

YESTERDAY'S FOOTPRINTS
Alberta Genealogical Society
Lethbridge and District Branch
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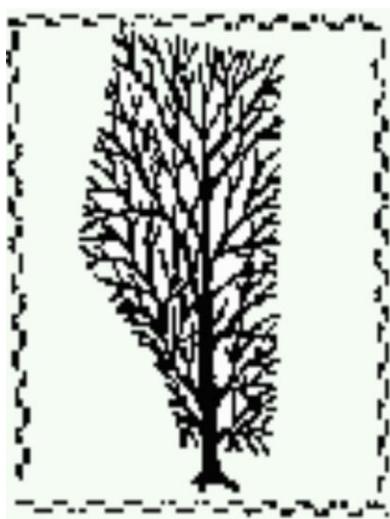


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Editor's Corner



If you want to submit articles, genealogy humor, interesting web sites or have any queries you want us to print feel free to contact us. You can drop off your submissions to our library or phone (403) 328-9564 or send an e-mail to lethags@theboss.net Susan Haga, Newsletter Editor.

Lethbridge A.G.S. Branch Hours

Library Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 1:30–4:30 p.m. Meetings are 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. September through May. Visitors Welcome! Our library will be closed July and August and December but can be open on request. See our web site at:

<http://lethbridgeags.theboss.net/Exec.htm>

Address: 1:28; 909 – 3rd Avenue North.

Phone: (403) 328-9564

Membership Dues

Individual or Family Membership (Includes 1 Branch)-\$60.00, Seniors (65+) Individual or Family (Includes 1 Branch)-\$55.00. If you receive Relatively Speaking digitally your membership is \$10.00 off except for Youth membership \$5.00—Young Adult membership is \$25.00 (includes RS).

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President's Message

What strange times we are living in. Our Resource Center has been closed for two months and we do not expect to reopen it before September. How reopening will look like is yet to be determined but it will likely require physical distancing and a stringent level of sanitizing.

As research queries have shrunk since the Center closed, we have recently added a notice to our website saying we can still help with some inquiries from home.

We are fortunate enough to have a hobby (some would say an addiction) where we can achieve a great deal from home and stay in touch with each other as well as with family and friends using today's technology. Yet it will be wonderful to see real people face to face again to share our genealogy stories once we get through this pandemic.

I will be participating in the May 30th AGS Board meeting by Blue Jeans teleconference and will continue to advise members of developments affecting our Branch. --President, Marilyn Astle

Monthly Meetings

No monthly meetings have been held since our Annual General meeting held in February. No monthly meetings will be held till September per a recent email letter from our President. Our AGS Provincial AGM was held virtually on April 25th and was a great success. Everyone had been invited to join in this virtual meeting and to last count there were 37 members in attendance virtually and/or at the AGS library in Edmonton.

Lethbridge Family History Center Hours

The Lethbridge Family History Center has been closed since mid-March due to our pandemic situation. Once open all will be notified.

Message from the Editor

Our life has changed drastically since we met last and all our lives have been impacted. As we move on and try to accept our "new normal" I would like to say how grateful I am for the life we are being allowed to live as there are a lot of benefits to this pandemic way of life such as our ability to communicate with each other through social media, our ability to still be able to do our family history research and online courses. For the past couple of years, I have been taking courses through the National Institute for Genealogical Studies. I am pursuing two certificate programs one is in Canadian Research and the other is in English Research. Now those of you who know me realize that I have a BA in History and Family

History from BYU however, BYU does not offer family history courses in Canadian Research so I wanted to expand my horizons and even though I've been doing research for years I still find that I am learning new information through these courses. Their courses are very affordable and often offer courses at 50% of their regular price. So, it is worth a good look as we consider our new way of life. The National Institute for Genealogical Studies originally were part of the University of Toronto but a few years ago when the University wanted to raise their prices to the fee of regular priced university courses they decided to go out on their own to keep their prices affordable for their students. This is a time in our life when we need to remain as positive as possible and find joy in our life wherever it can be found. Respectfully, Susan Haga—Editor

Note from the Editor

I would like to offer any of you who would like to write about their genealogical finds and experiences to share with us in this newsletter that would be great. Send your write-ups to footprints14@gmail.com.

