # 974.7 U3 EMI roll 8

Transfer- Signature -Test book #3 - Deposit account number 104,403 through 122,999  
Date range July 31, 1874 - Sept. 12, 1877

Transfer- Signature -Test book #6 - Deposit account number 155,001 through 170,000  
Date range July 6, 1881 - Jan. 5, 1883

NOTE: Transfer- signature- test book #4 & #5 - presumed missing

## EMIGRANT SAVINGS BANK RECORDS- HOW TO USE THE RECORDS SURVIVING DEPOSITOR'S RECORDS, 1850-1883

### STEP 1 INDEX Film # 974.7 U3 EMI Film Roll # 1

Film roll # 1 contains THREE indexes in sequence. Check for your surname in all three. Surnames are indexed by **first** letter of the surname only, and in rough chronological order.

There are 2 columns of names per index page.

HINT—entire sections of the alphabet are out of order in some cases. For example one index reads...L - O - M - N - K - followed by additional O's - P

### STEP 2 TEST BOOKS Film # 974.7 U3 EMI Film Roll # 2 through Film Roll # 6

If the account number located in the Index is between 1 and 66,756, there is a Test Book entry for the depositor.

Locate the film with the Test Book that contains this account number (see attached film descriptions) example: account number 14,100 is found in Test Book # 2, film roll # 3.

Locate the account number in the Test Book. This is where you will find the personal information given when the account was opened—date account opened, account number, name of depositor, occupation, current residence. You may also find the depositor's birthplace, date of arrival in U.S., name of ship on which arrived, port of departure, names of parents, mother's maiden name, names of siblings and where they are living, name of spouse, names of children.

Check also for the same account number in the Transfer-Signature-Test Book. (See attached film descriptions.) Example: account number 14,100 is found in Transfer Book #1-2, film roll # 7.

HINT—account numbers are sometimes abbreviated; check the top of the page for the complete number.

### STEP 3 TRANSFER-SIGNATURE-TEST BOOKS Film # 974.7 U3 EMI Rolls # 7 and 8

If the account number located in the Index is above 66,756—check the Transfer Books  
HINT—account numbers are sometimes abbreviated; check the top of the page for the complete number.

Locate the account number in the Transfer Book. This is where you will find the personal information given when there was a change in the account—date, account number, occupation, residence. You may also find the depositor's birth date, birthplace, parents, children. (The account number is important here as sometimes the depositor's name was not given, only his/her account number.)

There are some gaps in these records (see attached film descriptions). The major gap is between account numbers 123,000 and 155,000 (Sept. 13, 1877 through July 5, 1881). These are missing and presumed lost.

NOTE: there is no index for accounts opened from July 6, 1881 to Jan. 5, 1883. In order to check for a surname, the Transfer Book must be checked without benefit of index after this date. (This is approximately ½ of roll #8.)

If looking through the unindexed portion of film, check the "Relationships" column. As with other Transfer Books, depositor's name is sometimes not given. Relationships column may include names of wives, parents, or children.

*(Continued on following page with OTHER MATERIALS OF INTEREST)*

## **OTHER MATERIALS OF INTEREST IN THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY:**

- 974.7 U3 Irish Immigrants of the Emigrant Industrial Savings Bank 1850-1853 Vol. 1  
(Indexes of depositors with account numbers 1 to 2500)
- 941.5 W2 Search for Missing Friends, Irish Immigrant Advertisements in the Boston Pilot  
1831-76 (V. 1-7)
- 974.7 B3 Irish Relatives and Friends from "Information Wanted" Ads in the  
Irish-American, 1850-1871
- 941.5 W3 The Famine Immigrants, Irish Immigrants to New York, 1846-51 (V. 1-7)
- C941.5 W2 Passenger and Immigration Lists: Irish to America, 1846-1865 (CD)
- C 941.5 R2 Index to Griffith's Valuation of Ireland, 1848-1864 (CD)
- 941.5 E5 Ordnance Survey Memoirs of Ireland: Parishes of Counties Antrim, Londonderry,  
Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Tyrone, Donegal, parts of Cavan, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan, Sligo
- NOTE: More Ordnance Survey Memoirs will soon be added to the collection.
- 941.5 D27A Guide to Irish Parish Registers
- 941.5 E5 Topographical Dictionary of Ireland (V. 1,2)
- 941.5 D4 Surnames in Ireland by Robert E. Matheson
- C 941.5 X2 Census Index: Ireland, 1831, 1841 (CD)
- C941.5 X2 The 1851 Dublin City Census:Chart's Index of Heads of Households
- C 941.5 R2 International Land Records: Irish Flax Growers, 1796 (CD)

### **Web Pages of Interest:**

[www.genuki.org.uk](http://www.genuki.org.uk)

[www.from-ireland.net/](http://www.from-ireland.net/) (Jane Lyon's Ireland site—contains county pages, gravestone inscriptions,  
military indexes, journals...much more)

[www.irishorigins.com](http://www.irishorigins.com) (pay site) contains Griffith's Valuation

[www.cobhheritage.com](http://www.cobhheritage.com) emigration from Cobh, Ireland

[www.radiks.net/~keving/Donegal/DonegalGen.html](http://www.radiks.net/~keving/Donegal/DonegalGen.html)

[www.xs4all.nl/~tbreen/journals.html](http://www.xs4all.nl/~tbreen/journals.html) Index to journals in Ireland

[www.offalyhistory.com/index.html](http://www.offalyhistory.com/index.html)

## GENEALOGY JOURNEYS: COLUMBIA COUNTY (NEW YORK) HISTORICAL SOCIETY

By Karen Harris, SBCGS Member

While visiting New England last August, I took a brief trip to the Hudson River Valley in New York in order to conduct research on Dutch ancestors. My destination was the Columbia County Historical Society Museum, located at 5 Albany Avenue, Kinderhook, NY 12106; (518) 758-9265. The Museum and library are open Monday through Friday from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. during the months of May through November; the hours during December through April are from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The Columbia County Historical Society also operates three historical sites in the area: the James Vanderpoel House, the Luykas Van Alen House and the Ichabod Crane Schoolhouse. Kinderhook is the ancestral home of President Martin Van Buren.

The Museum is housed in a building of 1916 vintage, which was formerly the Kinderhook Masonic Temple. It is a two-story brick structure. The main floor is devoted to history and genealogy research. In addition to local history, genealogies, and vital records, the bookshelves include a variety of topics above and beyond the scope of family history. Some of the filing cabinets are organized by surnames. A wonderful, antique map occupies one wall in the main room. This map identifies property owners from the late 18th century and is covered with protective draperies when not in use. The upstairs is used for exhibitions. While I was visiting, the exhibit was a collection of black and white photographs of 19th century wooden churches found in Columbia County. The photographic collection is available for purchase. The facility does not have a lunchroom or vending machines.

Upon arrival, I asked for assistance with the surname files and was given a folder that contained a professionally researched family tree created in 1958 on one of my surnames! (As you can well imagine, conducting research, especially on the

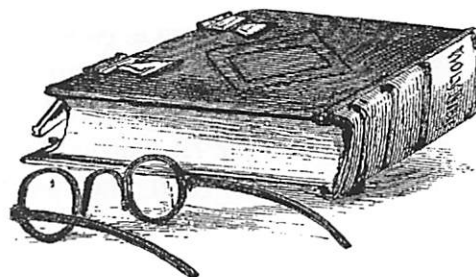
Internet on the surname Son, Sonn, or Zon can be rather frustrating.) The tree was hand drawn on a large piece of paper and a staff member graciously and carefully photocopied the document. The descendant's report was incomplete, ending just before showing that my relatives, Peter Son and Trial Beebe had their daughter, Mary Ann, my third great-grandmother. Nevertheless, it was a very special discovery and completely justified the genealogy research trip. I now had confirmation of Peter's ancestors. Peter died young and Trial remarried David Palmer. One of the genealogies on the Palmers mentioned that Trial was married to a Mr. Peterson prior to her marriage to David! Finding this well documented research reminded me of the importance of visiting the locations of our ancestors. In addition to obtaining more information on the Son family, I also found several drafts of a genealogy on my other Dutch ancestors, the Ries/Race family.



