



Ancestors West

A quarterly publication for the members of the
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Winter 2018 Vol. 43, No. 4

Fashion Through the Ages

**Flapper Dress
Still Pretty at 92**

**Women in
Grannie's Clothing**

**The Fabric of
Family Fashion**

**Book Review:
Dating Clothing and
Photographs**

**My Uncle in a
World War I
Military Uniform**

**Photoshopped
Photos Before...
Well, Photoshop!**



**AS HEMS WENT
DOWN, WAISTLINES
WENT UP!**



Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society

www.sbgen.org

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Sahyun Genealogy Library

(SBCCGS facility)

316 Castillo St., Santa Barbara 93101

Phone: (805) 884-9909

Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Sunday 1:00 – 4:00 PM

Third Saturday 1:00 – 4:00 PM (Except August)

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

Active (individual)-\$40; **Family** (2 same household)-\$60; **Friend**-\$50;
Donor-\$75; **Patron**-\$150; **Life**-\$1000 (one-time donation)

Meetings: Regular monthly meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month except August. Meetings begin at 10:30 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 21 E. Constance Ave. at State Street in Santa Barbara. At 9:30, special interest groups (SIGs) meet that include the following: Writers, JewishGen, DNA, German Ancestry Research, Genealogy and Technology, Italian Roots, French Canadian Genealogy, Civil War, New Member and Beginning Genealogy, and Scandinavian Roots.

Established in 1972, the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society (SBCCGS) 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.

Ancestors West is currently published quarterly in February, May, August, November. Articles of family history or of historical nature are welcomed and used as space permits (see inside back cover for submission details). As available, current and back issues are \$6.00 each including postage. Library subscription to *Ancestors West* is \$20.00 per year. *Ancestors West* is indexed in the **PERiodical Source Index (PERSI)** published by the Allen County Public Library, Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

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From the Editor

“Such photographs exist in every family. They were caught in a few seconds, the duration of the exposure, and these seconds have become an eternity.”

~From *Dora Bruder* by Patrick Modiano, winner of the 2014 Nobel Prize in Literature.

THE DESIRE TO REPRODUCE AN IMAGE of a person has existed since ancient times. Sculptures of Egyptian Pharaohs date from 3000 BC and portraits of individuals painted in Roman times are over 2000 years old. They are fascinating both in the elegance of the detail the artists were able to achieve, and in what they were designed to accomplish. They reveal the power of images to preserve the memory of individuals and represent their continued presence among us.

Until the age of photography, a likeness or portrait required the services of an artist, which generally limited their production to the rich and famous (or infamous). The development of photography in the 19th century rapidly transformed image production so that even simple farmers and tradesmen could sit proudly with their bride for a photo. Graduations, family gatherings, and anniversaries were reasons to visit the photographer's studio. The treasured photos were collected and often carried across the ocean to the new world and/or across the country as immigrants and their descendants spread in all directions.

In 2018, we have the possibility to possess such photos of parents, grandparents, great-grandparents and beyond back to the 1840s. For some of them, a thoughtful recipient wrote the names and date on the back. Those are real treasures for there is no doubt who they are and when they posed motionless for the exposure. I wonder if they knew that day in 1864 or 1902 that generation after generation of children and children's children would gaze upon their likeness in a future they could scarcely have envisioned?



Susse Frère Daguerreotype camera from 1839 in the collection of the Westlicht Photography Museum in Vienna, Austria

Hidden Clues in Photographs

Other photos or whole boxes of photos are handed down anonymously. Someone at one time, knew the people in the photos and valued the images enough to save them. However, today, those who knew the identity of the individuals are long gone and the photos become a family mystery. Genealogists, on the other hand, are good detectives and sometimes the mystery of such photos can be solved. There are clues in and around the photograph that can often be used to determine where they were taken, the era and the occasion. After careful analysis, including sharing the image on the internet, occasionally the identity of the individual or group can be discerned.

Such clues include the name and location of the photographer, the clothing worn, the hairstyle, and the ages of the individuals, especially the sex and ages of any children in the picture. In this issue Fred Schaeffer even analyzed the design of the wheelchair in which a woman was sitting for an indication of the era in which the photo was taken.

Fashion Through the Ages

“Fashion Through the Ages” was the theme suggested for this issue of *Ancestors West* and members responded with a wealth of beautiful and dramatic photos reflecting not only the fashions of the times but also significant moments in our ancestor's lives. Kristin Ingalls reports on the many books in the Sahyun library that are designed to help analyze and date images based on hair and clothing styles before and during the age of photography.

The oldest fashion image came from Kate Lima. A portrait was painted of her 9th great-grandmother who was involved in controversy in 17th century New Amsterdam. Sue Ramsey discovered that an old family photo was altered by the photographer. A unique

connection related by Toni Amorteguy was the link between a buying trip by her grandmother for Gumps of San Francisco and a 1920s fashion sensation, the Japanese happi coat.

This month commemorates the end of World War I, which began when Austria and Serbia initiated an incident that spread to engulf much of Europe, Asia and eventually America. Milt Hess shares a striking photo of his uncle on the eve of battle in what was known then as the Great War. A poignant photo of Deborah Lupo's father at age five in 1941 marks the start of World War II.

A stroll on the beach in 1908 was not an opportunity to sunbathe. Cathy Jordan's photographs of her grandparents and great-grandparents show that elegant hats and long-sleeved dresses of that era didn't allow even an ankle to show. George Goodall describes the hardships his father faced as a child in rural Los Angeles County as he strove to obtain a college degree. A classic photo of his 1909 chemistry class at USC shows a well-dressed group that includes two women – also in high-necked long-sleeved blouses with skirts to the floor. Women's legs were first seen in the next decade.

A family photo from Wisconsin in the 1930s celebrates a special occasion of the Soderberg family, and Jane Honikman traces in photos the life of her grandmother Mabel Rock Israel. Some of Mabel's beautiful clothing has been passed down and has been treasured by succeeding generations. In addition to photos, Kristin Ingalls has also inherited precious blouses her grandmother made. Sharon Summer still has her grandmother's velvet flapper dress.

The interesting changes in women's fashions during the Model A Tudor era (1929-1931) are recounted by Sharon Henning who has always been interested in vintage clothing and costumes. Helen Cornell provides a photo of dancers and musicians surrounded by well-dressed townsfolk supporting the effort to restore the Santa Barbara Mission after the 1925 earthquake.

Rounding out the issue are Margery Baragona's reflections on culinary uses of soup, especially tomato soup, during the frugal years of ration cards in the early 1940s. SBCGS member Don Gill arranged for the reprint from the Federation of Family History Societies Newsletter of a fascinating article on occupations. The Sense of the Census features the agricultural censuses that were part of the US Federal Census. These non-population schedules still exist for the census years 1840-1880.

Cousin's Corner

A new section started in this issue, Cousins Corner, features society members who have discovered they are "cousins." As our skills as genealogists have improved, these discoveries have become more frequent. Some connections go back eight generations and three are included in our first report of kinships within the SBCGS. If you have found a "cousin" within the society, you are invited to share your connection to a common ancestor in the next issue.

The Next Issue – DNA Discoveries

The new paradigm in genealogical research – genetic genealogy – has been much in the news lately. Interest in this new technology has been encouraged by advertisements in the media by the testing companies as well as sensational reports of crimes solved using genealogical websites. The number of persons submitting their DNA for testing continues to grow and thus the value of this tool for family history research is expanding rapidly.

As many of us have discovered, the initial DNA results are only the beginning of a fascinating journey back in time. As more data accumulates, the ethnic origins of individuals become more refined, and new matches are found and added to all levels of the match lists. New connections appear regularly.

Have you made discoveries that were revealed by DNA testing? If so, we invite you to share them with our readers. Please include any problems you have encountered and suggestions for overcoming them.

As always, themes are only suggestions and all articles of genealogical interest are welcome in *Ancestors West*.

The submission deadline for the next issue is February 1, 2019.

My editorial committee members are the key to the success of *Ancestors West*. Their input into the selection of themes, editing the articles, enhancing the photographs, designing of the pages, final proofreading, mailing and digital delivery to many societies and libraries is essential. I am grateful to all of them.

Debbie Kaska, Editor



A TOUCH OF OLD SANTA BARBARA



By Margery Baragona


Tomato Soup

AS WE DEVOUR OUR IN-N-OUTS and crunchy tacos it is fun to think how we used to eat. In looking at *Joy of Cooking* it is interesting to see how we ate during the frugal years of World War II. In the preface to the 1943 edition Irma S. Rombauer writes, “We had no idea that international obligations would lead our land of plenty to ration cards.” Her most basic suggestion was soup, primarily tomato soup. For elegance she favored soup mergers as in Cream of Spinach soup plus Cream of Mushroom equals St. Patricks’ soup; Corn Chowder plus Onion Soup equals Indian Chowder. She listed 15 such mergers. However, tomato soup seemed to be our salvation, and many, many recipes used it, including gravies and sauces.

Food requirements during these years of meager supplies emphasized dairy products. Children were encouraged to drink a quart of milk and consume two tablespoons of butter and three slices of bread a day. General information suggested a green leaf vegetable once a week. Some of the recipes shown seem icky – mashed up liver in balls rolled in oatmeal and fried in lard. The word cholesterol does not appear. Bring me an In-n-Out!



50th Anniversary “Art Of Soup” Campbell’s Tomato Soup cans featuring a facsimile autograph, portrait of, and quote from Andy Warhol. Image by Thomas Altfather Good.



Ways to Prepare Pet Milk for Whipping

IN AN AUTOMATIC REFRIGERATOR	
METHOD 1	Pour the exact quantity of Pet Milk to be whipped into one of the trays and chill until ice crystals begin to form around the edges. Then pour into a thoroughly chilled bowl.
METHOD 2	Place an unopened can of Pet Milk under the freezing unit. Chill until icy cold—overnight if possible. Pour exact quantity of milk to be whipped into a thoroughly chilled bowl.

IN AN ICE REFRIGERATOR	
METHOD 3	Pour the exact quantity of Pet Milk to be whipped into a small bowl and place the bowl directly on the ice. Chill until both bowl and milk are icy cold.
METHOD 4	Place an unopened can of Pet Milk directly on the ice. Chill until icy cold—overnight if possible. Pour exact quantity of milk to be whipped into a thoroughly chilled bowl.