History of Galt Museum & Archives

A scientific and Historical Society was formed in Lethbridge in October 1888. Little was done for record archives, and emphasis for the society laid with the presentation of papers at bi-weekly meetings. In 1944, Walter Gurney opened a private museum—the first museum in the city. The building that housed Gurney's Museum was originally built as a bandstand, no more than a platform with a railing. By 1909 several improvements had been made, and the transforming the bandstand into a two-story structure with a bandstand on the upper level, and a glass fronted room at ground level. The bandstand was reached by a set of stairs on the outside of the building. The ground floors housed the Board of Trade and became known as the Board of Trade Building i.e. the building was originally located about 30 meters inside the west boundary of Galt Gardens, opposite 118 5th Street South. In 1911 the building was moved to a location halfway along the north boundary of the park. In June 1912 two wings were added.

In February 1922, the Board of Trade building suffered a fire but was repaired. The Board of Trade continued to operate out of the building until 1944 when they moved operations to the Marquis Hotel. Walter Gurney and his wife then applied to lease the building to house their museum, and it became Gurney's Museum until

1961. On August 28, 1961 the building was demolished and when the museum closed many of its artifacts moved to the private Altamont Museum in the nearby town of Coutts, Alberta.

The first civic museum opened in 1964 with George McKillop as curator and it was then located in three rooms in the former Bowman Elementary School (now Bowman Arts Centre). The museum quickly outgrew its space and within three years had moved into the considerably renovated former Galt Hospital. The Sir Alexander Galt Museum and Archives operated until 1971 by The Lethbridge and District Historical Society.

Expansion

In the early 1980's the museum was placed in the Urban Parks Program and the museum expanded to include additional gallery space and expanded storage place. The new space allowed for development of new programs and temporary exhibits.

In September 2004, the museum moved its offices and collections off-site to facilitate a \$8.9 million expansion. Government funding for the project included \$3.13 million from the City of Lethbridge, 1.9 million from the Government of Canada, and \$1.45 million from the Province of Alberta. The museum reopened on May 6, 2006 and was renamed the Galt Archives. This renovation included: Discovery Hall, a "5,000-square-foot Exhibit Centre with permanent exhibit "Exploring Southwestern Alberta" and frequently changing temporary exhibits; a larger store; and the 2,500-square-foot Galt Education Centre. (By Alexander Johnston—1988—Lethbridge Galt Gardens Park—(paper).

Benefits of Using Local History Books

When I first started researching my great grandfather Swanty Magnuson who emigrated from Vasterbotten, Sweden in 1892 to Garson, Manitoba I found a local history book called Garson, Then and Now. I ordered it into the Lethbridge Public Library through interlibrary loan. For weeks I poured over this local history book. I found a family history in the book written by Swanty's nephew's wife and I learned more about his life and the life of his brother Magnus who emigrated in 1901 to Garson as well.

After some time, I decided to take a trip to Garson, Manitoba with my husband. At this same time, a friend of mine who was originally from Winnipeg was going to be there visiting her family. We agreed to meet with her and she helped us find some information at the Provincial Archives and

the Manitoba Genealogical Society where I found his cemetery record noting where he was buried which actually was in Tyndall a sister town to Garson. We were able to find my great grandfather's grave but not his wife's. As we were walking through the cemetery in search of my ancestor's graves my foot caught in a gopher hole and my foot and leg went way down on the side of a grave. I looked at the name on the gravestone and the name was Wasney as it was not a name familiar to me, I just moved on. After visiting the cemetery in Tyndall, we headed to Garson to see what we could learn.

Once arriving in Garson, we took a small tour around the town of 350 people and checked out the cemetery there which was a newer one and no known ancestors buried there. After being there a short while we headed back to Winnipeg where we were camping. As I was making supper, I kept getting this nagging feeling that we needed to return to Garson so the next day we made another trip to Garson. As we walked around the town, I wondered why we had felt to return. The first thing I noticed was a street sign with the name Magnuson, so I went and posed for a picture by the street sign. Finally, we decided to go into the Post Office and Grocery store and ask if they knew of any Magnusons living in the area. The woman we spoke to had been living there for 30 years and no she did not know of anyone with that name mind you my great grandfather had died March 1945. But she said there was a woman who had lived there for years and suggested we go and speak with her. So, she explained where she lived (no address per say) so we made our way to June's home. I bravely knocked on her door. She answered the door pretty, quickly and I introduced myself to her and she welcomed us in. I told her who I was and who my great grandfather was. She told me a lot of stories about him and said she had attended his funeral when she was 15 years old. When I spoke of my grandfather William Arthur, she said Swanty did not have any children and then she paused and said oh yes, he adopted his son thru a family private adoption I never knew anything about this before.