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## CAPT. SAMUEL HARRIS SIMS Co. G, 51<sup>st</sup> New York Volunteers

By Susan E. Ramsey, SBCGS Member  
edsue.dlt@gte.net

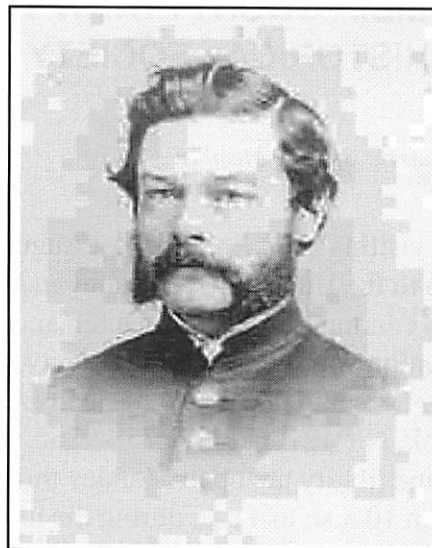
“I have some Civil War letters that I guarantee will change your life when you read them.” This was a challenge put to me by a friend a decade ago and how true his predication was!

My friend rescued the letters from a trashcan as he was doing some work at a vacant home here in Santa Barbara. The elderly couple that had lived in the house had passed away. The outside trashcans were overflowing and he noticed a couple of interesting notebooks lying on top that appeared to contain some old papers. Since the trash truck was rumbling its way up the street, he decided it wouldn't hurt to take the notebooks and have a look at them.

The notebooks contained letters written by Capt. Samuel H. Sims, Company G, 51<sup>st</sup> New York State Volunteer Regiment. There were also newspaper articles about him, enlistment certificates, sketches, and other documents pertinent to Sims and his family. The man who passed away here in Santa Barbara was Samuel's grandson, Kenneth Sims. He and his wife, Dorothy, had no children and their estate was left entirely to charity. It is assumed that a company had been hired to clean out the house and things not “saleable” were simply discarded.

I took my friend's challenge. He loaned me the letters and papers to read and as I did so, I have to say that I fell in love with Capt. Sims. As I continue to research his life, his family and the men of the 51<sup>st</sup>, I become increasingly more devoted to preserving the memory of him.

Samuel Harris Sims was born in New York City November 25, 1829. He was a “glass stainer” by profession and was active in the New York State Militia prior to the Civil War. He married Mary Ann Titus on September 12, 1850. They had three children: Samuel Austin Sims (1851), Lucy Hale Sims (1853), and Henry Ridgewood Sims (1857). Mary died of anemia on December 7, 1860, leaving



CAPT. SAMUEL HARRIS SIMS

Samuel a widower with the three youngsters.

On April 23, 1861, Samuel answered his country's call to arms and enlisted in the 13<sup>th</sup> New York State Militia for a 90-day term at the rank of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, leaving the children in the care of his sister, Lucretia Sims, at his home in Brooklyn. On August 16, 1861, he reenlisted in the newly formed 51<sup>st</sup> New York Volunteer Regiment. On September 10, 1861, he was promoted to the rank of Captain and given command of Company G. Joining him in the same regiment was his brother, Palin H. Sims. Their younger brother, Charles (Charlie) H. Sims, enlisted in the 48<sup>th</sup> New York Infantry the following year against Sam's wishes.

The 51<sup>st</sup> New York was assigned to Burnside's Ninth Corps, which was noted for its extensive travel. The 51<sup>st</sup> participated in such campaigns as Roanoke Island, North Carolina; New Berne, North Carolina; Second Bull Run, Virginia; Antietam, Maryland; Fredericksburg, Virginia; Sieges of Vicksburg and Jackson, Mississippi; Wilderness Campaign, Virginia; Cold Harbor, Virginia; Battle of the Crater, Virginia; Poplar Spring Church, Virginia and Hatcher's Run, Virginia.

Samuel frequently wrote home to his family keeping atop both the business and personal needs of his household, as well as communicating his well

being to them as he traveled fighting for his country. He did have a few furloughs and one extended time at home in the fall and winter of 1863/64, where he recruited replacements for the, by then, diminished numbers of the 51<sup>st</sup> New York.

One of the more poignant letters was written to his mother three days before his death:

*July 27, 1864*

Camp before Petersburg, Virginia

Dear Mother,

All of my previous letters have been addressed to Lucretia although I intended them for all at home. This one I will address to you, so you may not think I slight you.

I saw Charlie yesterday he came up to our camp. Charlie is well, so is Palin.

The usual firing continues along our front, so we are almost indifferent to it. There has been a movement of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps across the river some miles from here, and word reached us this morning that the movement was a success.

Matters in our immediate front seem to be approaching a crisis. Certain preparations are nearly complete, and the next forty-eight hours are likely to be of great moment.

Our Corps will be active and prominent in the movement and in all likelihood, there will be stirring times. I wish to assure you all that I am fully conscious of what might happen to me and believe that I can meet any event as you would have me. This I endeavor to do, however, and I trust that mercies may still be continued to me, to Palin, and to Charlie, for your sake.

Now I feel sufficiently serious in contemplating what may happen, but it will not do for me or any other soldier to be downhearted in contemplating what may happen to me or them when movements are on foot.

I anticipate results which will go a long way towards closing the war, and the thoughts of success make me feel cheerful.

The newspapers perhaps will tell you of what I allude to in movements, so I will not mention them here, but trust to be spared to write or tell you of them.

It is quite pleasant here today. We have had some rain lately, which laid the dust, but made the rifle works rather muddy for comfort. Major Wright assumed command of the Rgt yesterday. I have had charge of it for near a month—with all its business.

Give my love to all and write soon. The paymaster is very dilatory with us. Most of us have near five months pay due us. I suppose he will come along soon.

I would like to be in the midst of peace again, that is that the whole country was at peace. For I have the same feeling now as at the start of the war. We have a brave enemy to contend against, and many hope the struggle will be continued yet a long time. I pray not, for the desolation caused is terrible to think of and this campaign alone has taken all the “glory hunters” spirit quite out of them.

Having faith in God, who doeth all things well, I remain  
Your affectionate son,  
Saml

On July 30, 1864, while attempting to rally the regiment after the mine explosion at Petersburg, Virginia, Capt. Sims was killed. His body was brought back to Brooklyn and buried in Greenwood Cemetery. But that is not the end of his story.

In an 1880 news article from The New York Herald entitled “Her Father’s Sword,” this letter was published:

To the Editor of the Herald – Sir

At the battle of the Mine, at Petersburg, 1864, I was Captain of Company I, Seventeenth Regiment, South Carolina Volunteers, and in the desperate hand to hand fight, a Captain, Sims, of a New York regiment (I think from Brooklyn), as he mounted the

breastworks immediately before my company, was killed by Sergeant LaMott. Captain Sims' sword has ever since been in my possession, and I have frequently thought of returning it, for it should be possessed by his family as a glorious heirloom of the soldier whose conduct on this occasion was as heroic as ever illustrated any battlefield.

Now, when half the North and the whole South are united in their efforts to bury animosities of the past by electing a Federal general to the Presidency, who will know no North or South in the administration of the Government, it would be unpatriotic of me to retain any longer this relic of the war. I know no surer means of discovering the address of some relative of Captain Sims than through the columns of the Herald. By publishing this you will probably confer a great favor on the family of a gallant Federal whose name they would not willingly let die.

James F. Steele

Currtan's Store, Lancaster County, S.C

As you can see, even former enemies recognized his valor in combat. The sword was subsequently presented to his daughter, Lucy.

Lucy was 12 years old when her father was killed. His former militia regiment, the 13<sup>th</sup>, "adopted" Lucy as a daughter of the regiment. One account notes

The Thirteenth Regiment at once adopted her as its child and its members voluntarily assess themselves one dollar each a year to educate and support her. A veteran member of the regiment, known as the "Father," took charge of her, and for fifteen years has watched over her. She was sent to a preparatory school and then to Vassar College, where she zealously pursued her studies and distinguished herself so that she became the pride of the regiment. Upon leaving college, where she was graduated with high honors, she was provided with a position in one of the Brooklyn public schools, where she is now a successful teacher.