It is interesting to note that as late as 1943 two recipes are given for Whipped Milk, one for an “Automatic Refrigerator” and one for an “Ice Refrigerator.”



A 1940s recipe pamphlet.

Restoration of the Santa Barbara Mission after the Earthquake of 1925

Photo and information provided by SBCGS member Helen Cornell.

ON JUNE 29, 1925, a strong earthquake shook Santa Barbara and destroyed or damaged many buildings, including the old stone Mission, a city landmark.

On Sunday May 18, 1926, the campaign for the restoration of the Old Mission started with a reception in the front of the building. Featured were musicians and dancers that were members of some of the old Santa Barbara families. SBCGS member Helen Cornell's mother, Mathilda Herman, and Mathilda's cousin Juan Cota were dancers in the group.

The performers are dressed in attire denoting their Hispanic heritage, while the people in the background reflect well-dressed Santa Barbarans of the 1920s.



Damage to the Santa Barbara Mission following the earthquake of 1925.



Helen Cornell provided this historic photograph taken May 18, 1926 on the Mission steps as the restoration campaign commenced. From left to right: Miss Maria de Los Angeles Ruiz, Miss Matilda Herman, Ernest Peters, Juan Cota, and Loring Andrews.

SENSE OF THE CENSUS

Meanwhile, back at the rancho: The US Agricultural Census Schedules By Debbie Kaska

CALIFORNIA BECAME A STATE on September 9, 1850, and within a month, the 1850 US Census was conducted in the District of Santa Barbara. The largest landholder at that time was Jose de la Guerra who owned 115,440 acres valued at \$86,580. He had 300 horses, 100 milch* cows, 60 oxen, 8000 head of cattle, 1400 sheep and 40 pigs. His acreage produced corn, wool, barley and wine. The second largest landowner in the district was John Wilson who owned 54,515 acres valued at \$48,000. On that land ranged 160 horses, 2500 head of cattle, six mules, 16 oxen and 200 sheep.

The details of these early Santa Barbarans and their ranchos as well as the other ranchers and farmers in the district can be found in the Agricultural Schedule, one of the Non-population Schedules conducted as part of the 1850 US Census.

The US Agricultural Census Schedules are a valuable resource for genealogists looking to flesh out their farming ancestors, fill in gaps for missing land records, or distinguish between two men with the same name. Yet they are often overlooked!

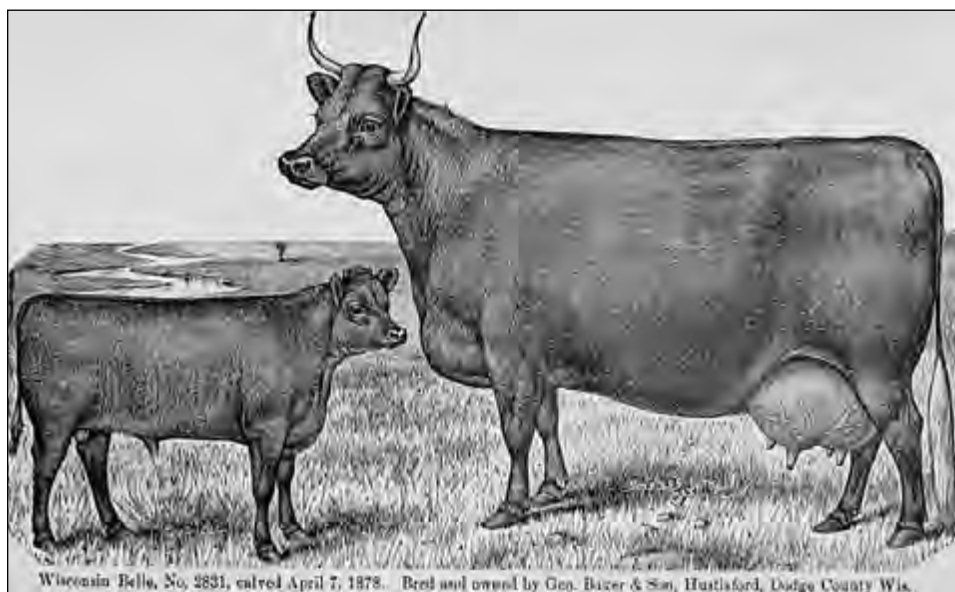
“Useless papers of no permanent or historical interest”

An agricultural census, also known as farm schedules, existed for each census from 1840 to 1950. In 1840 it was part of the manufacturing schedule. The fate of the 1890 agricultural schedules was likely the same as the fate of the population schedules for that year (destroyed in a fire). The six million agricultural schedules from 1900 and 1910 were designated “useless papers of no permanent or historical interest” and were therefore destroyed by act of Congress. Likewise, the 1920 farm schedules vanished except for Alaska, Guam, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico, and the 1920 general farm schedules for McLean County, Illinois; Jackson County, Michigan; Carbon County, Montana; Santa Fe County, New Mexico; and Wilson County, Tennessee, which are still held by The Nation-

al Archives in Record Group 29. What about those for 1930 and thereafter? Their whereabouts is unknown.

But rather than dwell on the loss of the schedules 1890-1930, many of the earlier agricultural schedules from 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880 still exist and are rich sources of information about ancestors and the places they farmed. They have been copied and indexed and are available on *Ancestry.com* (free access at the Sahyun library).

The growth of the population in the Santa Barbara area is reflected in the 1850-1880 Agricultural Schedules. All the ranches in the “district” were listed on three pages in 1850. By 1860, agricultural listings in Santa Barbara and Santa Ynez together covered five pages. Population expansion after the American Civil



Wisconsin Belle No. 2831 calved April 7, 1878. Bred and Owned by Geo. Baker & son, Hustisford, Dodge County Wisconsin. From *American Devon Record, containing the pedigrees of pure bred Devon Cattle, in the United States and Dominion of Canada to August 1st, 1884, Volume III.* By James Buckingham, Zanesville, Ohio, published in 1884.

War was reflected by the fact that Santa Barbara comprised two townships in 1870 with agricultural properties listed on 15 pages. By 1880, the area was divided into several localities, Ballard, Los Alamos, Carpinteria, Enumeration District 84, Graciosa, Guadalupe, Hopes, Las Cruces, Patera, Montecito, Santa Maria and Sisquoi.

Names that are still familiar in this area associated with parks, schools, roads or canyons are found in these 19th century Agricultural Census Schedules: Hollister, Stow, Catlett, Tucker, More, Kellogg, Hope, Sexton and many more. The historical significance of names associated with the areas where your ancestors settled may also be found if you browse the Agricultural Schedule pages for your town on *Ancestry.com*.

Down on the Poor Farm (in Montecito).

One listing on the 1880 Agricultural Schedule in Montecito, California, was the 15-acre County Hospital and Poor Farm. On the farm was a milch* cow and 72 barnyard chickens that produced 400 eggs. There must have been fruit trees as well since \$30 worth of orchard products were recorded.

A poor farm? In Montecito? Indeed, beginning in 1876 the county of Santa Barbara supported a hospital/poorhouse just outside the city limits on the road to Montecito. A glance at the 1880 Defective, Dependent and Delinquent Census Schedule for Santa Barbara County showed six inhabitants of the County Hospital and Poor Farm and delineated their infirmities. By 1918 a new hospital had been constructed and the patients were transferred from the Poor Farm to the new facility.

How to find the 1850-1880 Agricultural Schedules

On *Ancestry.com*, select Search, then Census and Voter Lists from the menu bar.

Under Narrow by Category on the right panel select U.S. Federal Census collection.

Scroll to the bottom of the page to find the Included Data Collections.

The last item on the list is: U.S., Selected Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, 1850-1880.

Open that link to search for an individual or browse a particular State, Schedule type and year.

*I was curious about the term "milch cows," which in this context refers to dairy cows, kept for their milk production. But why the term "milch" instead of "milk?" Die Milch is the German word for milk and a Milchkuh is a dairy cow. However, milch is also middle English for milk. Since milch is still listed in *Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, it seems to be a term still in use.

Authors featured in *Ancestors West* Volume 43

The following have contributed articles to the issues of *Ancestors West* in 2018.

Thank you to all of you for sharing your stories.

Amorteguy, Toni

Anderson, Dan

Ashton, Nancy

Avolio, Rosa

Baragona, Margery

Bason, Bob

Boehr, Pamela Jameson

Brombal, Millie

Burns, Connie

Chaney, Ted

Clements, Gloria Chaney

Cornell, Helen Latham

Crawford, Melinda Yamane

Elliott, Gertrude McDowell

Foster, Jean

Friestad, Jim

Goodall, George

Green, Betsy J.

Hall, Matthew

Henning, Sharon

Henning, Tiffany

Hess, Milt

Hodgdon, Barbara Cheney Wilder

Honikman, Jane

Ingalls, Kristin

Jordan, Cathy

Kaestner, Mary Ann

Kaska, Debbie

Loe, Nancy

Lupo, Deborah

Mamalakis, Mary

McClenathen, Merna

Mitchell, Dennis

Nelson, Arthur W.

Noack, William

Oksner, Dorothy

Parsons, Marie Sue

Pettitt, David

Pettitt, Jean

Ramsey, Sue

Rothenberg, Bob

Rouse, Stella Haverland

Sahm, Judy

Sahyun, Geraldine V. (dec.)

Sahyun, Melville R. V.

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Snyder, Holly

Stout, Karen

Summer, Sharon Knickrehm

Sylvester, Art

Thompson, Gerry

Wanberg, Lars

Wilson, Jim

My Uncle in a World War I Military Uniform

By Milt Hess

MY FATHER, FRIEDRICH HESS, was one of 13 children born to Markus and Bertha Adler Hess in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. Three of his brothers served in World War I, fighting for Germany. All of them died in battle:

Siegmund at Bois Blancs in October 1914, at age 22,
Ludwig at Fort Douaumont in May 1916, at age 26,
Siegfried at Le Cateau in October 1918, at age 20.

This photo of Siegmund Hess in his military uniform was passed down to me by my parents and is a real treasure. The original is 9.5" x 14" mounted on a rigid backing. The photograph is signed Siegmund in a bold script and dated 14/6/1914 (June 14).

My parents gave me the middle name Siegmund, after this uncle. When I was born they wanted to give me the middle name Siegfried, but in 1941 they were concerned that it sounded too German. I still chuckle that they thought Siegmund sounded less so.