Then she pulled out a Winnipeg telephone book and started going through all the Magnusons suggesting who I should call. I madly wrote down all their names and phone numbers. There was still one of his stepdaughters living. Before leaving June brought out a copy of the local history book for Garson and said I could buy it if I liked. She had been on the Garson Historical Committee who had written the book.

We then headed off to Winnipeg and found a

telephone booth outside a Pizza Hut where I could make my calls since we did not have any cell phones at the time as this was in about 2000. I spoke to his stepdaughter Anna. She spoke very highly of him. Swanty had married a woman named Mary Wasny in 1926 wife of his best friend John. Oh, Wasney that was the name on the grave where my foot had gone into a gopher hole. Swanty's wife had died years before although I still have no death record for her.

Mary was a polish woman and did not speak any English and she had 12 children only 4 were living at home at the time that Swanty had married her. I spoke to a woman named Janet who at the moment I called her was taking orders for those family members who would like a copy of a film strip that had been filmed in 1936 of the family like a silent home movie and she was having it made into VHS video. She asked if I would like a copy, would I so I said yes. She took my address down and said I could pay for it when it arrived at my home. They had had a family reunion in August this was the September long weekend that we were visiting. What a wonderful surprise when it arrived at my home a few weeks later only costing me \$17.

June and I started corresponding after that she of course wanted to know what I thought of the local history book Garson, Then and Now. She filled me in on more of the Wasney and Magnuson family. It certainly was well worth traveling back to Garson that day to find out what I had missed. I have watched that family video many times since. There are slow moving pictures of my great grandfather in front of the Pop Shoppe and on his farm. This is one thing that I would have never found on the internet and what a wonderful gift! (Submitted by Susan Haga)

Spanish Flu of 1918

The 1918 influenza pandemic was the most severe in recent history. When the Spanish Flu first appeared in early March 1918, it had all the signs of a seasonal flu, a highly contagious flu. The mortality was high in people younger than 5 years of age, 20 to 40 years of age and in people older than 65 years of age. It was estimated that 500 million people or one third of the world's population became effected.

Reported cases of the Spanish flu dropped off over the summer of 1918, and there was hope at the beginning of August that the virus had run its course. In retrospect, it was the calm before the storm. In late August 1918, military men departed the English port city of Plymouth carrying troops unknowingly infected with this new, far deadlier

strain of the Spanish flu. As these ships arrived in Brest, France, Boston, USA, and Freetown, Africa the second wave of the global pandemic began.

The rapid movement of soldiers around the globe was a major spread of the disease. The entire military industrial complex of moving lots of men and material in crowded conditions was certainly a huge contributing factor in the ways the pandemic spread.

From September through November of 1918, the death rate from the Spanish Flu skyrocketed. In the United States alone, 195,000 Americans died from the Spanish flu in just the month of October alone. That really freaked out the medical establishment, that there was this atypical spike in the middle of the war, (James Harris, a historian at Ohio State University)

The 1918 H1N1 Pandemic Influenza did not have a vaccine. In fact, physicians and scientists did not even know what a virus was or how it worked. They knew that it was not a bacteria nor did it seem to be alive but that was about it. But for the transmission, most scientists thought it was a chemical agent of some sort.

The influenza went around the world several times over four years (1918-1921) and killed over 50 million people, including 1.2 million Americans. As it effected more and more people, those who recovered built up enough immunity to confer herd immunity on the world and the flu fizzled out on its own.

Another point during the Spanish epidemic people did not return to work until the numbers went down considerably. (Compiled by Susan Haga)

Researching Ancestors in England

Doing research in England first start with the census records 1841 to 1911. The first national census was taken in England in 1801 and a census has been taken every ten years since that time except for 1941 (second World War). The first three censuses concentrated on headcounts only giving personal details, so the first census to be of real value to genealogists was 1841. The British Government only permits the general public access to censuses from more than a hundred years before the 1911 census.

Then search civil registrations of births, marriages and deaths from July 1, 1837, Civil Registration are very, helpful especially when you do not know the parish that your ancestors resided in. Prior to 1837 you will need to search the parish records. Check Free BMD online for civil registrations.

Parish Registers

On the census records you will find what church your family was affiliated with and then you may start searching that church in the area that your family resided in.