One newspaper account said that in 1886, one of Capt. Sims fellow captains, Charles W. Walton "was passing through Greenwood and noticed the unmarked grave. Realizing that the gallant services rendered by Capt. Sims were deserving of a more fitting monument, he determined that he would never cease in his labors until he had seen a monument erected befitting the memory of the man. He solicited every dollar that was used in the purchase of the granite shaft..." On September 17, 1888, a ceremony to unveil the beautiful granite monument to Capt. Sims was held in Greenwood Cemetery. There was very extensive newspaper coverage of the event and Samuel's gallantry and bravery was regaled by all.

Now, back to the present and my personal journey with Capt. Sims. I first read his letters in 1994. In the fall of that year I traveled to Virginia to visit my first of many Civil War battlefields. The Ken Burns "Civil War" series had piqued my interest a few years prior but it was Capt. Sims' letters that personalized it for me. I took copies of Samuel's letters to the places where he had fought. Naturally, I was particularly moved when visiting the site of The Crater in Petersburg where he died. I have since become a full-blown Civil War buff—traveling and studying the War at every opportunity.

A few years ago my friend sold the Sims letters, which have been subsequently re-sold and scattered across the country. Fortunately, with permission, I made several photocopied sets and one color laser copy set of the entire collection prior to the sale. I did this for two reasons. One was my deep conviction that at some time in the future someone in the family may emerge that would value these documents. The second reason came from Samuel's brother, Palin, who survived the war. In 1905, he wrote these words to Samuel's son, Sam Jr., who was Kenneth's father:

Monday, Oct. 23, 1905  
1232 67th St.  
Brooklyn, New York

Sam,



Yours rec'd. All glad to hear from you.

Am glad to hear that you would like to arrange the war letters for Kenneth's benefit and I believe of your own, and others.

This is what I have been doing since 1861 and I will send you as circumstances occur. With this I send a copy of one letter—his first Battle. I copied it this day. I do this for reasons—as I value all of our sayings and know they are precious to all good Union men of the days of 1861-5 and are up to date.

They are valuable, they are written, they will, and have been, commented on and be the means of supplying the trials of the mind, a fact, an evidence of what they passed through.

Your Uncle,  
Palin H. Sims

So, with Palin's challenge to preserve the memory of Sam and others, I have endeavored to find not only members of the Sims family but also other people interested in the 51<sup>st</sup> New York.

Last year I asked Chris Calkins, the chief historian at Petersburg National Battlefield Park, if a regimental history had been written on the 51<sup>st</sup> New York. He checked his master list and confirmed that there has not. I then started surfing the Internet for any references to the 51<sup>st</sup> New York. There was very little. However, I did find one query written by a fellow from Michigan, Dale Niesen, whose great-great uncle, Peter Niesen, was with the 51<sup>st</sup>. He and I began corresponding and Dale suggested we start a simple website in an effort to attract other interested parties. (<http://51stnewyorkinfantry.tripod.com/index.htm>)

That simple venture paid big dividends this past January when a man in Connecticut, Stuart MacPherson, contacted us. His great-great uncle, Augustus (Gus) Dayton, was a friend of Samuel Sims. His name appears on line two, just under Sam's, on the roster for the 51<sup>st</sup>. Gus's sister, Carrie, was engaged to Samuel during the war.

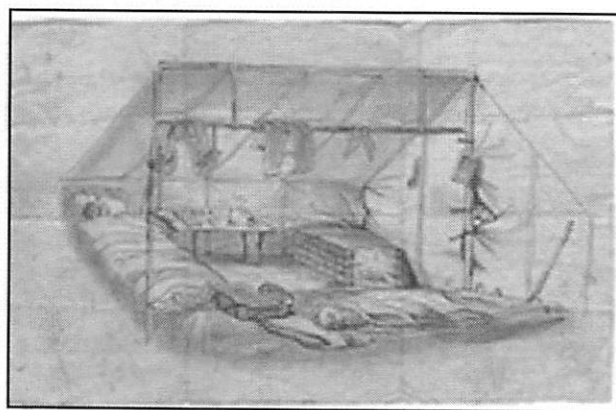
(Remember, he was a widower.) Stuart has letters, photographs, and precious mementos that Sam sent her. He carved her peach pits and pressed flowers to enclose with his letters. He also has a wonderful sketch that Sam did. (Note: Samuel was an accomplished artist and is given credit in one newspaper account for designing the Ninth Corps badge.)

Stuart said that his Aunt Carrie never married after Sam's death, continuing to be faithful to Sam's memory the rest of her life. These precious items were handed down and Stuart's family has adopted Sam as their own. He feels as passionately as I do about preserving his memory. In fact, Stuart has purchased approximately half of the letters and documents that were found here in Santa Barbara. Between us, we are scanning all the letters and documents, transcribing them, and will soon be burning CDs to send to every repository we can think of.

My journey with Capt. Sims is ongoing. As I write this, new letters have been discovered that he wrote to others in Brooklyn, and I continue to search for Sims' family descendants. Each new discovery is equally as exciting as the last.

Capt. Samuel Sims' life and death have touched me deeply. He was a man of great integrity, honor, and courage—well loved by all. I earnestly believe his letters were rescued by divine providence and I will do everything in my power to ensure that he never be forgotten.

My friend was right; reading those letters did change my life!



DRAWING OF THE 51<sup>ST</sup> TENT BY CAPT. SIMS  
JULY 15, 1863

## GENEALOGISTS AND DNA ANALYSIS TRY TO SOLVE 35-YEAR-OLD MYSTERY

*The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 2004 by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>.*

Kathryn Guildea Bogiages is trying to solve a 35-year-old mystery in Laos. She wants to know what happened to her husband. She is asking genealogists for assistance to help prove or disprove one theory.

Air Force pilot Christos C. Bogiages, Jr., disappeared 35 years ago when his F-105 disappeared while on a bombing mission in Laos. The mystery of what happened to the Albany, New York, native has not been solved. However, a tiny bone fragment recovered from the scene of an F-105 crash site could hold the clue to confirming the pilot's fate. An analysis of the fragment, which wound up in the possession of the Air Force, determined the bone was from a Caucasian. With a known mitochondrial DNA sample, a scientific link could be made.

Christos and Kathryn Bogiages had two sons, Christos III, who owns a medical computer systems company in Florida; and Andrew, who died in 1988. Linda Bogiages said coming to terms with the apparent death of their father affected her sons differently. Andrew never really accepted it. For Christos, "not having a father, I think, has made him a better father," she said.

For the widow, acceptance "was a very gradual thing." It was three years, she now believes, before she stopped looking for him. She never remarried "because you don't want to lose another person you truly love."

In April 2003, the Air Force awarded the American History Co. in Fredricksburg, Va., a contract to track down Bogiages' ancestors. The company hopes to solve the case through mitochondrial DNA, which is passed along maternal lines. While a man will have the same DNA code as his mother, he will not pass it on to his children, even if he were to have a daughter. That eliminates

Bogiages' niece—his only living female blood relative—as a possible source. Defense Department regulations prohibit exhumation of a relative to recover DNA for identification of service personnel, so a living relative must be found.

"This is where the public might be able to help," said Therese Fisher, the company's genealogy expert. "There may be folklore that opens up new avenues of research."

Genealogy research shows that Christos Bogiages' mother was Kathryn Guildea Bogiages, who was the daughter of Julia Burke Guildea, who was the daughter of William Burke and Jane Porr Burke, Irish immigrants who settled in Schaghticoke in the 1860s.

But in those generations, there were no other known female children who lived to adulthood, hence no other line from which a DNA match might be possible.

The search went further back to the Civil War days, when birth records showed that Julia Burke had two sisters, Margaret Burke, born in 1857, and Anna Burke, born in 1860.