The most striking part of his uniform is the helmet, called the Pickelhaube (from the German Pickel, "point" or "pickaxe," and Haube, "bonnet," a general word for headgear). The Pickelhaube was a spiked helmet worn in the 19th and 20th centuries by German military, firefighters, and police. Although typically associated with the Prussian Army, which adopted it in 1842-43, the helmet was widely imitated by other armies during this period. The decoration on the front of Siegmund's helmet represents his home Land (state) of Hessen.



World War I German "Pickelhaube" with the unique helmet plate of the state of Hessen.



Also of interest is his jacket, called the Waffenrock. Waffenrock (surcoat or tunic) was originally a medieval German term for an outer garment worn by a knight over his armor. Later, Waffenrock became the generic term for any military uniform, including dress and parade uniforms, and also referred to epaulettes or shoulder boards with rank insignia, as well as uniform cuffs, badges and other insignia. Befitting an infantryman, Siegmund's Waffenrock is unadorned and of a coarse fabric. An officer would have a Waffenrock with decoration and be of finer fabric. As of 1945, the term is no longer in use by German-speaking armed forces.

The belt buckle (Gürtelschnalle) is decorated with a crown, which was unique to soldiers from Hessen.

Siegmund's rifle is a Gewehr 98, a German bolt-action Mauser rifle firing cartridges from a 5-round internal clip-loaded magazine. It was introduced in 1898 and used by the German military until 1935. The Gewehr 98 first saw combat in the Boxer Rebellion, and it was the main German infantry service rifle of World War I.



World War I German belt buckle with the Hessian crown

Other noteworthy elements of Siegmund's uniform include the binoculars suspended from his neck, his backpack, leather pouches on his belt, and bayonet.

The battle in which Siegmund died was part of the "race to the sea." Bois Blancs is a village in France near Armentieres (as in the popular WWI song "Mademoiselle from Armentieres, parlez vous?"), about six miles from the Belgian border. The German Sixth Army came through the area in October and November of 1914, and there were battles all along the line. The Germans faced the British Expeditionary Force in that sector. This is

when trench warfare began in the war, leading to stalemate and horrendous losses of life.

Siegmund's death certificate, written in the old German script called Kurrentschrift, is the standard form that was used to report all deaths, not just military. It states that the commander of the 168th Infantry Regiment has reported that the Musketier (rifleman) of the 9th Company of this Regiment, the Metzger (butcher) Siegmund Hess, was killed in Gefecht (battle) at Bois Blancs, France on 23 October 2014 at 5:00 a.m. It also states his age, religion, home address and the names of his parents.

My uncle Siegfried is no longer just a name for me. He's a handsome young man, outfitted with a traditional uniform and weaponry, and sent off to a war that was still in its formative stage. He lost his life in the early morning darkness, but now I have a tangible sense of who he was.

Milt Hess started trying to discover his family almost 20 years ago. Piece by piece he has found his extended family and learned about his roots in Germany, Latvia and Lithuania. Before retiring to Santa Barbara with his wife, Cecia, he enjoyed a career in IT as a consultant and program manager. He has been a volunteer computer coach at the Jewish Federation and Public Library for a number of years, and he currently is a member of SBCGS, the City's Library Board and the County's Library Advisory Committee.

Fashionable Wear of the 1920s By Toni Amorteguy

THE GUMP SIDE OF MY FAMILY was in the antique business since 1861. The store eventually extended its sale of antiques to oriental object of art. Our buyers, my grandfather A.L. Gump, and later my grandmother and my father Robert traveled to China and Japan on buying trips. On my grandmother's trip in 1922, looking for items in China became problematic since there was a revolution going on. She was thankfully rescued by the US Marines and sent to Japan where she did find some beautiful items including gorgeous Japanese robes...but not without incident. The story goes that she created a sensation by wearing a Haori coat herself. It was light green with cherry blossoms. Children followed her laughing and pointing. It wasn't clear until later, when my father, in his studies, discovered that she was probably wearing a Geisha coat! But she, not knowing, bought several more, and less expensive happi coats as well. When she returned home, my grandfather liked the happi coat's light fabric and texture so much he ordered 100 more. Thus began a fad in the 1920s.

I do not have any photographs of my grandmother in her coat, but I have seen one on a photograph of



Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney, American Sculptor and founder of the Whitney Art Museum, in her happi coat. Portrait by Robert Henri [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons

Dorinda Bliss (Casa Dorinda was her former home) and I do have a photograph of a portrait of Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney by Robert Henri in her happi coat.

The Gump connection was discovered by a recent art history student doing a research paper at UCSB.

Photoshopped Photos Before... Well, Photoshop!

By Sue Ramsey



The Vermillion family photographed in Spokane, Washington, about 1893.

Briefly, Josiah Scott Vermillion was born in what is now West Virginia in 1848. In 1868, he came to Rawlins, Carbon County, Wyoming to work for the Union Pacific Railroad. In 1878, he married Sarah. Four of the Pettit sisters had come to Carbon County, Wyoming from their home in Woodstock, Ontario, Canada. It remains a mystery as to why — unless it was to find husbands! All four did find husbands there — including my great grandmother. Scott left Wyoming in 1888 but continued to work for the railroad, living in Montana, Washington, and finally retiring in Los Angeles County, California. He died in Long Beach in 1939. I have several of his photo albums. There is one of just Union Pacific co-workers and family members. One of these days I would love to do more research into those people!

Anyway, back to the family photo of the Vermillion family. Take a look and see if you notice anything odd about the photo.

I didn't notice anything, until I found this photo (right).

Florence Isabell Vermillion
photographed at age five on
September 24, 1892.



WHEN I WAS YOUNG, I often spent a week or two with my maternal grandparents, George and Henrietta Scott, during the summer. I still look back on those visits with great fondness.

One activity I enjoyed most was looking through old family photos. My grandmother was the recipient of many old family photo albums given to her by cousins who either had no one to pass them on to or had no interest in them. As we went through the pages, my grandmother would name the people in the photos and share stories about them. Those precious photo albums are now in my possession.

As I always do when given family photos, I scan and label them (if known) and share them with anyone interested, post them on *Find A Grave.com* and/or in my *Family Tree Maker* program, etc.

One family photo of the J. Scott Vermillion family I have seen many times over the years. Uncle Scott (as my grandmother and mother always called him) was the husband of my great-grand aunt, Sarah Emma Pettit Vermillion, the sister of my maternal great-grandmother, Frances Alice Pettit Davis.



Remembrance card for Florence Isabell Vermillion who died April 19, 1893 about 7 months after her photo was taken.

A remembrance card was with the photo.

So, even though I had seen that family group photo of the Vermillions multiple times over my life, I didn't tumble to the photo insert of their

deceased child until years later. I think that's a fitting tribute to the craftsmanship of those early photographers, wouldn't you say?

Sue Ramsey has been an SBCGS member since 1993. She is a past board member and long-time volunteer librarian.

From Sweden to Stanley: A Family Portrait

Information provided by Mary Ann Kaestner,
edited by Debbie Kaska

GEORGE SODERBERG LEFT SWEDEN about 1888 and made his way to Chicago where he worked for the Pullman Company as a carpenter. There he met and married Christine Olsen, who had come from Norway. By the 1900 US Census, their first four children, Laura, Einar, Magnhild and Ernst, had been born. Ten years later they were still in Chicago, but the children now numbered eight, including Marie, Ester, Carl and George.

[An error in collation occurred in the 1910 Census for this Enumeration District in Chicago #1434. The parents, George and Christine Soderberg, and five children are the last entry on page 12 and on the next page, three Italians are included as members of the family. On page nine, the three smallest Soderberg children are at the top of the page, but they are attributed to an Italian family. Clearly the pages are out of order.]

But a change was coming for the Soderberg family. George decided to pursue farming and bought land in northern Wisconsin. They moved in 1911, and the 1920 Census finds the family settled in Stanley, Clark County, Wisconsin.

A detailed article about the family appeared in a County Commentary, which included an interview with Magnhild. She reported at that time that most of the children still resided in the area. Their father George passed away in 1954 and mother Christine in 1961, but three of the children, Carl, Ernst and Magnhild, still lived in the Soderberg home. Marie Soderberg married Clarence Kaestner and moved to Milwaukee.

Among Mary Ann Kaestner's family treasures is a photo of her mother-in-law, Marie Soderberg, her parents and brothers and sisters. The date of the photo was not recorded, but the dress and hair style of the four girls suggests a date in the late 1920s or early 30s. Marie stands between her seated parents wearing a long pearl necklace. George is on the far left and Magnhild on the far right. The others share a striking family resemblance but their names were not recorded. Did the photo mark an occasion—perhaps an anniversary? Regardless of the reason for the gathering, the photo speaks volumes. Pride and accomplishment are seen in the faces of George and Christine who had the courage to seek a new life in America, and who are now surrounded by their eight well-dressed adult children who have chosen to honor them this day.



The Soderberg family of Stanley, Clark County, Wisconsin

Hardships Obtaining a Good Education

By George Goodall

WHEN MY GRANDPARENTS homesteaded a new ranch in 1891 in the west end of the San Fernando Valley in Los Angeles County, this meant my father had a very hard time getting a good education. They were very isolated from towns or educational facilities. Think of the millions of people and thousands of schools in Los Angeles today. It's hard to realize that only a little over a hundred years ago, he was home taught the first few years because there were no schools near enough. Finally a one-room school was built near Calabasas, about three miles from their ranch-house, so he could ride his horse to the third and fourth grades.