Through the efforts of Thomas Cromwell, in 1538 a mandate was issued by Henry VIII to keep parish registers. This order that every parson, vicar or curate was to enter in a book every wedding, christening and burial in his parish. The entries were to be made each Sunday after the service in the presence of one of the wardens. These entries were made on paper, sometimes upon loose sheets.

In 1558 Queen Elizabeth passes another law that was a duplicate of her father's. Many more registers began at this date. Many of these very, early records are hard to read plus being written in Latin and are often very sparse – giving only the father's name in a burial entry. The registers were the property of the incumbent minister and each parish was required to maintain a chest in the parish church for the safe keeping of the same. In time other records were kept in the parish chest such as poor law records, which were actually the civil parish records. Other records kept in the chest were removal orders, bastardy bonds, overseers of the poor accounts, Tithe award and Maps, Enclosure Awards and Maps, Church Wardens Accounts, etc.

In 1597 registers were to be made on parchment instead of paper, and annual reports of all parish register entries were required to be sent to the appropriate bishop, called Bishop's Transcripts (BT). No doubt the reason we have gaps in some of the early parish registers or they do not exist at all, is that the paper had disintegrated and were not available. In some areas earlier registers were destroyed at this time and some were recopied on parchment.

In 1598 the entries that were made on paper sometimes upon loose sheets, and sixty years later these registers were ordered to be copied upon parchment in books, so that the registers which still survive dating back to 1538-1539 (perhaps about 1400 to 1500 in number). Therefore, any parish records which survived this date are rarely the original entries. Some of the earliest paper registers had disappeared even before the transcription was ordered. Sometimes private baptisms did not get into the records. Early registers did not have any form to follow in recording the date and was left entirely up to the ministers. So, it depended on the minister how much information he wished to give. (FamilySearch.org—FamilySearch wiki)

New Tools in Locating Ancestors

Do you sometimes feel like you need a GPS to help you navigate through your expanding family tree? Expanding your family tree with the right cousins can be a challenge. To have confidence in your family tree conclusions, each cousin must meet the challenge and be accepted as “proved”. In genealogical circles this is called meeting the Genealogical Proof Standard or GPS. This GPS consists of 5 elements:

- A reasonably exhaustive search
- complete and accurate source citations
- analysis and correlation of the collected information
- a soundly reasoned, coherently written conclusion

These elements mean:

1. You have taken the time to make sure that your cousin and the information that you have for him is unique. Convinced there are no duplicates in your tree and that you are confident that no other individual of a similar name or similar birth or death information is confused with your cousin.
2. You look for sources which apply to your cousin and you post them on your family tree. You make sure that your sources are so well described that other researchers can find them if needed.
3. You slow down and take time to understand the source and what it is telling you. You correlate what you learn from this source with the information you have from other sources.
4. You sincerely look for any conflicts with your evidence. You resolve any conflicts found in your sources.
5. You give complete and clear conclusion statements or reasons why you are attaching a source to your cousin and you think the relationships in your tree are correct.

What are some specific things you can look for in your tree?

1. Check for duplicate records. A duplicate may be found with only initials, even if you add an image, nickname or a middle name. A duplicate may be going by Mr. or Mrs. (spouse to your cousin) and a duplicate may have similar, but not exactly, the same birth or death information. Assume there are duplicates and perform a reasonable

exhaustive search for them. Do not depend on a family tree search for duplicates.

2. Use the hint and search features in Ancestry.com, MyHeritage.com and Familysearch.org to add sources to your cousin. Add every census you can find. Look for birth, death, marriage, military and cemetery information. This step is one of the best ways to expand your family tree. When you are sourcing and verifying your cousin, often you are led to other missing family members. Remember when you add sources to make the description clear enough that any other researcher can find the same record with the same information. Even if you add an image, another researcher needs to know where the image came from and your analysis of why you think the image is important to your family history.
3. Analyze and sincerely look for conflicts in relationships. Conflicting information (also called data problems) leads to more brick walls than any other issues. Does it make sense for your ancestor to be born when and where you have listed them in your family tree? Are their parents too young or too old? Do the parents die before the children are born? This is another reason to slow down and carefully analyze each parent and child relationship. Fixing relationships can help you break through to new generations and add cousins to your family tree.

Descendancy Research

Descendancy research is looking at your family tree from your ancestor’s viewpoint—looking back down their tree to you. Your 3rd great-grandparents probably have any children born to a couple. of descendants, including you. These are all your cousins, grandparents, aunts and uncles. As you look at families who descend from your ancestors there are clues which help in finding incomplete families where you can add cousins to your family tree.