Unfortunately, the researchers could find no death or marriage certificates or other records for either woman, and the trail for William Burke and Jane Porr ends in 1870 with William's death. "He was about 15 years older than she, so we assume she might have remarried (which might open up another DNA line), but we can't find any records," Fisher said.

"Somebody has heard family stories, or has church records or even done their own family research," Fisher said. "It's coming at it from a different direction. A way that we don't know of that could resolve this case."

While Linda Bogiages said she feels she found closure long ago, she hopes the mystery of her husband's fate will be solved in a way that will touch the lives of the generations that followed him.

A positive determination on his remains, she said, "will be meaningful for our son and his children."

Anyone with possible information on Jane (Porr) Burke or Margaret or Anna Burke or their female descendants is asked to contact American History Co. toll free at (800) 813-1049.

## UNEXPECTED RESOURCE LINKS: DO YOU HAVE THESE URLS BOOKMARKED? 📌

By Carolyn "Cari" Thomas, [western37@cox.net](mailto:western37@cox.net)

SBCGS Seminar 4 March 2004 ;URLs active as of 20 Feb 2004

### General:

FreeDatabases (UK+): <<http://www.thegallerycoffeehouse.com>>

PrimeSources:

<<http://www.uidaho.edu/specialcollections/Other.Repositories.html>>

<<http://www.earlham.edu/%7EElibr/quaker/obituaries/Index.htm>> or: homepage: Site Index: "A"

<<http://www.preb.com/documentos/aguada/bag04A-B.htm>>

### References:

World Telephones: <<http://www.infobel.com/teldir/default.asp>>

RealDictionary: <<http://www.realdictionary.com/>>

Obsolete Medical Terms and Medical Info: <<http://www.neonatology.org/classics/old.terms.html>>

<<http://www.chanur.com/library/lists/epidemics/epidemics.shtml>>

<<http://www.chanur.com/genealogy/dictionary/medical.shtml>>

<<http://www.genealogy-quest.com/glossaries/diseases.html>>

<<http://olivetreegenealogy.com/misc/disease.shtml>>

Occupations: <<http://www.gendocs.demon.co.uk/trades.html#TOP>>

<[http://www.theshipslist.com/ships/passengerlists/french\\_occupations1873.htm](http://www.theshipslist.com/ships/passengerlists/french_occupations1873.htm)>

U.S. NewspaperProgram: <<http://www.neh.gov/projects/usnp/html>>

### Geographic:

U.S. Panoramic Maps: <<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/pmhtml/panhome.html>>

Perry-Casteflada Maps: <<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/histus.html>>

Shtetl Seeker: <<http://www.jewishgen.org/ShtetlSeeker/loctown.htm>>

Google Images: <http://www.google.com>> "Image" tab

Global Gazetteer: <<http://www.calle.com/world/>>

### Fleshing the Bones:

Victorian Era: <<http://www.victorianweb.org/history/sochistov.html>>

America's Cookbooks: <<http://digital.lib.msu.edu/cookbooks/>>

Civil War Tunes: Music and Lyrics <<http://freepages.music.rootsweb.com/~edgmon/civilwar.htm>>

MaritimeTimetables: <<http://www.timetableimages.com/maritime/images/shiplist.htm>>

Flagholders: <<http://www.rootsweb.com/~srgp/flaghold/flaghold.htm>>

Executions: <<http://www.fred.net/jefalvey/execute.html>>

Visit to Newgate: <[http://www.fidnet.com/~dap1955/dickens/visit\\_newgate.html](http://www.fidnet.com/~dap1955/dickens/visit_newgate.html)>

Reba's Post Cards: <<http://www.upamerica.org/Rebas/home.html>>

<<http://www.vanished.com/pages/unusual.html>>

## OLD NEWSPAPER DEATH NOTICES

The following notices were found in the 25 January 1817 issue of the "Greensburgh Gazette" newspaper of Greensburgh, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, Vol VI, #284:

*Melancholy*—On Sunday morning last, JAMES BLACK, stage-driver, while driving the mail-stage, seven miles west of this place, on the road to Pittsburgh, was frozen to death, and fell from his seat. This distressing event took place about day-break, and the horses going on correctly as usual, he was not missed by the passengers in the stage until they had proceeded two and a half miles from the spot where he fell, nor until they were hailed by a person who had discovered the dead body, and followed them with the information.

DIED, —On Monday, the 20th instant, SARAH LOGAN, in the 24th year of her age.

—Thus hath sunk into an early grave, a young woman formed to be an useful member of society, beloved by her associates, the pride of her parents and family, amiable, cheerful, gay and innocent, but for the baseness, cruelty, blackheartedness, and selfish malignity of Seduction.

Her case is known to the publick, and we forbear, from motives of delicacy, the expression of our indignation, in terms commensurate with its force. It may be allowed us to suggest, to young and thoughtless females, the solemnity of such a warning against the association with unprincipled and irreligious young men.

"When lovely woman stoops to folly,  
And finds too late that men betray,  
What charm can soothe her melancholy,  
What art can wash her guilt away?"

"The only art her guilt to cover,  
To hide her shame from ev'ry eye,  
To give repentance to her lover,  
And wring his bosom is to die."

*Submitted by Cari Thomas, SBCGS Member  
western37@cox.net*

## MORE UNEXPECTED RESOURCE LINKS: DO YOU HAVE THIS ONE BOOKMARKED?

*by Cari Thomas, SBCGS Member  
western37@cox.net*

☞ <http://www.thegallerycoffeehouse.com/>

This website touts itself as "All FREE Genealogy Links"; if you're lucky enough, you just might find your actual ancestor listed in a real goodie, and it's definitely worth a try.

While the site is heavy on records from the United Kingdom, including Canada, it also has a large share of United States databases. On the newly-formatted (Jan. 2004) home page are organizational topics of "Tools & Goodies; Beginners; CANADA; U.S.A. STATE PAGES; U.S. CENSUS & OBIT; U.S. MARRIAGES; WILLS; HEADSTONES; ADOPTION; BIBLES; MISC. RECORDS; UNITED KINGDOM; VARIOUS COUNTRIES; PIGOT'S DIRECTORIES; and Ships' Lists."

For example, in CANADA - British Columbia, one can find "Convict Deaths in the British Columbia Penitentiary, 1875-1916," a transcription not only of the names of convicts, but, in most cases, of date of death, cause of death, crime and place of conviction, place of birth, and remarks.

In BIBLES, there are links to 23 specifically named Bibles, and also links to 26 homepages of Bible collections, including a searchable index of 35,000 Bible record entries of the "Bible and Family Records at Western Reserve Historical Society" in Cleveland, Ohio.

In U.S.A. STATE PAGES - Louisiana, I found "3 October 1704, Fountainbleu: List of Girls and Families Who Left from Paris and Rochefort for Fort Louis in La Louisiane."

This site takes considerable free time to explore all the possibilities, but then, that's what we genealogists do, expend time on our passion.

Note: Websites change and disappear, often without notice. This website was operational on 24 March 2004, when this was written.

## AND MORE UNEXPECTED RESOURCE LINKS: DO YOU HAVE THIS ONE BOOKMARKED?

by Cari Thomas, SBCGS Member  
western37@cox.net

☞ <http://digital.lib.msu.edu/cookbooks/>

The Michigan State University Library's and MSU Museum's *Feeding America: Historic American Cookbook Project* contains full-text images of 75 cookbooks of the 7,000 cookbooks in their Special Collections Division. They range from 1798 to 1922.

The cookbooks are searchable by <title>, <author> or <within text>. For instance I requested a search within the text for "vinegar" as a household remedy. Two recipes in separate cookbooks came up...

1) *The Frugal Housewife: Or, Complete Woman Cook; Wherein the Art of Dressing All Sorts of Viands is Explained in Upwards of Five Hundred Approved Receipts...* New York, Printed and sold by G. & R. Waite, no. 64, Maidenlane, 1803. Cookbook page 211; cookbook web-image 244.

2) Leslie, Eliza. *Directions for Cookery, in its Various Branches*. Philadelphia: E.L. Carey & Hart, 1840. Cookbook page 424; cookbook web-image 430.