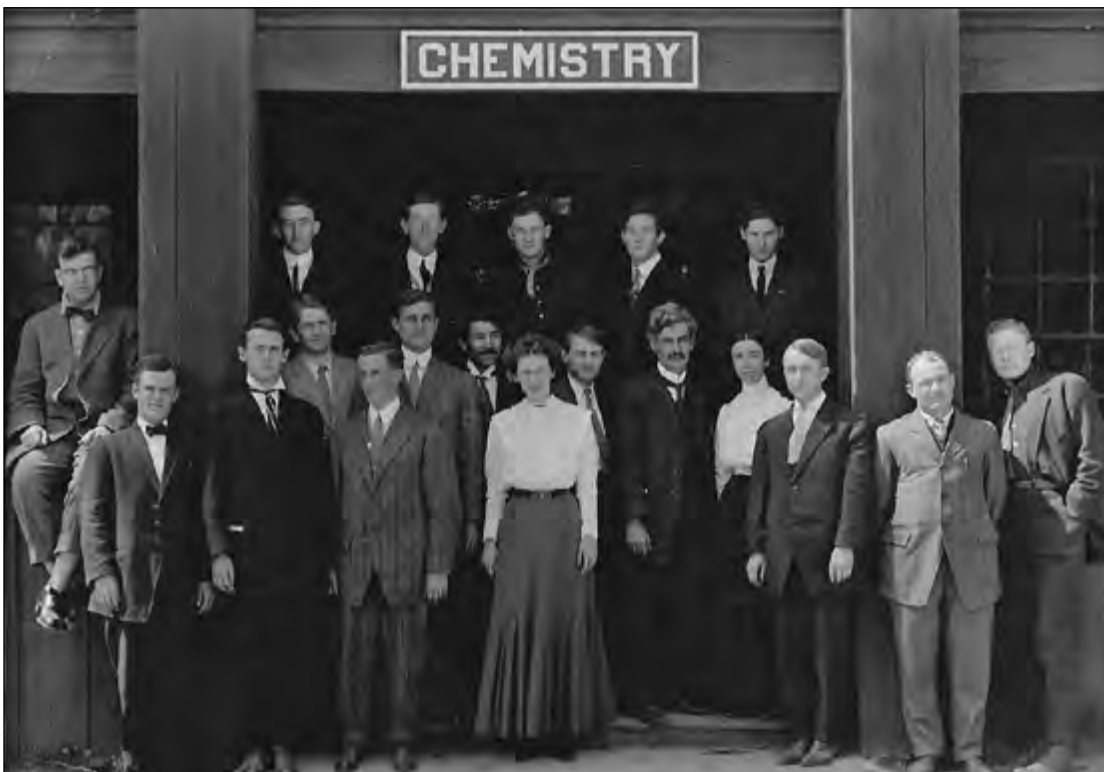
My grandmother's family was well educated. Her father, Rev. Samuel McKee Adams, was both a minister and a school teacher. In fact, he was President and Professor of the first Protestant college in southern California, the Los Nietos Collegiate Institute, at Downey. Young Erle appeared bright, so the family was very concerned about his obtaining a college preparatory education. For Erle's final three grades of elementary school he lived with his grandmother in Downey and attended the Calvert Avenue Elementary School there.



Hollywood High School ca. 1906

The only high school available in the west end of the San Fernando Valley in 1903 was at Chatsworth, a six mile ride on horseback each way daily, so he tried it. But the family was so disappointed with the quality of his education that they sent him back to Downey to continue to stay with his grandmother or his Aunt Maude Dismukes during the first two years. In 1905 the new Hollywood High School opened. It was academically well prepared

so Erle enrolled there. This necessitated that he ride his horse late Sunday evening the 25 miles from the ranch to a rooming house in Hollywood. Then on Friday evenings he would



Erle Goodall (far right in the back row) and his chemistry class at The University of Southern California in 1909. The men feature a variety of shirt collars and ties. The women are dressed appropriately for the times with high collars and long skirts.

ride home for the weekend. He was thus able to graduate in the initial class of Hollywood High School in 1907 with the proper preparation for college.

For university Erle took the first two years at the University of Southern California. Again he rode his horse in to stay with his aunts, his mother's sisters who taught at Los Angeles High School, and who lived near the University. He was able to commute daily to USC by street car.

Erle's career plan was to major in agriculture with a specialty in agronomy. This was available only at the University of California at Berkeley. To get to Berkeley he would take the train from Chatsworth to Oakland and a street car to Berkeley. He stayed in a rooming house near campus. Ag students at Berkeley rode a train to Davis, the Experiment Station Farm, for field trips for their classes.

In spite of all these hardships of getting a preparatory education, Erle graduated from UC Berkeley in Agronomy with honors on May 14, 1913.

Let me add a post script. Erle's great-grandson, Jason Goodall, graduated exactly 99 years later on May 14, 2012, on the same date from the same University and the same College of Natural Resources and Agriculture with the ceremony taking place in the same Greek Theater. Now that is a real heritage story!

George Goodall has been a member of the Genealogy Society for 30 years. He retired from the University of California as County Director and Farm Advisor in Santa Barbara



Jodhpurs, a pork-pie hat, and tall lace-up boots.

My parents (Vera and Bob Carrier) enjoying their honeymoon on the shores of Lake Superior, 1936.
~ A favorite family photo, shared by Charmien Carrier.



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We wish to thank the following members of the Santa Barbara County Genealogy Society for their contributions, which greatly help to defray the publication costs of **Ancestors West!**

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Clues to Occupations

Reprinted from Federation of Family History Societies (FFHS) Newsletter

UNDERSTANDING HOW OUR ancestors spent their working day can give us fascinating insights that greatly increase our understanding of their life and times. Clues to their occupations can come to light in a multitude of ways. Firstly, you may be lucky enough to have possessions in your own family archive, such as certificates or photos. A picture of a forebear in a uniform could suggest a particular occupation. Do older family members know about the jobs relatives had? Perhaps they have heard about a business, craft or trade being passed down from father to son? They might also be able to tell you about the type of work local people did, which may open up a further avenue to research.

The next port of call is records such as census returns, and birth, death and marriage certificates. Between them, these usually listed current and former occupations. Victorian trade directories are an invaluable source of occupational data, listing everyone of interest in a settlement from brewers, couriers and farmers, to tailors, gentlemen and shopkeepers. Try and track down wills as well. An interesting route to take is newspapers. You might find an obituary giving you details of an individual's working life, for instance, or an advert mentioning the wares they had for sale.

As is often the case with family history, it is generally easier to find out more about the working lives of men than women, as women's work wasn't as readily observed and recorded. Before they married they might work in service. You will see below though that some women worked in occupations that may surprise you, such as mining. Once married they were occupied with laborious domestic duties and rearing children, but also often managed to participate in a cottage industry. Perhaps they undertook weaving, straw plaiting or dressmaking, for example. Some women may have taken over the family business when their husband died. I have one example in my tree of a distantly related aunt, who is listed in the 1851 census as a brewer. She was a widow who ran the local pub and also kept a farm going. Such a record is unusual in my experience!

Once you've managed to discover a clue into what your ancestor did to earn their keep, the next stage is to try and find out more about what that job entailed and also to track down any relevant records. Of course there were many occupations open to our forebears and some are no longer in existence, or are described in different ways today. Do you know what a tenter, journeyman or lighterman did? What about a poynter, mercer or ostler? Answers given below!*

If you come across an occupation you are not familiar with, check out the Old Occupations website. Another resource is the *Dictionary of Occupational Terms* CD,



Coal miner. Image by Marion Post Wolcott [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons

published by the Family and Community Historical Research Society. This guide to the terms used in the 1921 Census covers over 16,000 occupations of people who worked in the 19th and 20th centuries. You can read a review on the Lancashire Family History and Heraldry website.

*A tenter is someone who 'tended' to machinery; journeyman is someone who worked for a daily rate; a lighterman is a boatman who worked on a flat-bottom barge; a poynter is a lacemaker; a mercer is a cloth seller; an ostler took care of horses stabled in an inn.

The list of occupations our ancestors undertook is of course endless, but here is a selection with useful resources highlighted. This is just a taster of what is out there for family historians to enjoy. Hopefully these examples will give you ideas to pursue for your own forebears.

Agricultural Workers – Most of us will have connections to families that worked on the land. How many of us have read 'Ag Lab' on a census return! Sadly, unless your ancestor was a landowner, there are unlikely to be many records where they are mentioned by name. However, you can still build up a picture of their lives by reading local histories, looking at maps and studying tithe and enclosure sources. If your family members rented or owned land then you may well be able to find a mention of them. They could be listed in trade directories and included in the parish chest records, as they would have been assessed for taxes. They may also have had their moment of fame in the local newspaper, if they sold stock, land or were a judge at a county fair, for example.

Canals – Whole families were involved working on the boats which travelled the waterways of Britain: men, women and children. The canal heyday was in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, which came to an end when the introduction of a rail network began to change the way goods were transported in the British Isles. The Ormskirk and District Family History Society hosts a website that is dedicated to families who lived and worked on canal boats, predominantly in Lancashire, Yorkshire and Cheshire and this is a good place to begin if your boat people were from that area.

Clergy – If you think your forebear was an Anglican Clergyman, take a look at the Clergy of the Church of England database. Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, it makes available and searchable the principal records of clerical careers from over 50 archives in England and Wales, with the aim of providing coverage of as many clerical lives as possible from the Reformation to the mid-nineteenth century.

Merchant Seamen – The November 2017 issue of the FFHS Newsletter was a special on seafaring ancestors. There are a wealth of records available.

Military – There are many records in existence for those of us with military ancestors. The National Archives has published a series of online guides to help you understand what records exist and how to find them. They may mention ancestors just by name or give detailed descriptions of appearance, postings, family relationships, etc.

Miners – In 1920 there were over 1 million coal miners in Britain so you may well have mining ancestors. They worked all over Britain, not just mining coal

but also tin in Cornwall, iron in Cumbria and so on. Children as well as men worked in this occupation, and women worked sorting coal at the surface. Women had worked underground, to the scandal of the public, but by the 1840s women working at the coal face was in decline. Men and teenage boys were generally stronger, more productive and therefore preferred by mine owners. Additionally, some men worked unclothed and so it was deemed to be an unsuitable environment for women.

Consider visiting the National Coal Mining Museum for England, near Wakefield, which will give you a taste of the conditions your ancestors endured for very little reward. There are resources available there for family historians. Other records may be archived in local depositories. Working in mines was very dangerous and many were injured and killed. Some of the accidents are detailed in a database, hosted by *Ancestry: the UK, Coal Mining Accidents and Deaths Index, 1700-1950*. (*Ancestry* can often be freely used in libraries.) Fatal accidents were usually mentioned in newspaper reports and that is another tack to take. In addition, the Parliamentary Archives has a interesting section on this topic.

Parish Workers – The most local form of Government was the parish council and they would employ people and also recruit volunteers to help them administer poor relief, assess and collect money due as taxes, maintain buildings and land, etc. Your ancestor may well appear in these records, particularly if he was literate and of some standing in the community. Search Discovery or the catalogue of the record office of interest to track down these resources.