If a person lived into their 20’s they probably married. Find and add spouses. Pay close attention to the date and place when your ancestor probably married. Another tool is Familysearch.org wiki. Search for “How to find marriage records in Ohio” for example.

A how-to-page with links to databases can help you locate marriage for your cousin. If you do not find a spouse for your ancestor in online databases, look in the Family Search Catalog for marriage records. Search the catalog where you think your cousin may have married. Couples usually married in the county where the bride and her family resided. It is not unusual to find that a cousin may marry a distant cousin. These marriages lead to even more cousins who need to be added to your family tree.

Look for cousins in your tree with no death dates. You may see a pattern in families under their married name there are names of children with only approximate birth information. This is a clue that a family is not well-researched. A family with only birth information is often missing spouses and children in the subsequent generations. Approximate when and where your ancestor may have died. Remember that women's death records are usually indexed under their married names. This may require finding marriage information before you are able to search for death records.

Look for gaps between children in a family. Typically, a couple had a child about every two years. A space of four or more years may indicate a missing child. Search the necessary census records and vital records to find missing children. Also perform a parent search as follows: FamilySearch has a parent search on the main search page. With this search you are looking for a record for any children born to a specific couple. On FamilySearch.org click on the word Search in the top of the tool bar. Choose records from the drop-down menu which appears. Do not fill in any search boxes. Instead "Search with a Relationship". Click on the word "Parents". You can put in first and last names for the parents if the surnames are common. I prefer to put in just surnames in the search boxes when possible. Parents could be known by a variety of first and middle names and nicknames. Find the parent's names you are looking for and verify that these names are from a place where you would expect to find your family members.

Search for cemetery records and obituaries. On the census records you will find what church your family was affiliated with and if the records you are finding then you may start searching that church in the area that your family resided in. Ancestry and

FamilySearch have been developing obituary databases Billion Graves can be searched thru FamilySearch and Find-A-Grave is searched thru Ancestry. Be open minded to how your family name may be spelled and to where your family members may be buried. Unless your family stayed in the same area for many generations, you may find cousins buried in many different cemeteries. Not all burials have headstones. Many cemeteries are only partially indexed in databases.

Use your GPS standard to analyze if the records you are finding belong to your cousin. Be sure that you completely source any birth, death, marriage and relationship information you add to your tree. Be certain that you resolve any conflicts as well as you can. Add clear reasons why you are adding relationships and records to your family tree.

Locating Families to Research

Puzzilla

Puzzilla is a partner program which works with family tree on FamilySearch.org. Puzzilla gives you a visual look at your family tree. Go to the website www.puzzilla.org and log into FamilySearch. Tell the program how many of your generations you would like to see. Choose at least 4 generations.

Each dot represents a person on Family Tree who is related to you. Blue are male and pink are female. You may see a complete tree (no gaps). If you do, click on a 2nd or 3rd great grandparent and request a descendency view from their place on the tree. As the tree forms you will usually see gaps where children and spouses are missing. The yellow line is your descendency line from that person. As you hover over each blue or pink dot you will see vital information for that person. Click to view in Familytree.

As you view in Family Tree, switch to the Person View by clicking on the person's name. Follow the steps for Descendency View in Family Tree and use the tools to find records of family which may be missing. Use Record Hints, Research Suggestions, Data Problems, and spouses in the descendency view to help you find and document even more cousins in your Family Tree.

Puzzilla Premium (available for free in Family History Centers) gives additional insight into ancestors by gathering information from Family Tree icons (Record Hints, Data Problems, etc.) and displaying

the information as additional colored dots for each ancestor.

Kinpoint

Kinpoint is another Partner program for Family Tree. Like Puzzilla it gives a different look to navigating through Family Tree and helps you to visualize your relationships to ancestors. www.kinpoint.com

Search traditionally or in the descendancy format.

Expand your tree by generations.

Descendancy is limited to 3 generations.

Bookmark where you finish a research session and return to it easily.

Colored dots represent the Family Tree icons (Record Hints, etc.)

The Details page gives specific tasks which need completing in Family Tree.

Family Tab pulls in Family Tree photos and shows relationship line to the ancestor being searched.

Ancestor Timeline linked to map and icons for each event.