Both have directions for making "Thieves Vinegar," which, according to the 1803 cookbook, "did prove an efficacious remedy against the plague in London, when it raged there in the year 1665."

You can browse the collection using six different categories such as ethnic cookery, regional cookery, etc.; and there is a glossary of plus/minus 160 old and/or current cooking terms, any of which may be new to you or your family.

An additional treat from the MSU Museum is called "Museum Objects": eight web pages with items used in past years in the kitchen: Bake Oven with Spit, Cake Box Coffee Roaster, Colander, Dutch Oven, Meat Chopper, Spice Box, and a Vegetable Slicer. Each page has a picture of the antique item with a descriptive comment. But the most interesting part is that the viewer can manipulate the graphic. The bake oven graphic shows a

cylindrical object sitting on little "feet," with a projection on one end and a closed "lid." You shift the oven to see that the projection is actually the spit handle; then turn the oven totally around and see the inside of the oven with its spit.

This website is a delight and resource for anyone who has been frustrated trying to figure out how Great Grandmother used to make those fantastic eel pies (or whatever)! There are 31 recipes using eels as an ingredient, including five for Eel Pie and one for Flounder Pie (with eels).

Note : A terrific companion site to *Feeding America* is *The Food Timeline*, of the Morris County (New Jersey) Library: <http://www.gti.net/mocolib1/kid/food.html>.

Note: Websites change and disappear, often without notice. This website was operational on 24 March 2004, when this was written.



## WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Last winter the Wisconsin Historical Society announced the creation of the Wisconsin Name Index, an online database leading to over 100,000 obituaries, biographical sketches and newspaper articles, all about Wisconsin ancestors. The Name Index was a huge success, allowing researchers to look up ancestors in more than 1,500 books and periodicals found in libraries or to order paper copies directly from us. However, there was one resounding comment—add more content.

Over the past year, the Wisconsin Historical Society has done just that. We have added over 60,000 entries from a variety of sources.

Some sources focused on local county histories, with biographical sketches; others were professional histories, many highlighting the women of Wisconsin, while still others centered on Wisconsin's military history. I would like to invite you to visit our website at [www.wisconsinhistory.org/wni](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/wni) to learn more about

WISCONSIN continued on page 23

## ANCIENT MOTHERS: POSSIBLE, BUT NOT LIKELY

*By Gregg Bonner of Michigan*

I have noticed that many people who publish genealogical material do not bother to test whether the information is plausible. This is usually due to a lack of event-date association. When precise dates are not known people often neglect to enter any date information at all.

However, if the author had entered even the broadest of possible date ranges for the events in question, then he would recognize that the sequence as a whole is not plausible for ANY set of particular dates he might pose as a possibility. Once the date ranges were given, it would become clear that to make the line possible, one person would have to live to be well over 100, or else another person would have to be a grandfather at age 25, or else some other equally unlikely occasion would need occur.

The problem with many such pedigrees is that they are maintained under the argument that they are possible, and no effort is made to see that they are also plausible. One of the greatest classes of offenders is the “ancient mother” syndrome.

Women really do not give birth to children in their 50s, excepting extraordinarily rare instances. To illustrate my point, I take data from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, 1998 Natality Statistics. These figures show that among the nearly four million live births in the United States in 1998, only about 160 of them were to women aged 50 and above. This represents approximately 0.004% of live child births.

The oldest age category given is age 54, for which there were six live births. To make the point more vivid, compare to the five live births to mothers aged 10. Continuing the theme, there were 19 live child births to mothers aged 53, compared to 23 born to mothers aged 11. In sum, the total of live births to mothers aged 50 or more is LESS than the number of live births to mothers aged 12 or younger. Please note also that these data include all manner of modern fertility treatments that

would not have been available to our ancestors.

I have had many people tell me that it is relatively common for women to have children in their mid-50s, only to proceed to point out several cases from their own database. These, however, are not cases of bona fide live child births to women aged 50 and greater — these are rather simply errors. In a database of 25,000 persons, you can expect a grand total of approximately one person to have been born to a mother aged 50 or more.

*Previously published in RootsWebReview: Vol. 7, No. 18, 5 May 2004*



## WOBBLING ON SPELLINGS

*By Christine Buckley in the UK*

Professionally, I've been connected with literary editing. This is quite useful in genealogy; for example, the troublesome Scottish z I would guess is related to a medieval letter called yogh, rather than the Greek zeta. Sometimes it represented g, sometimes y, sometimes ch.

Dalziel (‘Dayell’) is a clear example of the y use in Scottish names. Similarly, the y of Ye Olde English Tea-Shoppe, etc., derives from the Anglo-Saxon letter “thorn,” similar to a carelessly written y in medieval script. It was always pronounced “th.”

I came to genealogy knowing that there was little thought of normalization in English spelling until the advent of printing, and the process took several hundred years. The spelling of names began to be standardized with 19th-century civil registration and censuses, roughly the same time that general literacy in England and Wales became an official target. (The Scottish education system, broadly speaking, was — probably still is — better than England's. In Wales, of course, the target was literacy in English.) Because censuses were intended to produce statistics, rather than to record an individual's identity, enumerators didn't give first priority to spelling names “correctly;” and a local enumerator went totally to pieces when faced

with the biblical Kerenhappuch.

Names still wobbled, anyway. I know of two cases in England, probably late 19th century where families changed the preferred spelling of their surname because a registrar made a mistake, and the family believed they had to keep to what the registrar had written. At least, that was their story.

I know how difficult it is to copy something exactly. I don't even trust myself to get it right, certainly not without careful checking.

As to family stories: my 92-year-old paternal grandmother's information (gathered 30 years ago) has been totally reliable, while many of my mother's stories have proved to be untrue. She was a very honest person, and I haven't yet discovered who told her the porkies. I'm rather relieved that she didn't live to hear her family mythology debunked.

In order to stay sane, it helps to believe that genealogy is an art rather than a science, certainly beyond civil registration and censuses; that almost any element of any single record just might be wrong; and that some things will always remain unknowable. Maybe it takes a computer to make a proper mess of things, but human beings can do a fair job unaided.

*Previously published in RootsWeb Review: Vol. 7, No. 14, 7 April 2004.*



### **WISCONSIN** *continued from page 21*

our resource. We have received many e-mails from users expressing their pleasure and excitement about the Wisconsin Name Index. One customer wrote, "I would like to let you know that your hard work is a big help for those who are researching their family history." We are so glad to be able to help researchers from across the country and hope that you will share the Wisconsin Name Index and our other genealogical services with your members and other family historians.

*From an e-mail letter received by the Editor from  
Melissa A. McLimans  
Manager, Wisconsin Genealogical Research  
ServiceHistorydocs@whs.wisc.edu  
www.wisconsinhistory.org*

### **LOST IN RUSSIA** *continued from page 6*

beginning to get unbearable. Valya, bless her heart, kept trying to feed us, and eating was the last thing on our minds.

*Val Ingram's story will be continued in the Summer 2004 Issue of Ancestors West when the family is at last united.*

### ENDNOTES:

<sup>1</sup> Germans from Russia Heritage Society, <http://grhs.com/>

<sup>2</sup> Commonly referred to as the EWZ, the German Immigration Center was created in 1939 to facilitate the resettlement of people from eastern and southern Europe identified as ethnic Germans. To learn more about the EWZ and Germans from Russia, read the article in the Summer 2003 issue of *Ancestors West*, "Beyond the Pale—My Lost German Ancestors from Russia," by Louise Swain.



## **SEARCHABLE LIST OF EVERY ELLIS ISLAND SHIP ARRIVAL FROM 1892 TO 1924 NOW ONLINE**

Stephen P. Morse's project to compile a complete list of every ship arrival at Ellis Island from 1892 to 1924 is complete. It can be accessed at

<http://stevemorse.org/ellis/boat.html>.

For each arrival the database has the microfilm roll, volume, frame, date, ship-name, and ports. Now, for the first time, there is a searchable list of every ship arrival along with links to the associated manifest pages.

This means you can now search for persons not found in the Ellis Island Database because of misspelling or misindexing if you know the name of the ship on which the immigrant came.