Police – A police force was first founded in London in 1829. If your forebear was in the police then it is worth trying to establish if employment records were deposited. Some are digitised such as the London Metropolitan Police Pension Registers, 1852-1932 and 1833-1914 West Yorkshire Police Records, on *Ancestry*. *Findmypast* hosts the Manchester Police Index 1812-1941. Unfortunately there is no central repository for police records nationally. To track down archives, search The National Archives Discovery catalogue to locate collections around the country, or search the catalogue of the local archive service.

Postal Workers – The Post Office archive is open to the public from Tuesday to Saturday 10 am to 5 pm in London. It is on the same site as the revamped Postal Museum. There is information on their holdings on their website. The collection includes appointment books and pension records.

Railways – The building and running of the rail network, starting in the mid-1800s involved many of our ancestors. To begin with there were many rail companies, but these gradually merged into the Great Western, the London & North Eastern, the Southern, and the London, Midland & Scottish. In 1947 they were nationalised and came under the umbrella of British Rail. The records which were collected in 1947 are now kept at the National Archives. TNA has several online guides on this topic. Also do not overlook the Nation-



Lacemaker. Painting by Johannes Vermeer [Public domain], via *Wikimedia Commons*.



Reaper. By Unknown author [Public domain], via *Wikimedia Commons*

al Railway Museum in York, which has free entry. As well as being a great place to visit it also has an archive. Another museum we can recommend is STEAM – Museum of the Great Western Railway in Swindon. A fantastic resource is newly available too: a railway accidents database under compilation by Portsmouth University. It is online and free to access.

Apprenticeships

Apprentice records may bring to light a trade or craft that your ancestor had. The ‘master’ would train the child from the age of seven (though many were older) and this would continue until the apprentice was 21. Girls as well as boys were apprenticed, usually learning how to become household servants. Children would be sponsored by their parents or the parish. If the parish paid, perhaps because the child was from the workhouse, then generally the apprenticeship was just to undertake menial work. The higher status apprenticeships, leading to a proper trade were usually those arranged by parents.

Once the fee was paid, the apprentice was ‘indentured.’ These indenture agreements can sometimes survive in the local record office and will tell you the name of the apprentice and the master, the trade or craft involved, the parishes of the parties involved and possibly some information on the circumstances of the apprentice, such as if they were orphaned or in the workhouse.

There was a duty sometimes payable on apprentice indentures and *Ancestry* has a digitised record set that you can search: Register of Duties Paid for Apprentices’ Indentures, 1710–1811.

Findmypast also hosts a series of indexes of apprentices, often compiled by societies. Search its card index using the keyword ‘apprentice’ for more details.

Organisations and Occupations

Guilds regulated a particular trade or craft and date back to the 1100s. The London guilds are perhaps the most famous and they included a wide variety of occupations. Some of the guilds are still in existence and may hold archive material, which researchers can request permission to view. Another repository is the Guildhall Library. Search the catalogues in local record offices for archives of guilds in other places.

The Modern Records Centre, founded in October 1973 at the University of Warwick, is the main British repository for national archives of trade unions and employers’ organisations, and also has strong collections relating to pressure groups, fringe political parties and transport.

Failing that, if your ancestor worked in industry, try searching online using the name of the industry and ‘society,’ ‘organisation’ or ‘union’ and seeing what you find.

Local Studies

Local studies groups often collect material and set up websites, as well as publish historical information on their place of interest and the occupations that were common there. The local library or museum might act as a repository for the printed materials. Societies often have a website or *Facebook* page. While their resources may not mention your family member, they will be able to give you valuable context and take your understanding of the history of your family that one step further.

For a list of published One-Place Studies see the Society for One-Place Studies website or try googling the place name along with the word ‘history.’

SBCGS member Don Gill originally suggested that we reprint this article in *Ancestors West* and permission was obtained from the FFHS Newsletter. The following is a link to the sign up page for the newsletter: www.ffhs.org.uk/ezine/subscribe15.php

1908 Beach Attire

By Cathy Jordan

AMONG MY MOTHER'S photographs was this gem. Luckily, it was dated 1908. It features my grandmother, Christel Edith Bayha Feely, my mother, Lola Feely McDuffie, and my grandfather, Martin Gideon Feely. It was taken on the beach at Long Beach, California. The occasion was the first trip west to see Edith's (she went by her middle name) parents since the birth of her first child, my mother. Edith's parents, the Bayhas, lived in Riverside at the time, but they all made the trip to Long Beach to introduce their little girl to the sand and shore.



Cathy Jordan has been a member of the SBCGS for eight years and has served on the Board of Directors. She is researching the family names of Feely, Walsh, Mallery, Pratt, Bayha, Eckhardt, Mitchell, Lemmon, Matthews, McDuffie, Bayne, Wilhite, Farmer, Wood, Shelton, Allen, Griffin, and others. Born and raised in Santa Barbara, she returned in 1981 to raise two sons and care for her parents. Cathy retired from the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department in 2008 from a career in computer programming and support to plunge headlong into genealogy after a visit to the 2009 Open House during Family History Month.



Christel Feely's parents John Philip Bayha and Elmira Mitchell Bayha were also well dressed for a stroll on the sand that day.

I am so fascinated by their dress for the beach. It is such a polar opposite of today's casual style. Of course, these were people from Kansas so maybe they could be forgiven? No, because the Bayhas are in a separate photo with the same fancy dress. There are John Philip Bayha and Elmira Mitchell Bayha in full formal dress to accompany their daughter, son-in-law, and grandchild to the beach.

The men are in full suits with hats. The women are in long dresses, coats, and huge hats. They look more like they are going to church to me. Clearly, no one intended to go in the water! Even my mother had on a dress, leggings, something on her head, very fancy even though she held a bucket, presumably for sand.

Beach attire has come a long way in 110 years!

A day at the beach in Long Beach, California in 1908. Christel Edith Bayha Feely and Martin Gideon Feely with their daughter Lola Feely McDuffie.



Cousins Corner

Friends and Cousins! Norma Johnson and Jean Foster

By Jean Foster.

NORMA JOHNSON AND I MET in 1985 at the Santa Barbara Public Library where we were both browsing in the genealogy section. I had stopped in after work and she was waiting for a genealogy class to start, so we started talking. Norma invited me to go to the class with her and that was the beginning of many more classes together over the years and finding a friend.

It was later that she commented about a research problem and wanted to know if I could help her. Norma needed information about her great-uncle Jacob Gumble who had lived in Corning, California, and was a constable there at one time. "Well," I answered "That's easy!" I have a cousin, Mildred Hradecky, who lives in Corning and was the mayor for several years. I will ask her next time she comes to Carpinteria for a visit.

The next time Mildred came to visit with my parents I asked her about Jacob Gumble who was a constable in Corning. I explained that he was my friend's great-uncle and she needed some information about him.

"Yes," she replied, "Jake is my son-in-law, Bill Elliott's great-grandfather."

Well, after I got up off the floor, I was really intrigued and couldn't wait to see Norma at the next class to tell her; we didn't have email at that time. "My second cousin twice-removed, Marlene Hradecky, is married to your second cousin twice-removed, Bill Elliott."



Jean Foster (left) and Norma Johnson's cousin Marlene Hradecky Elliott.



Norma Johnson and Bill Elliot in Corning, California. Bill's grandfather was Norma's Great Uncle Jacob Gumble!

In the summer of 2010 we made a trip to Sacramento to do some research and then went to Corning for several days. We had a wonderful visit with Marlene and Bill, whom Norma met for the first time. They brought out the photos and we divided the room into Norma's family and my family. Later that day we went to dinner with Marlene and Bill at a good Mexican restaurant. The next morning we met Marlene and Bill and more of Norma's cousins on her Gumble side for breakfast. We had a great time visiting and researching in Corning and then went to Red Bluff to the library for some research in the newspapers.

It was a fun time and now when people ask if we are sisters. We say, "No, but have cousins who married."

You never know what you will find when you ask a simple question.

It's a Small World: Three 8th cousins find each other!

By William Noack

WHILE WORKING at the Sahyun genealogy library as a volunteer I discovered that Jean Foster was an 8th cousin, a descendant of John Richmond. Then after reading the *Ancestors West* article by Sharon Knickrehm Summer, I discovered that she was also an 8th cousin, a descendant of Daniel Brainard. I had been volunteering with her and even shared a table at the awards banquet before knowing she was an 8th cousin. Small world! So my Richmond ancestor married my Brainard ancestor - my great-grandparents were Brainard Honsinger (1852-1914) and Helen Maria Richmond (1855-1895).



SBCGS member William Noack's great-grandfather Brainard Honsinger (1852-1914). Photo probably taken in the 1880s. (The Robinson and Roe Studio was founded in 1877 in Chicago, Illinois, and were in business there from 1877-1898. The logo on the photograph matches that on a photo dated 1882.). SBCGS member Sharon Knickrehm Summer shares Brainard ancestry!

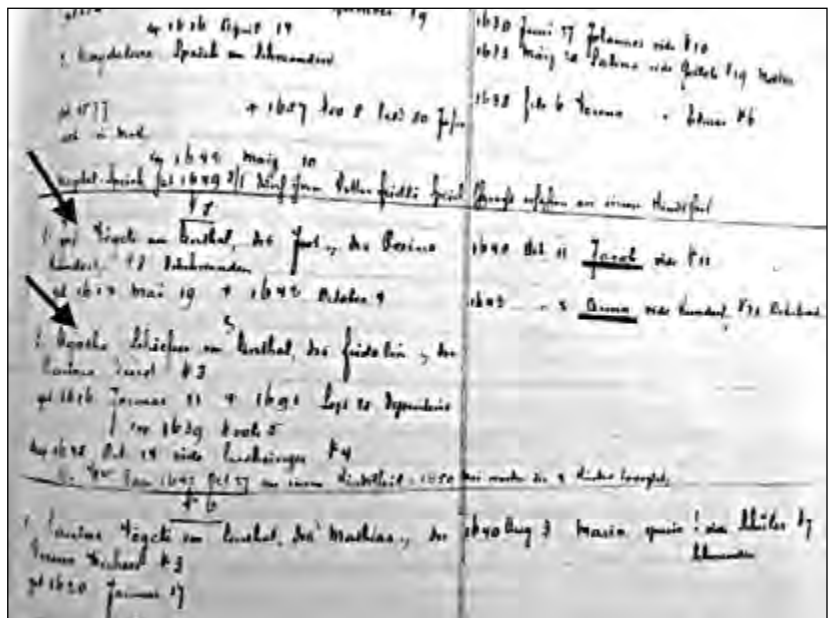


William Noack's great-grandmother Helen Richmond Honsinger (1855-1895). Photo probably taken in the 1880s also in the Robinson and Roe Studio. SBCGS member Jean Foster shares Richmond ancestry!