A final clue is to also make good use of Ancestry tools to search. Always look at Ancestry trees to see if a cousin has more information about the family. Perhaps they have attached records you were not able to find. A warning—do not accept everything you see in Ancestry Trees as correct. Instead use these trees as a hint for new places to look for family information. Use Ancestry hinting to help with marriages and children's spouses. Hinting is also helpful for unusual or difficult names. Be careful of hints for common names because many of the records may be for different individuals who have similar information. Always document and give proof statements for any relationships you add for Family Tree and check duplicates. (By Lisa McBride—familysearch.org)

French-Canadian Research Selected

Websites

General

--Quebec Genealogy

--CanGenealogy—one of the best sites—gives quick links to Major Quebec resources.

Link: www.cangenealogy.com

--Bibliotheque et Archives Nationales Du Quebec—lots of information! Original digitized images via their Archives—Pistard catalogue. Link: <http://www.banq.qc.ca/>

Pioneers

--Fichier Origine—Marcel Fournier's site of Pioneers to New France until 1865. Gives their vital stats, family and source for that information. Link:

<http://www.fichierorigine.com/>

Vital Records

--**Drouin Collection**—Quebec Vital & Church Records 1621-1697; Acadia Vital and Church Records 1670-1946; Ontario Catholic Church Records 1747-1967; Early US French-Catholic Records 1695-1954; Misc. French Records 1651-1941. Ancestry and Quebec Records.

--**Quebec Records**—Subscription based. Drouin Collection, LaFrance, Loiselle, Marriages and Obituaries 1926-1996. Several others. Link: www.genealogiequebec.com

--**PRDH**—Subscription site. Sources include the Tanguay, Drouin Collection, Hospital registers early Quebec census and several other sources. View people in families.

--**YourFolks**—Subscription site. Lovely interface. Partner with the Banq and others. Search by individual. No images.

--**Civil Registration**—Started in 1994. Parish records are easier to obtain! Online (applications at Directeur de l'etat civil. You must provide proof of identity and relation to individual whose record you request. Link: <http://www.etatcivil.gouv.qc.ca/en/default.html>

Notarial Records

--**Quebec Notarial Records 1647-1942—Repertoire** and some indexes. The repertoire contains a date, number and short description. Drouin collection via Ancestry. Look up

“Actes de notaire” in the FamilySearch catalog. Find the name of the notary that covered the town of your ancestor lived in through the book “The Notaries of French-Canada: 1626-1900” on World Records.

Social History

--McCord Museum—119,000 items from McCord Museum and 17,500 items from partner museums is available to search and view to get a visual glimpse into New France. Link: <http://www.mccord-museum.qc.ca>

--**Virtual Museum of France**—Lots to information to learn about life in New France. Link: <http://www.historymuseum.ca>

Selected Timeline of Quebec

1600's

1608—Samuel de Champlain founds Quebec City
1621—Catholic Parish registers begin (FamilySearch and Drouin Collection, Transcripts at PRDH)

1663—Fille-du-Roi “King’s Daughters” begin arriving (list at Fille-du-Roi Society website)

1665—Arrival of the Carignan-Salieres Regiment of 1,300 soldiers (list at Fille-du-Roi Society website)

1666—First census of New France reveals a population of 3,215 people in 548 families (transcripts at PRDH, index at Hugh Armstrong’s site).

1700's

1755—Beginning of Acadian Expulsion.

1763—Treaty of Paris signed ending the seven-year war between Britain and France. France gives the north part of New France to Britain so they can keep Guataloupe.

1763—Protestant Church registers begin (images on FamilySearch, Drouin Collection)

1763—Exiled Acadians may now return to Nova Scotia

1764—First edition of the Quebec Gazette published.

1783—8,000 United Empire Loyalists arrive and settle mainly in Ontario.

1796—Durham—the first of the Eastern Townships—is created.

1798—Irish begin immigrating to Canada

1800's

1812—War of 1812

1837-1838—Rebellion of Lower Canada

1839—12 patriots hanged

1841—Lower and Upper Canada united in the Province of Canada

1850—Beginning of Quebec immigration to the States

1867—Confederation

(By Jessica Coupe—Lethbridge FHC Consultant)

Scandinavian Research

Research in any of the Scandinavian countries is done essentially the same way. Some spelling variations (dotter: Sweden, datter: Norway, Denmark) may occur. One country may have a different type of record from the other, but basically the formats and types are the same.

1. **Patronymics** is essential to being able to do research in the Scandinavian countries. This was a naming system used up to and into the 1900's.