The list consists of a total of 84,000 ship arrivals. The work was done by a team of over 50 volunteers who read through every one of the 3700 rolls of Ellis Island microfilms from 1892 to 1924.

*From Avotaynu's "Nu, What's New?," e-zine June 13, 2004,  
available online at [www.avotaynu.com](http://www.avotaynu.com)*

## ADAMS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, CIRCUIT RECORDS AVAILABLE ONLINE

Adams County Circuit Clerk records are now available online and can, of course, be viewed all over the world. The Adams County Circuit Clerk's office is allegedly the first in Mississippi to get such a site running. These public records will be useful to many groups, including genealogists. The site includes everything from the judgment roll to marriage licenses. Not all of the past records are online, but the clerk's office is working on scanning all old records back to the 1800s. A small fee is required to view documents. The Web site can be accessed at [www.adamscountymiss.gov](http://www.adamscountymiss.gov).

*From Everton's Newslines, May 27, 2004*



## VETERANS' CEMETERY RECORDS ONLINE

The Department of Veterans Affairs announced an online database of over three million veterans' cemetery records covering veterans and dependents buried in National Cemeteries since the Civil War. There are also some records of burials in state veterans' cemeteries and in Arlington National Cemetery from 1999 to the present. This database is available at [www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov).



## SLOWNIK GEOGRAFICZNY AT THE LA FHC

Interested in Slovak geography? Thanks to the Polish Genealogical Society, *Slownik Geograficzny* and the *Slownik Nazwisk* CDs can be obtained at the reference desk at the Los Angeles Family History Center for use on their computers.

*From Jewish Genealogical Society of Los Angeles newsletter June, 2004.*

## NEW ARRIVAL IN THE SAHYUN MAP ROOM

In 1912, the City of Santa Barbara contracted surveyor Walter E. Barry to map the location and owner of each city parcel. There are only two original copies of this map. One is displayed in the main hallway of City Hall and the other at the Gledhill library. The Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society was fortunate to acquire a copy of this large map (6 by 8 feet) from the city clerk's office. The society copy will be on display in the map room. So, if you want to know where grandmother lived in Santa Barbara city in 1912, visit our great and growing map collection. Look for the Barry map of the city of Santa Barbara, 1912. For further information contact Ed Storr, 805-969-9895.

*Submitted by Ed Storr, SBCGS Member*



## MARYLAND VITAL RECORDS ONLINE

Maryland has begun putting indexes to its vital records online at <http://mdvitalrec.net/cfm/index.cfm>. Thus far, they have death records for the entire state (1898-1944), and for the City of Baltimore (1875-1942). You can generate a form to order the documents, but so far there's no online ordering.

*From Jewish Genealogical Society of Los Angeles newsletter June, 2004.*

**RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW**

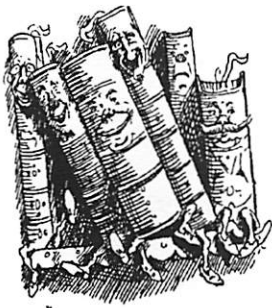
**OR YOU MAY NOT RECEIVE THE**

**SUMMER 2004 ISSUE OF**

**ANCESTORS WEST**

You don't want to miss the conclusion of Valerie Ingram's story of *Lost in Russia*. . . *Part 3*





## NEW IN THE LIBRARY

Compiled by Ted Denniston

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*Editor's Note: What follows is a list selected from the publications recently catalogued. To keep the list a reasonable length, we have excluded school yearbooks and reunions, dictionaries, Who's Who books, city directories, telephone books and other publications of lesser genealogical interest. All publications, however, are listed in the Library Catalog.*

### GENERAL

The Census Book, a Genealogist's Guide to Federal Census Facts, Schedules and Indexes. By Dollarhide, William. 2000. [929/D27/Dol].

Directory of Professional Genealogists, 2004-2005. By Lemmon, Anne. 2003. [929/D27/Lem/2004-2005].

The Encyclopedia of Jewish Life Before and During the Holocaust, v. 3, Seredina-Buda - Z. By Spector, Shmuel. 2001. [305.892/H2/Spe/v. 3].

A Field Guide for Genealogists, Second Edition. By Jacobson, Judy. 2001 (2003). [929/D27/Jac].

The Holocaust Chronicle. By Hogan, David J. 2000. [940.53/H2/Hog].

Men of Achievement, 1977. By Kay, Ernest. 9177. [920/D4/Kay/1977].

Printed Sources, a Guide to Published Genealogical Records. By Meyerink, Kory L. 1998. [929/D27/Mey].

The Record Interpreter: A Collection of Abbreviations, Latin Words and Names Used in English Historical Manuscripts and Records. By Martin, Charles Trice. 1910 (1997). [423/A5/Mar].

### REVOLUTIONARY WAR

The Pension Lists of 1792-1795, With Other Revolutionary War Pension Records. By Clark, Murtie June. 1991. [973.3/M2/Cla].

### CIVIL WAR

Encyclopedia of the American Civil War, a Political, Social and Military History, v. 1-5. By Heidler, David S. 2000. [973.7/H2/Hei/v. 1-5].

Preliminary Inventory of Records Relating to Civil War Claims United States and Great Britain. By Ulibarri, George S. 1962. [973.7/J5/Uli].

### UNITED STATES

Chinese Women of America, A Pictorial History. By Yung, Judy. 1986. [973/H2/Yun].

The Episcopal Church Annual, 1970. By Kelley, E. Allen. 1970. [973/K2/Kel/1970].

List of Logbooks of U.S. Navy Ships, Stations, and Miscellaneous Units, 1801-1947. By Bradley, Claudia. 1978. [973/M2/Bra].

List of Selected Maps of States and Territories. By Hargett, Janet L. 1971. [973/E7/Har].

Some of the Earliest Oaths of Allegiance to the United States of America. By Waldenmaier, Nellie Protsman. 1944. [973/P4/Wal].

### ALASKA

Alaska Atlas & Gazetteer. By DeLorme Mapping. 1992. [979.8/E7/Del].

### CALIFORNIA

19th Century Chico, a Tour of Community History Through Parks & Architecture. By Berkla, Dennis. 1977. [979.4/Butte/H2/Ber].

- History of Petaluma, a California River Town. By Heig, Adair. 1982. [979.4/Sonoma/H2/Hei].
- Kern Canyon Country (California). By Brown, Henry McLauren. 1991. [979.4/Kern/H2/Bro].
- Mines of Julian. By Ellsberg, Helen. 1986. [979.4/San Diego/H2/Ell].
- Profile of Downtown Isla Vista. By Nellis, Michelle. 1990. [979.4/Santa Barbara/H2/Nel].
- Russian Hill - The Summit, 1853-1906, Volume 1 of a Neighborhood History. By Kostura, William. 1997. [979.4/San Francisco/H2/Kos/v. 1].
- Workin' On the Railroad: A List of Pacific Coast Railway Employees, 1873-1934. By Norris, Jim. 1999. [979.4/D4/Nor].

#### **CONNECTICUT**

- The Barbour Collection of Connecticut Town Vital Records, Thompson 1785-1850, Torrington 1740-1850, Wallingford 1670-1850. By Magnuson, Carole E. 2002. [974.6/V2/Bar/V.46-48].

#### **GEORGIA**

- The History of Metter and Candler County, Georgia. By Bland, Bernice Rogers. 1994. [975.8/Metter/H2/Bla].

#### **ILLINOIS**

- History of Madison County, Illinois, Illustrated, With Biographical Sketches of Prominent Men and Pioneers. By Brink, W. R. & Co. 1882. [977.3/Madison/H2/Bri].

#### **KANSAS**

- Sylvia, Kansas, 1887-1987. By Roberts, Mary Ellen. n.d. [978.1/Reno/H2/Rob].