Cousin Connie

By Holly Snyder

WE FREQUENTLY HEAR the phrase "It's a small world." This past summer we discovered how small the world really is. In June, just before my mom, Karen, and I departed for Germany and Switzerland, SBCGS member Connie Burns asked us to keep an eye out for her Swiss ancestors from the Canton Glarus with the Voegeli surname. We also have ancestors from Glarus. We visited the Glarus Archives and delved into the Kübly books that contained Glarus family lines from the present to hundreds of years ago. We discovered that we too have Voegeli ancestors and that we are related to Connie through Jost Vögeli (1614-1671) and Agatha Schiesser (1616-1691), both from Linthal, Glarus, Switzerland. Jost and Agatha Vögeli's daughter, Anna Vögeli (1642-1680), was our ancestor and their son, Jakob Vögeli (1640-1685), was Connie's ancestor. Cousin Connie, it's a small world!



Page from the Kübly record books that lists Jost Vögeli, his wife Agatha Schiessen (arrows) and their children Jacob, born 1640 and Anna, born 1642 (underlined).

The Fabric of Family Fashion

By Jane Israel Honikman

KNOW VERY LITTLE ABOUT my paternal grandmother. The word “little” reflects what I do know; she was petite. According to a recollection by one of my uncles, her third son, “Mother was a tiny, diligent, self-effacing woman.” The best proof that she was less than five feet tall are the clothes I inherited after she died in 1950.

Mable Rock Israel was born in the small town of Fairfield, Jefferson County, Iowa, on August 14, 1871. She married my grandfather in 1895. I have no memories of meeting either of my grandparents; however, my family did take a summer vacation to Fairfield in 1950, months before Mable passed away in November.

Mable graduated from Fairfield High School in 1889. In her graduation portrait she is holding a bouquet of flowers against an ornate dress with a skirt of drapery over a bustle. She married Lon Israel on August 18, 1895. In a photo of the handsome couple, Mable is attired in a black high collar blouse with a jacket of sturdy cloth with puffy shoulders in a lighter color.

Lon and Mable’s four sons were born between 1900 and 1908. In the family’s 1909 photo of the six of them, they are standing in order of size. Grandfather was six feet tall. Mable, who is wearing a long skirt with a jacket both in black with a white collar of a blouse at her neck, is more than a foot shorter than her husband.

Grandmother must have been mindful about her clothes. I have evidence of that in the collection that was passed down to me. I have one long black skirt and jacket with long sleeves, two long-sleeve, high necked collar blouses, two petticoats, one pair of bloomers and



Mable Rock in her 1889 high school graduation portrait. Note her fashionable bustle and at her feet, a rolled diploma.



Lon Israel and Mable Rock were married in 1895. His stiff upright collar and Windsor tie were characteristic of the 1890s.

a pair of dainty, brown suede low-heeled shoes with buttons.

In the 1890s women were wearing suits outside of their homes consisting of a matching skirt and jacket worn over a shirtwaist blouse. Jacket shoulders and sleeves were large enough to accommodate the large puffed sleeves of the era. My grandmother’s suit is made of a heavyweight fabric that she must have worn during the cold Iowa winters. It is a simple style and had an identification tag on the back of the jacket’s neck. It reads “Nouveaute” in gold letters. Maybe it is French for new and made by a tailor? Her blouses feature decorative embroidery embellished with ruffles and lace.

Though I can no longer fit into any of these, I did wear her black suit as a Halloween costume until junior high school. The outfit was passed along to my niece who became an elementary school teacher. Throughout her career she wore the suit when her classes were studying clothing and traditions of early America. After her retirement she passed the clothes to my granddaughter. As she grows into these fashions I hope our family will continue to remember grandmother Mable.



The family portrait taken in 1909 shows Lon in an Edwardian suit coat with matching vest. Mable's high neckline, full sleeves and long skirt were the fashion during the first decade of the 20th century.

Jane Honikman joined the SBCGS as a life member in 1999. She started family research in her teens by asking questions; she has been curious all her life. She has lived in Santa Barbara for 48 years.



The author's niece teaching school in her great-grandmother's black suit.



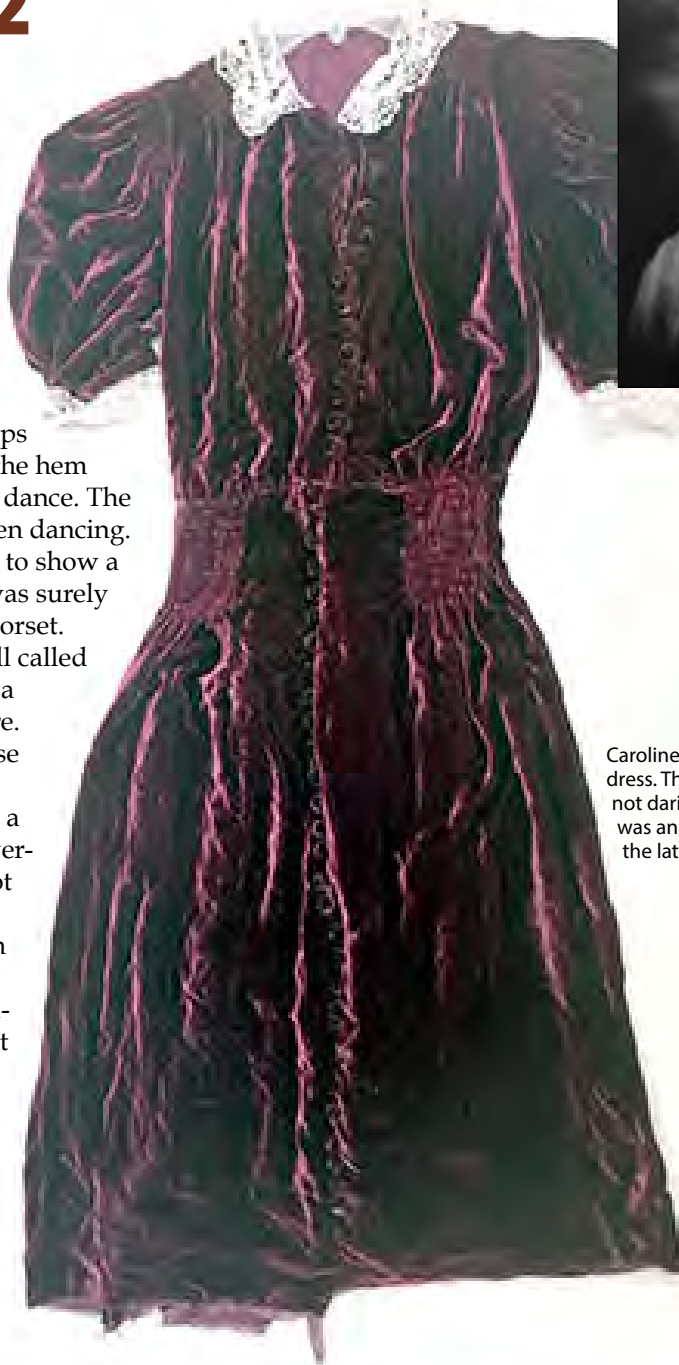
The author's granddaughter, wearing her 2nd great-grandmother's suit, although the skirt is still a bit long for her. The 100-year-old fabric is still beautiful.

Flapper Dress Still Pretty at 92

By Sharon Summer

GRANDMOTHER CAROLINE'S flapper dress has survived for over 90 years, since 1925 or so. Sewn of rich wine-colored velvet, with lovely lace around its collar and sleeves, ruching at the waist, and held closed by 42 covered buttons from hem to collar, it is a beautiful thing. Its hem has come unstitched. Perhaps the heel of a shoe got caught in the hem during a memorable Charleston dance. The skirt is full enough to swing when dancing. Its hemline ends below the knee to show a bit of leg when moving, and it was surely worn without that constricting corset.

My grandmother, whom we all called by her first name, Caroline, was a progressive sort, as flappers were. I quickly add she was not of loose morals. She was a married lady, after all. As I remember, she had a quick intellect, loved lively conversations of substance, and was not averse to having a drink come 5 o'clock. As a thoroughly modern woman in her 20s and early 30s during the flapper era, I can easily imagine Caroline wearing that dress as she and her fun-loving husband, Allen Ironside Knickrehm, enjoyed a lively night out on the town in Los Angeles.



Caroline Lutz Knickrehm in the 1920s.

Caroline Knickrehm's flapper dress. The knee-length skirt, while not daring by today's standards, was an entirely new concept in the late 1920s.

SBCGS member Sharon Knickrehm Summer loves fashion as well as family history.

Dating Clothing and Photographs

By Kristin Ingalls

WANT TO REMIND EVERYONE what a treasure-chest of books we have on the shelves of the Sahyun Library that may help you date and document clothing in your family photos.

In Dewey Decimal area 391 you will find a variety of books about fashion through the ages. Most have chapters on each decade.

Dressed for the Photographer, Ordinary Americans and Fashion, 1840-1900 by Joan Severa is a HUGE book of nearly 600 pages and a huge bibliography.

American Costume, 1840-1920, written and illustrated by Estelle Ansley Worrell, uses line drawings of fashion trends. She covers everything from firemen to frontiersmen, military, ethnic, and children's clothing. She adds some simple patterns showing how clothing was made before patterns were mass produced.

American Victorian Costume in Early Photographs by Priscilla Harris Dalrymple.

If you had colonial ancestors, you will enjoy *Early American Dress, the Colonial and Revolutionary Periods*, by Henry Pitz and Alexander Wyckoff. This book tips its hat to the European backgrounds of colonists. It covers Virginia and New England from 1607 forward. And Eureka! Someone finally remembers to include the Dutch in New Amsterdam/New York from 1623-1675. Also included are frontier dress, children's clothing, and nearly 100 pages of photographs of differing styles of dress.

Maureen Taylor's book of *Bonnets and Hats, 1840-1900* is a fascinating look at headwear – something rarely seen outside of baseball games and walking at the beach!

Amazon Dry Goods is a hoot. This unique "store" began in 1938 at the kitchen table of Janet Burgess and is a little like the old Sears Catalogs where you could buy goods by mail. It is not related to the Amazon we



now shop at as far as I know. It advertizes "Authentic Patterns from the Past" from the medieval period on, and includes patterns for kilts, ethnic costumes, theatrical costumes and even patterns for accessories for your horse. Worth a look!