2. **Learn some of the history** of the country. The records may be affected by the history eg. Norway.

872 Small warring kingdoms united by Harald the fairheaded.

1319 Norway is ruled by Denmark

1387-1523 Under one ruler in the Union of Kalmar

1814 In union with Sweden

1905 Becomes independent with a king as head.

3. **Maps** You need maps of the country to understand where your family records might be or where they might be changes of address. Many times, valuable records may be found in civil or political records. The country had established jurisdictions long before record keeping began. They are known as counties. In order to find ancestry, a county must be located first. Each country then has civil jurisdictions and parish (diocese) jurisdictions. Frequently farmsteads and villages, though record keeping jurisdictions, are used as “identifying jurisdictions” in the Scandinavian research process.

4. Learn what types of records are available for your area. Use the FamilySearch Catalog to see what is available for your area. In Norway, the Digitalarkivet has put several censuses online free of charge. Denmark has all their records online for free.
5. Learn about their way of writing. Most often, it will be Gothic in format. Have a dictionary and an alphabet beside you to help you translate. You may have to break down words one letter at a time.
6. It is important to **understand the customs of the country**. Patronymics were used until the late 1800's to 1900's when fixed surnames became law. Guides for choosing surnames were very liberal.

Women kept their maiden surnames throughout their lives and will be listed in that manner. They did not assume the husband's surname upon marriage. The only exceptions are when a person married into the upper class. In the case of upper class, men may also have taken the wife's surname.

Families usually follow naming customs. Generally, the first son was named after the father's father, the second after the mother's father, the third after the father. The first daughter was named after the mother's mother, second after the father's mother, third after the mother. However, if the death of someone close in the family the next child may have been named after that individual. This could mean there were more than one living child in the family with the same name. Never assume the first child with the common name died.

Many times, the last name may not be patronymic in format. It could be the farm name, an occupational name, or a uniquely identifying name. Non-patronymic surnames may not have stayed with an individual throughout life. For example, if a person moved to a different farm or took a new military position the surname would change accordingly. These types of names were not generational.

Marriage customs may vary according to location. For example, a

man in a certain area may not be allowed to marry unless he owns the land. Therefore, it would not be unusual for a 23-year old man, to marry a 55-year old woman who may then bear him children. There may have been an agreement such as marriage to care for the woman and her children and in return, he would be given ownership of a portion of the woman's land. Upon her death he would be free to marry his sweetheart. Also, it is not unusual to find that women bore children several months or days prior to marriage. A civil marriage contract may have taken place between both parties' parents and therefore they would be considered legally united.

Valuable Types of Records

Census: These records provide the head of household, all living within the same house, their relationship, age, often the place of birth. For example, Norway has census records 1664-66, 1801, 1865, 1875, 1900, and 1910. There are other census records but not on a national level.

Clerical Surveys: These are unique to Sweden and act as censuses. However, the advantage over the typical census is the records often tell when someone died, married, or moved. The individual may be left on the cleric for several years after one of those situations as a survey covers a period of years rather than a single year.

Church Records: The state religion is Lutheran. Records are written in the Gothic Script using Latin format as it was considered the "language of the learned." Parish records contain information on births, christenings (infant baptism) deaths, burials, banns (announced engagements), confirmations, marriages, move in/out records, stillbirths, vaccinations, introductions (women being reintroduced to the congregation following the birth of a child), daily membership registers. If only one date is provided it was usually christenings, marriages and burials. Move in/out records may be vital as people could only move in and out of a parish by permission from church leaders.

Vaccinations were imperative because of the deadly nature of some of the diseases that could fell entire families and communities. They usually give the child's birthday and father's name. Confirmations had to take place prior to marriage, usually between ages 14-18. This was to ensure children being raised in the faith. They usually provided birthdates if not parentage and address.

Immigration/Emigration: Look under Move ins/outs. They may give complete information as to where going or coming from along with birthdates and parentage of entire families. For immigration, look to the largest port nearest their home. Be aware of direct and indirect routes for immigration.

Community/Farm History Books: called Bygdeboks. These books are often genealogical in format. They are an excellent source for locating families. They may be as simple as listing heads of households to entire families with birth dates, death dates, marriage information, and move information. They may also include previous places of residence. They usually will not include information on children who die very, young.