#### **MAINE**

- The Length and Breadth of Maine. By Attwood, Stanley Bearce. 1977. [974.1/E5/Att].
- Maine, A History. By Hatch, Louis Clinton. 1974. [974.1/H2/Hat].
- Maine Place Names and the Peopling of Its Towns: Penobscot County. By Chadbourne, Ava Harriet. 1957. [974.1/Penobscot/E5/Cha].
- North Yarmouth (Maine), 1680-1980, an Illustrated History. By North Yarmouth Historical Society. 1991. [974.1/Cumberland/H2/Nor].
- Vital Records of Lincolnville, Maine, Prior to 1892. By Maresh, Isabel Morse. 1993. [974.1/Waldo/V2/Mar].

#### **MASSACHUSETTS**

- Historic Homes and Places and Genealogical and Personal Memoirs Relating to the Families of Middlesex County, Massachusetts, v. 4. By Cutter, William Richard. 1908. [974.4/Middlesex/D3/Cut/V.4].
- Historical Collections of Every Town in Massachusetts, pt. 1 & pt. 2. By Barber, John Warner. 1841. [974.4/H2/Bar/pt. 1 & pt. 2].

#### **MICHIGAN**

- Portrait and Biographical Record of Kalamazoo, Allegan and Van Buren Counties, Michigan. By Chapman Brothers. 1892. [977.4/Kalamazoo/D3/Cha].

#### **MINNESOTA**

- Adoptions and Name Changes, Minnesota Territory and State, 1855-1881. By Green, Stina B. 1994. [977.6/P2/Gre].

#### **MISSOURI**

- Life on the Edge of the Great Dark Cypress Swamp, the Brownwood, Missouri, Community History. By Jensen, Peggy Ashcroft. 2001. [977.8/Stoddard/H2/Jen].

#### **MONTANA**

- Montana, Idaho and Wyoming Ghost Towns. By Florin, Lambert. 1971. [978.6/H2/Flo].
- St. Ignatius Mission. By Obersinner, Joseph L. 1977. [978.6/Missoula/H2/Obe].

#### **NEBRASKA**

- Memorial and Biographical Record . Citizens of Butler, Polk, Seward, York and Fillmore Counties, Nebraska. By Ogle, George A. & Co. 1899. [978.2/Butler/D3/Ogl].

## NEVADA

Walker River Valley Paiute Rolls, Mason Valley Paiute Rolls (Nevada). By Robinson, Doreen. 2000. [979.3/F3/Rob].

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

Vital Records of Dover, New Hampshire, 1846-1850, v. 1. By Dover Historical Society. 1977. [974.2/Strafford/V2/Dov/V.1].

## NEW YORK

Albany Reformed Church, New York, Marriages, 1683-1804. By Kelly, Arthur C. M. n.d. [974.7/Albany/K2/Kel].

Emigrant Savings Bank Records: Bank Deposit Accounts Index 1850-1880. By Emigrant Savings Bank. 2003. [MF974.7/U3/Emi/roll 1].

Emigrant Savings Bank Records: Bank Deposit Accounts Test Book 1, 2, 2a, 3, 4, 5, 6 no. 1-66,756. By Emigrant Savings Bank. 2003. [MF974.7/U3/Emi/rolls 2, 2a, 3, 4, 5, 6].

Emigrant Savings Bank Records: Transfer Signature Test Books 1-3, no. 28-122,999. By Emigrant Savings Bank. 2003. [MF974.7/U3/Emi/rolls 7 & 8].

Encyclopedia of Contemporary Biography of New York, v. 2. By Atlantic Publishing Company. 1877. [974.7/D3/Atl/V.2].

Even More Palatine Families, volume 2. By Jones, Henry Z. 2002. [974.7/D3/Jon/v. 2].

Lumberman's Account Book, 1839-1843 (Formerly Steam Mill, Taborton) Town of Sand Lake, Rensselaer County, New York. By Kelly, Arthur C. M. 1999. [974.7/Rensselaer/U3/Kel].

Vital Records of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Poestenkill, NY, 1833-1892. By Kelly, Arthur C. M. 1992. [974.7/Rensselaer/K2/Kel].

## OHIO

Clinton County, Ohio, 1982: a Collection of Historical Sketches and Family Histories, Volume 1. By Clinton County Historical Society. 1982. [977.1/Clinton/H2/Cli/V.1].

Hamilton County, Ohio, Citizenship Record Abstracts, 1837-1916. By Hughes, Lois E. 1991. [977.1/Hamilton/P4/Hug].

## PENNSYLVANIA

Biographical and Historical Cyclopedia of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. By Gresham, John M. 1890 (1980). [974.8/Westmoreland/H2/Gre].

Philadelphia Maps, 1682-1981: Townships - Districts - Walds. By Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania. 1996. [974.8/Philadelphia/E7/Gen].

## VIRGINIA

A Brief History of Danville, Virginia, 1728-1954. By Hairston, L. Beatrice W. 1955. [975.5/Pittsylvania/H2/Hai].

Court Order Book 1, Amelia County, Virginia, 1735-1746. By McConnaughey, Gibson Jefferson. 1985. [975.5/Amelia/P2/Mcc].

Fairfax County (Virginia), Historical Highlights from 1607. By Geddes, Jean. 1967. [975.5/Fairfax/H2/Ged].

Henry County, Virginia, Will Abstracts, Vol. I & II, 1777-1820. By Adams, Lela C. 1985. [975.5/Henry/P2/Ada].

Marriage Bonds and Ministers' Returns of Brunswick County, Virginia, 1750-1810. By Knorr, Catherine Lindsay. 1953. [975.5/Brunswick/V2/Kno].

Marriage Bonds and Ministers' Returns of Chesterfield County, Virginia, 1771-1815. By Knorr, Catherine Lindsay. 1958. [975.5/Chesterfield/V2/Kno].

Marriage Bonds and Ministers' Returns of Greensville County, Virginia, 1781-1825. By Knorr, Catherine Lindsay. 1955. [975.5/Greensville/V2/Kno].

Marriage Bonds and Ministers' Returns of Halifax County, Virginia, 1753-1800. By Knorr, Catherine Lindsay. 1957. [975.5/Halifax/V2/Kno].

Marriage Bonds and Ministers' Returns of Pittsylvania County, Virginia, 1767-1805. By Knorr, Catherine Lindsay. 1956. [975.5/Pittsylvania/V2/Kno].

Marriage Bonds and Ministers' Returns of Powhatan County, Virginia, 1777-1830. By Knorr, Catherine Lindsay. 1957.

[975.5/Powhatan/V2/Kno].

Marriage Bonds and Ministers' Returns of Prince Edward County, Virginia, 1754-1810. By Knorr, Catherine Lindsay. 1950. [975.5/Prince Edward/V2/Kno].

Marriage Bonds and Ministers' Returns of Surry County, Virginia, 1768-1825. By Knorr, Catherine Lindsay. 1960. [975.5/Surry/V2/Kno].

Marriage Bonds and Ministers' Returns of Sussex County, Virginia, 1754-1810. By Knorr, Catherine Lindsay. 1952. [975.5/Sussex/V2/Kno].

Marriages of Culpeper County, Virginia, 1781-1815. By Knorr, Catherine Lindsay. 1954. [975.5/Culpeper/V2/Kno].

Marriages of Orange County, Virginia, 1747-1810. By Knorr, Catherine Lindsay. 1959. [975.5/Orange/V2/Kno].

Roanoke County (Virginia) Marriages, 1838-1850. By Vogt, John. 1984. [975.5/Roanoke/V2/Vog].

#### **WASHINGTON**

Skagit (Washington) Memories: Stories of the Settlement Years as Written By the Pioneers Themselves. By Dwelley, Charles M. 1979. [979.7/Skagit/H2/Dwe].

#### **WISCONSIN**

Genealogical Events from Newspapers for Crawford, Vernon, and Grant Counties, Wisconsin, 1870-1901. By Erickson, Vernon D. 2001. [977.5/Crawford/B3/Eri].