Dewey Decimal 929 contains books on how to date photographs. All begin with an introduction to the types of older photos: daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, tintypes, etc. which were mostly done indoors at home or at a studio.

Of interest to genealogists are what kind of photos were used when. The carte de visite, a small photo mounted on a 2.5 x 4 inch card was usually full figure of one or two people.

By 1870, the cabinet card, slightly larger, was often a landscape view which allowed for more subjects. These can be dated by the type, color, size of the cardstock, as well as corners, borders lettering. These photos remained very popular until home snapshot photography became common. I love these little calling cards. How fun to have a collection of them with pictures of all your family and friends.

Robert Pol has five books in our collection: *Looking at Old Photographs*; *Dating Old Photographs*; *Photography for Family Historians*; *Dating Nineteenth Century Photographs*; and *Dating Twentieth Century Photographs*.

Fashionable Folks Hairstyles, 1840-1900 not only shows what hairstyles looked like, but facts we never knew we did not know. Are you aware that until recently hair was only washed once a month, but brushed 100 strokes daily? Men and women both commonly used hairpieces and hair products including dye – and curling irons were used by both men and women. Facial hair for men went in and out of fashion and men even wore fake beards and mustaches in their leisure hours.

So, step away from those computers you genealogy detectives – hit the stacks!!



Women in Grannie's Clothing By Kristin Ingalls

MY PATERNAL GRAND-MOTHER, Uni Nellie Inman, was born in 1892 in Centerville, Iowa. She had a most interesting life and was happiest when she was outdoors. She built four homes on a piece of property outside a small town, Worland, Wyoming, in which four generations of us lived. Until she was in her 70s she worked at a grocery store in Worland. When home she was often in pants, out feeding chickens, tending a garden, building things, repairing her roof. She loved camping and rock collecting. She had very long, thick gray hair which she wore in a braid or a bun and always brushed it 100 times each evening before bed. It was hypnotic to watch -- well, those were the days before television.

Many years later my father shared photos of Nellie as a young girl in quite lovely clothing. These were taken by a professional photographer to mark a special occasion.

The photo on the left is at her college graduation when she was 16. My mom told me Nellie was spitting with her step mother who refused to make her dress for the event, so Nellie made the one she is wearing. The one on the right was taken a few years later.



After I moved to Santa Barbara my sister sent me a package containing two blouses that Nellie had made. I immediately recognized one from a photo of Nellie with my parents at one of those Hollywood restaurants where photographers take pictures to sell to patrons. It was taken about 1942-5. Nellie was about 50 at the time.



Surprisingly, the blouses fit me and my daughter, Lulu. At the time my daughter and nieces were really into vintage clothing (thank goodness--you could buy bagfuls of used clothing for a song!)

This is a photo of me and Lulu in 1986, wearing the two blouses. Lulu was 17 and I was 42, not too much younger than Nellie was when she had her photo taken wearing it. I think I can see a little resemblance there. I never saw a photo of her wearing the second blouse. I still have them and think of having them framed, but alas, I have not enough walls to hang them. I will hand them down to my Grandies I am sure. I'd really like to get my hands on that one she wore to her graduation!

As Hems Went Down, Waistlines Went Up!

Fashions of the Model A Tudor Era, 1929-1931, and Beyond

By Sharon Henning

HAVE BEEN INTERESTED IN costumes and vintage clothing since eighth grade at Santa Barbara Junior High. I volunteered to help with costumes for the Spring Show, and because I knew how to sew, Marjorie Luke, the theater teacher, asked if I would make the Artful Dodger's turquoise tail coat for the musical "Oliver."

For me, costuming and vintage clothing go hand in hand. I love to watch old movies to see the costumes. A lot can be learned by watching the old movies: the way a particular garment is worn, when it is worn, and who wears it. Movies can also be a good resource for men and children's styles. Warning! You should take most movie costumes with a grain of salt.



Silent Film actress Norma Talmadge shows off her cloche hat on the December 1929 cover of *Photoplay*.

Example - how many Westerns have you seen that look like the actors lived in the 40s or 50s, not in the 1890s. Other sources for clothing styles are old *Sears* catalogs and magazines, paintings and old photos and yearbooks. Get out your old photos and see what you can learn!

My family purchased and restored a 1929 Model A Tudor and I started researching the clothing of the era. The Model A was made from 1928 - 1931. Between 1928 and 1931 several style changes took place. The biggest changes were in the length of the skirts and the waistlines. In 1928 the hemlines were just short of— or at—

the kneecap. By '29 the hemline had dropped two to three inches and by 1930 only about 12 inches of leg showed. Hemlines on evening gowns also dropped. Many evening gowns in 1928 -'29 had flounces, extra panels, sashes and slanted or uneven hems; by 1930 hemlines were on the floor.

In 1928 the waistline was still about three inches below the natural waistline, a carryover from earlier in the decade. By 1930 as the hemline went down, the garment waistline moved up to the natural location.

Many beautiful fabrics were found in use during this time. Natural fabrics such as silk, shantung, pongee, crepe, velvet, cotton and wool. Nylon was not available for everyday use yet. Stockings were made with a seam up the back and many had some kind of woven design (clocks) on the side or at the back.

If you find a garment with a zipper in it, you can disregard it as a Model A era dress. Slide fasteners (zippers) were still in the early stages of development and were very heavy and made of metal. In general, zippers weren't widely used until late 1931 - 32.

Accessories were an important part of the outfit. Just about every outfit required a hat or something on your head. The cloche (a fitted,

bell-shaped hat for women) was popular for daytime and evening. The hair style of the day was short and worn close to the head, maybe bobbed or shingled. Long hair was worn back in a knot or bun at the nape of the neck. Low heeled shoes - not flat, were worn for daytime wear, either T strap or laced up oxford type. For evening wear T strap evening slippers in gold, silver or satin dyed to match the frock were worn.



Fashionably dressed actress Norma Shearer in 1929. (By National Photo Company [Public domain], via *Wikimedia Commons*)

Ladies wore silk stockings or lisle for sports. They sometimes had side clocks, but always seams up the back. Ladies' purses were an envelope shape or snap top, made of leather. Evening purses could be mesh or beaded. If gloves were worn, they were usually a gauntlet style of any length. Costume jewelry was important and coordinated with the dress. Single strand necklaces, worn at the neck (not flapper style) and bracelets with mock jewels were worn along with button type earrings or dangling earrings.

Men's clothing has been pretty much the same for quite a while – dark jacket, waistcoat (vest) and dark trousers. Until the late '20s men wore a frock coat or morning coat; these gave way to the "Lounge Suit" - our everyday three piece suit.



Just a note – in general clothing styles were affected by world events such as the World Wars. Fabric was hard to get, so clothing styles used less fabric. Silk was used for parachutes so no silk stockings.

As I was looking for pictures for this article I found a great website (www.thepeoplehistory.com) that features information related to historical events, popular culture, music, fashion, toys, sports, and much more from the 1800s up to the present.

Sharon Henning started working on her family history in the late 1970s when everything was done with paper and pencil. Now that she is retired she is trying to find time to get back to the "family." Sharon has been a member of the society for four years. She is a native of Santa Barbara and an active member of the Santa Barbara High School Alumni Association.

By the 1930s hemlines are down, waistlines at the natural waist.



Men's single and double breasted suits of 1929 with Fedora Hats.



The author and her daughter right in style for a ride in their Model A Tudor.



Ronald Lupo at age five in 1941.

Pride in the Armed Services Starts Young!

By Deborah Lupo

SIX YEARS AFTER MY FATHER Ronald Lupo passed away, my grandmother Dorothy Lupo gave me this photograph during my last visit with her in 2010. She passed away eight months after she gave me the photograph.

The only detail I had about the photograph was that Ron was five years old, which meant the picture was taken in 1941. The photograph was recently scanned and I was able to send the image to Ron's siblings and one of his cousins. Since I had no story to accompany the photograph, I asked these three relatives about the uniform Ron wore when the picture was taken.

My uncle and aunt confirmed the photograph was taken in 1941 when Ron's uncle, Bruce Hogan, was in the service. The photograph may have been taken at (or in honor of) Uncle Bruce's wedding in May 1941. All three were uncertain about the source of the uniform; however, his cousin Joan speculated it was made by Ron's grandmother, Helen Hogan, who was "a very skilled seamstress." She believes the hat and medal would have been acquired at a military supply shop, where the items would have been readily available.

SBCGS member Deborah Lupo became actively involved in family history research three years ago, while completing her Master's degree in Library Science.



1884 marriage photo of John Conrad and Magdalena Veith. Her tight bodice and sleeves, the white lace ruffle at the collar, lots of tiny buttons and the draped skirt with multiple layers and fabrics were characteristic of the 1880s. Photo submitted by SBCGS member Debbie Kaska.



Matilde "Tillie" Bauer, born in 1887, loved wearing beautiful hats. Photo provided by SBCGS member Cari Thomas

Herman and Mary Ann Townsend?

By Fred Schaeffer

IS THIS A PHOTOGRAPH of Herman and Mary Ann Townsend? It was given to me by my mother shortly after the death of my grandmother, Charlotte Elizabeth (Landon) Keefer. It was one of five photographs among my grandmother's papers found inside a one pound chocolate box. My mother identified three of the photographs as, Herman Decker Landon (my great-grandfather), Ida Putman Landon (my great-grandmother), and John W. Landon (my 2nd great-grandfather). The fourth photograph was of two ladies identified on the back as Mrs. N. Coe Stewart and Mrs. William Le Baron Allen at Canton, Pennsylvania. Since we knew the Landon family was from Canton, my mother thought these two ladies must have been friends of the family. She had no idea who the elderly couple in the fifth photograph were or their connection to the Landon family.



An unlabeled photo found in a box with five other Landon family portraits. Was this a photo of Captain Herman Townsend and his wife Mary Ann Townsend? The search for their identity involved analysis of clothing, photographic technique, wheelchair design, a newspaper article and facial recognition software!