Probate Records: Probates had to take place by law if there were living children under the age of 25, but not if parents were elderly, all children over 25, and property already dispersed usually provide the names. Without a probate a spouse could not remarry. Probate records usually provide the name and residence of the deceased, death date, spouse with residence, all children, including previous marriage children, grandchildren of deceased children with their ages, guardians with residency for all children under 25, inventory of the entire estate, signatures.

Court Records: Both civil and criminal are available from about 1600's to about 1850/1860. They may contain familial relationships to help extend pedigree lines. They are chronological but not usually indexed.

Mortgage Records: Scandinavians had many opportunities for land ownership. These records also give familial records as well.

Norway

<http://digitalarkivet.uib.no/>

at the bottom click on English at the top click on censuses. Choose the year of census. C expensive but often specials are offered. Choose an option such as first name equals click submit.

For parishes online in Norway

<http://www.digitalarkivet.uib.no/cgi-win/WebMeta.exe>

Hint: Do not put in too much information. In the first name field, put first name only. Less is Best!

Sweden

This is a paid site. It seems expensive but often specials are offered. It is well worth using if you need to use more than one parish to find all the family as you can easily toggle between parishes. Its free to use at Family History Centers once they reopen again. Check out the Portal on the computers there. See

<https://www.arkivdigital.net>. See

Sweden Online Genealogy Records on FamilySearch Wiki and Sweden, Church Records 1451-1943 on Ancestry.com.

(By Valerie Duncan, Lethbridge Family History Consultant)

Newspapers--Worldwide Newspaper Archive 1607 to the present

www.newspaperarchive.com

Search 5+billion newspaper records, newspapers and obituaries from 29 countries. Free on LDS FH Portal

19th Century British Library Newspaper Databases 1800-1900 On Family History Center Portal

<http://www.gale.com> This full text, fully searchable digital archive includes 50 newspapers originating in England, Scotland and Ireland, carefully selected by an editorial board from British Library and providing a broad yet detailed view of British life in the 19th century.

University of Lethbridge (Free)

Alberta Heritage Digitization Project (AHDP)

Canadian Newsstand 1970's to present
CBCA Complete

Chronicle of Higher Education

Connecting Canadians: Canada's
Multicultural Newspapers

CPI. Q (Canadian Periodical Index
Quarterly)

Eighteenth Century Journals: A Portal to
Newspapers and Periodicals c1685-1815
Globe and Mail via Canadian Heritage
1844-2005

Lethbridge Herald Newspaper
Collection 1905-2007

PressDisplay (60 day archive)

Times Digital Archive 1785-1985

Govt or Newspapers Archives Online

Australia

National Library of Australia has
digitized various from 1802-1982 (free)

Canada

Canadian Gazette 1841-1997 (fre999e)

England

--London Gazette 1665/1666-present.
There is also Belfast and Edinburgh
Gazettes free to search

--British Newspaper Archive 1700-1900
(coverage varies). Brought to us by
BrightSolid (Findmypast company) and
the British Library. Easy to use and great
coverage. Price ranges from about \$12
(for 2 day use) to 130 (annual).

Ireland

Ireland Newspapers 1763-1890 on
Ancestry. Browse by publication and by
date,

Scotland

Scotsman Digital Archive 1817-1950
(cost varies from about \$13 for 24-hour
pass to \$254 for annual pass)

Wales

National Library of Wales is in the
process of digitizing newspapers up to
1911. Online now., they take

Norway

Nasjonalbiblioteket – Digitale aviser
1763-present

Aftenposten (1860-present day) Costs
money.

South Africa

Africa Newspapers 1800-1922 via
World Newspaper Archive (via
University of Alberta). Available to
walk-ins, students and faculty. Content
varies. (Compiled by Jessica Coupe,
Lethbridge FHC Consultant)

Genealogy Humor

Remember that when a family member
passes away, they take a library of
memories with them. It is a genealogist's
duty to record them before that happens.

Genealogists do not get Alzheimer's
they just lose their censuses.

Famous quote that applies (all too often)
to questionable genealogy: "Get your
facts first, then you can distort them as
you please—Mark Twain

I cannot find my ancestors, so they must
have disappeared in the witness
protection program!

A genealogist's bad heir day is when you
cannot find what you are looking for.

Genealogists never fade away; they just
lose their roots.

Genealogy is sometimes about proving
that bad family traits came from the other
side of the tree!

If you do not want your descendants to
put a twisted spin on your life story, then
write it yourself! (By Mary Harrell-
Sesniak)