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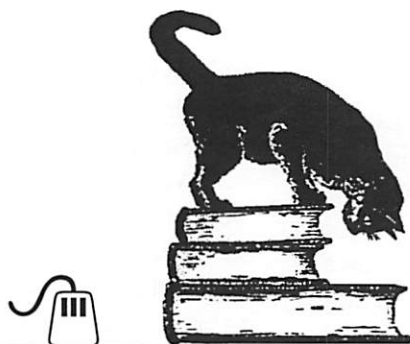
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## RESEARCH HINTS FROM JGSLA

Prior to Ellis Island, Castle Garden (also known as “Clinton Castle”) was used as the N.Y. landing point for our immigrant ancestors. For links to web sites that contain information about immigration records that exist for those who entered the U.S. through Castle Garden/Castle Clinton, check out [www.bklyn-genealogy-info.com/ImmNat/](http://www.bklyn-genealogy-info.com/ImmNat/). Also, Ancestry.com has a fee for service index of passengers arriving in the Port of New York prior to the creation of Ellis Island. Thanks to Sonia Nayle for this research hint.



NARA has amazingly detailed photographs (from the ground and air) of many areas of Eastern Europe and Russia. These were taken by Germany leading up to, and during, World War II.

To find out if they have **aerial photographs** of your shtetl, use [www.jewishgen.org/shtetlseeker](http://www.jewishgen.org/shtetlseeker) to get the longitude, latitude and map for it. then write, call or email NARA.

Mail: The National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001.

Phone: 1-86-NARA-NARA (1-866-272-6272)

Email: [carto@nara.gov](mailto:carto@nara.gov)

To find out if they have **ground photographs**, use the “Contact us/Inquire” form on the NARA

website ([www.nara.gov](http://www.nara.gov)), indicating the shtetl and country. They will respond to you by e-mail or postal mail, informing you of what they have, along with ordering instructions (including pricing).



If your ancestors were naturalized in New York City or Brooklyn, you might find them on one of the two Internet databases below. If you find them, follow the directions to send away for their declaration of intention, application, petition, or other naturalization papers:

For New York naturalizations, check the web site at [www.italiangen.org/southersearch.stm](http://www.italiangen.org/southersearch.stm) and for Brooklyn naturalizations, check the web site at [www.jgsny.org/brooknats.htm](http://www.jgsny.org/brooknats.htm). Thanks to Barbara Algaze for this research hint.



The catalog to the state of New Jersey Archives, (located in Trenton, New Jersey) is now available on-line at [www.njarchives.org/links/catalog.html](http://www.njarchives.org/links/catalog.html). There are links to all sorts of genealogically relevant collections including vital records, census records, will and probate information as well as historical information.

*Thanks go to the Jewish Genealogical Society of Los Angeles and its members for these hints*

## YOU'LL NEVER KNOW IF YOU DON'T ASK

By Jenni Johnson and Holly Hansen

Do you know how your grandfather proposed to your grandmother? What do you know about your mother's first date? How did your father feel about being a teenager? These are questions that you may never know the answers to unless you ask.

The best place to start your genealogy research is with the people who are still alive. Amazing, isn't it? It's not such a new idea, however. Most professional genealogists will encourage you to start finding information by just talking to your family. Most people have a wealth of information about their own lives, and they usually know at least something about their parents and brothers and sisters. What they know just might help you uncover some fascinating facts and heartwarming stories.

### *Interview with Jenni's Dad*

This past year I used a book from Tapis, Inc., called *Grandpa Remembers*, to interview my dad. I asked him questions that brought back many memories and recorded priceless moments from his life. My mom and I laughed out loud as he told about making a secret tunnel in a straw pile, as a boy, with a little den at the end. He said, "I put some boards around so it wouldn't fall in on me and I kept my gum and lifesavers in there on a shelf." He always did have a sweet tooth!

We understood more about dad's great love for Christmas when he described the excited feelings it gave him as a child. His eternal optimism must have started early in life; he never did give up hope of finding the pony of his dreams on Christmas morning with "a white bally face, four stocking legs, and a flax mane and tail—a perfect little horse."

Something in our discussion reminded Dad of how baling wire was the all-purpose solution of yesteryear, the same as duct tape is today. He never said much about his experiences in the Naval Air Corps during World War II, but the memory of baling wire prompted him to tell a hair-raising war story. He and his crew used baling wire to hold a vital cable in place after their plane had been shot full of holes. The baling wire held long enough for the plane to land in the ocean, after which two boats pulled up to rescue the crew moments before the plane sank. I gave thanks that his life was preserved so that his posterity, including me, could come to earth and be part of the family that I love.

Three months after our interview, my dad made an

unexpected exit from this mortal life. When my mother asked me to speak at the funeral, I was delighted that I could tell stories from his life—in his own words! By that time, I had almost finished a small book about him, complete with pictures, and I presented copies to my family at Christmas. They were thrilled and I was, too, because I was able to capture his story before it was too late.

### *Why Interview?*

You can feel the same emotions stirring in your heart by discovering your family's memories. However, some approaches work better than others.

We have heard dozens of people complain, "I bought my mom a book to record her story in, but she never did it." Well, this approach isn't usually very successful. It might be hard for someone like your mom to tackle such a big project by herself, or she may be too shy to jump into telling her own story. The best thing to do is to have a one-on-one conversation, ask some questions, and record the answers. There are few things more fun and eye opening than interviewing people to find out about their lives.

Here are some sample questions from *Grandpa Remembers*:

- What were some of your mother's characteristics?
- How did you keep your house warm in the winter and cool in the summer?
- Where did you get spending money and how did you spend it?
- How did you propose to Grandma and what was her reaction?
- What was the most difficult part of raising your children?

Once you've caught the interviewing bug, you won't want to stop!

For more information on capturing memories through interviewing, visit the Tapis website at [www.tapisinc.com](http://www.tapisinc.com).

*Jenni Johnson and Holly Hansen are co-authors of 14 Capture the Memories interview books, 26 memory scrap-book pages, and the Family History Cookbook. They also provide research services, research retreats, and publishing tools to help you capture your family's stories.*

*From My Ancestors at [www.myancestorsfound.com/](http://www.myancestorsfound.com/)*



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## SBCGS PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

Order publications listed below from the Society's Sahyun Library, SBCGS, PO Box 1303, Goleta, CA 93116-1303, attention: Emily Aasted.

• *The Great Register 1890 - Mono County, California.* Male Surnames in the Mono County Election District, 18 pp., \$5.00 p&h \$3.20

• *The Great Register 1890 - Mendocino County, California.* Male Surnames in the Mendocino County Election District, 102 pp., \$12.00 p&h \$3.20

• *Santa Barbara Newspaper Extracts, 1868-1880.* Surnames extracted from newspapers, indexed, 100 pp., \$12.00 p&h \$3.20

• *The 1888 Santa Barbara City Directory.* 90 pp., \$10.00 p&h \$3.20

• *The 1895 Santa Barbara City Directory.* 90 pp., \$10.00 p&h \$3.20

• *Roots, Recipes, & Recollections,* a collection of recipes and stories presented by The Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society, pub. 1999, 187 pp., spiral bound. \$10.00 p&h \$3.20

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## JULY 2004

July 17, Saturday, Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society Meeting at First Presbyterian Church, 21 E. Constance at State, Santa Barbara, CA. Help groups begin at 9:30; general meeting begins at 10:30. Park in upper lot off Constance.

Program: Connie Pracht, an artist/illustrator, and graphic designer, will speak on design and content, and she will discuss the use of archival materials for production.

See our website for program details at [www.cagenweb.com/santabarbara/sbcgs/](http://www.cagenweb.com/santabarbara/sbcgs/)

## AUGUST 2004

No meeting of the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society in August.

## SEPTEMBER 2004

September 8-11, Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference, *Legends Live Forever*, in Austin, Texas. See [www.fgs.org](http://www.fgs.org) for more information.

September 18, Saturday, Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society Meeting at First Presbyterian Church, 21 E. Constance at State, Santa Barbara, CA. Help groups begin at 9:30; general meeting begins at 10:30. Park in upper lot off Constance. Program: See our website for program details at [www.cagenweb.com/santabarbara/sbcgs/](http://www.cagenweb.com/santabarbara/sbcgs/)

## MAY 2005

May 18-25, SBCGS sponsored research trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. Contact Jim Friestad for information. Phone number on page two.

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