Over the next few years I asked everyone in the Landon family I could contact if they could identify the people in these last two photographs. This was unsuccessful and I put the photographs away to be forgotten. However, in 2008 I found an article on the internet posted by the *New York Times* dated November 1, 1900, entitled "A Wedding Anniversary. Celebration in Honor of Aged Capt. Townsend and His Wife." This is my 3rd great-grandfather I said to myself and promptly saved the article. It took awhile for me to realize that this event was hosted by their daughters Mrs. William Le Baron G. Allen and Mrs. N. Coe Stewart, the two ladies of the fourth photograph. They would be my 2nd great-grandmother, Charlotte Elizabeth (Townsend) Landon's sisters.



The fourth photograph in the box, labeled Mrs. N. Coe Stewart and Mrs. William Le Baron Allen from Canton, Pennsylvania. Were they friends or relatives?

This eventually caused me to wonder if the fifth photograph could be of Herman and Mary Ann Townsend. The couple in the photograph look to be about the right age. In 1900 Herman would have been 83 and Mary Ann 86 years. Surely pictures would have been taken of this event and sent to the other five children.

Since it is impossible to prove the photograph is of Herman and Mary Ann Townsend at their 62nd anniversary, I took the route of trying to disprove it. The assumption is that the more one is unable to disprove a hypothesis, the more likely it is to be true. I asked myself two questions: first, is the photograph of 1900 vintage, and secondly, could the photograph be of any other family member?



The article from the *New York Times* dated November 1, 1900.

The second question was the easiest to answer since the couple in the photograph appear quite elderly. A search of the family tree to see who else might be approximately eighty years of age in 1900 revealed only Herman and Mary Ann Townsend. Those who were the right age didn't have a surviving spouse and any couples alive in 1900 were far too young to be the couple in the photograph.

Dating the photograph itself was more difficult since there were few clues from which to work. I started by researching photographic techniques hoping to be able to obtain a span of years for the technique used. There were two main photographic techniques being used in 1900 and I was unable to decide which technique was used to produce this photograph. Consulting with photographers associated with the Brooks School of Photography didn't help either for there were other possible but very unlikely outdated techniques. Eventually I asked the Santa Barbara Museum of Art for their help. They agreed to look at an email copy which I sent to them. Their reply was that it appeared to be an albumen print dating to about 1870. There was one major problem with their assessment, which had to do with paper thickness. Albumen prints are on very thin paper that has to be mounted onto a cardboard backing. Although this photograph's paper is thin it is much

heavier than a normal albumen print and is un-mounted. Albumen prints were introduced in 1850, their peak years were 1860-1890, and waned in 1890-1910. The second technique, gelatin silver technique developed in the 1880s and used up to recent times also had a problem. When I examined the photograph under a microscope the paper fibers were easily seen, which would eliminate it as being a gelatin silver print. I spent a lot of time researching photographic techniques without being able to determine a definite technique. However, the two main techniques used during this time period were both available in 1900 and would not rule out a 1900 date.

Next, I researched wheelchairs for clues. In 1881 wheelchair manufactures began to install push rims on the wheels of their chairs. These second rims were smaller than the circumference of the wheels enabling the user to keep their hands clean when pushing themselves. By the beginning of the twentieth century, wheelchairs had wire-spoke wheels. Therefore, the wheelchair established a date no sooner than a few years before 1900 at the earliest.

Women's clothing styles change every few years and proved to be the best help in dating the photograph. The dress in the photograph has small straight sleeves, a high collar, and a highly decorated blouse. It appears that dress styles place the photograph into a 1899-1902 time frame.

So far what I have learned from my investigations of the photographic techniques, the wheelchair, and women clothing styles has not ruled out the possibility that this photograph dates to 1900, and that it is most likely a 1900 photograph. Also the Townsend/Landon family tree revealed that only Herman and Mary Ann Townsend would be alive and about the right age in 1900.

Turning our attention back to the fourth photograph of the two ladies identified as Mrs. N. Coe Stewart and Mrs. William Le Baron Allen. From Abbe's book on the Townsend Genealogy we can identify them as Gabrielle Townsend and Mary Mansfield Townsend. They are Charlotte (Townsend) Landon's sisters and the ones who gave Herman and Mary Ann Townsend their 62nd wedding anniversary party in 1900. This establishes that the first four photographs are of family members.

Next, we must consider the context in which these photographs were given to me. All five were separated from all of the other photographs that my grandmother had possessed, which indicated to me that they were special. Furthermore, these photograph's relationships go back two generations to my 2nd great-grandmother, Charlotte Elizabeth (Townsend) Landon. The relationships to her are a son, daughter-in-law, husband, and two sisters. It is logical that she would include a photograph of her parents (the fifth photo.) while neglecting to include a photograph of herself.

It has been suggested to me a number of times that the lady in the wheelchair could be wearing an old dress making the photograph appear older than it really is. My argument against this is that the Fort Washington Park area was an affluent neighborhood in 1900 and

Mrs. Allen was active in New York City social circles. I cannot believe that these ladies would have allowed their mother to be seen by their society friends in an old dress on such an occasion.

I believe the evidence shows that these five photographs originally belonged to Charlotte Elizabeth (Townsend) Landon and the people were all members of her family. Furthermore, I believe the fifth photograph is Herman and Mary Ann Townsend at their 62nd Anniversary.

Since I did the above research another unidentified photograph surfaced in the Landon family. The back of the photograph has the photographer's name, North, and the location as Cleveland, Ohio. Research showed that he worked in Cleveland from 1867 to 1880. Herman and Mary Ann Townsend's daughter Mrs. Stewart lived in Cleveland during this time and the other daughter Mrs. Allen also lived there for a portion of this time. Mary Ann would have been 51 to 64 years of age for this time period which is about the age of the lady in this photograph. It is possible that Mary Ann had this photograph taken while she was visiting her daughters in Cleveland. Plus I was able to use facial recognition software to compare this photograph with the lady in the wheelchair. Although the position the faces in the two photographs are not quite the same, the results showed that the two women are the same person. I believe this photograph is of Mary Ann Townsend and that it strengthens the argument that our first photograph is of Herman and Mary Ann Townsend.



A photograph taken in Cleveland, Ohio, between 1867 and 1880 where Mary Ann Townsend's daughters lived. Mary Ann Townsend would be between 51 and 64 which correlates with the age of the woman in the photograph.



1896 photo of 15 year old Dorothy Knutsen. The 1890s was the decade of the puffy sleeves, small waist, full skirt and stand up collar.
Photo provided by SBCGS member William Noack.



Tillie, Annie and Millie Bauer wearing Panama Hats, ca. 1900.
Photo provided by SBCGS member Cari Thomas

17th Century Social Drama

By Kate Lima

IT'S HARD NOT TO NOTICE the many reality TV shows and daytime soap operas that give voice to the petty squabbling between people. Many find this type of gossipy drama to be enjoyable and entertaining. Well, even in 17th century New Amsterdam this type of drama existed, but in those days the gossip went around by word of mouth, and occasionally ended up in court. One such piece of gossip surrounded my ancestor, and had to do with lifting her dress to show shapely ankles!

In the early part of New York's history, when the Dutch populated the tip of "New Amsterdam," my 9th great-grandmother was caught up in small-town gossip and pettiness just as we see nowadays. In 1623, Anneke Webber Janse had just married the minister Everardus Bogardus, a man at the center of many a drama. A short time later she was paying a social call to Mrs. Van Corlear. Anneke could hear the voice of Mrs. Anthony Jansen (Gretjie), whose husband had recently used offensive language when talking about the Dominie. So instead of knocking on the door and entering, Anneke



Portrait of Anneke Webber Janse



turned and walked away. Both ladies, especially Gretjie Jansen, became offended.

As Anneke crossed the muddy street Gretjie became further outraged and commented in a rude and ugly manner about the way Anneke was displaying her shapely ankles. Apparently this exploded into a full-fledged incident that ended up in court. Fortunately for Anneke, Mr. Corlear was at the blacksmith's shop and witnessed Anneke crossing the street. He testified that when she walked into the street, he saw her put a hand to her side and lift her skirt to avoid the mud of the street. Anneke had been wearing her wedding clothes to make her social call and wanted to protect the clothing. Gretjie Jansen had to "retract her words publicly" and to "throw something into the poor box."

A quick note for the ending: six days after this incident Anneke sold a hog to Cornelius Peterson and bought enough purple cloth for a petticoat, probably so she could better conceal those ankles! And another note: I thoroughly enjoy reading the gossip of 17th Century New Amsterdam the same way my daughter enjoys RHONY!

Typical Dutch fancy dress (possibly a "wedding" dress, as Anneke wore in the story?) from a ca. 1609 painting by Peter Paul Rubens of himself and his first wife. Her long, rounded stomacher and jacket-like bodice are characteristic of Dutch fashion of the time.

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George Smith (born 1839) photographed ca. 1870. Note the frock coat with rather baggy sleeves characteristic of the era. He also wears a classic flat cap, popular during the 19th and 20th centuries. Photo provided by SBCGS member William Noack.

Author Guidelines - *Ancestors West*

Updated July 2018

ARTICLES FOR *ANCESTORS WEST* focus on useful genealogy or research sources, helpful research strategies, compelling historical accounts, and interesting case studies. The items represent the mutual interests of the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society membership. Each issue follows one or more themes that are meant to draw together a selection of content within the journal; submissions are not limited to the themes, however.

Manuscripts

Suggested length is from 250 to 2500 words. Longer pieces or serial pieces are also published. Submit your document in Word format if possible. If not, please submit in text format. Endnotes are recommended, especially for books, articles and websites. Please follow the *Chicago Manual of Style* and the *Merriam-Webster Dictionary* for usage.

Ancestors West reserves the right to edit and revise submissions as necessary for clarity, substance, conciseness, style, and length prior to publication.

Images

Any piece is enhanced by images. Please provide images if you can to support your piece. The images in general must be over 1 MB, and preferably over 2 MB, with good quality resolution (300 dpi) – clear and sharp to the naked eye when printed at a reasonable size (e.g., 3" x 4" - plus). Please include a caption for each picture, a photo credit or source, and insert the caption in the location in the document where it should appear. The images must be sent as separate files.

Author information

Provide one or two sentences about the author(s).

Deadlines

Submissions with images are due the 1st of the month in February, May, and August, and October 15 for the November Issue. Address submissions to the editor, Deborah Kaska, at kaska@lifesci.ucsb.edu

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Sleepless at the Sahyun!

In celebration of Family History Month, Santa Barbara County Genealogy Society members gathered Sunday October 21st, 2018, at the Sahyun library for an evening of fun, fellowship, refreshments and research.