

YESTERDAY'S FOOTPRINTS
Alberta Genealogical Society
Lethbridge and District Branch
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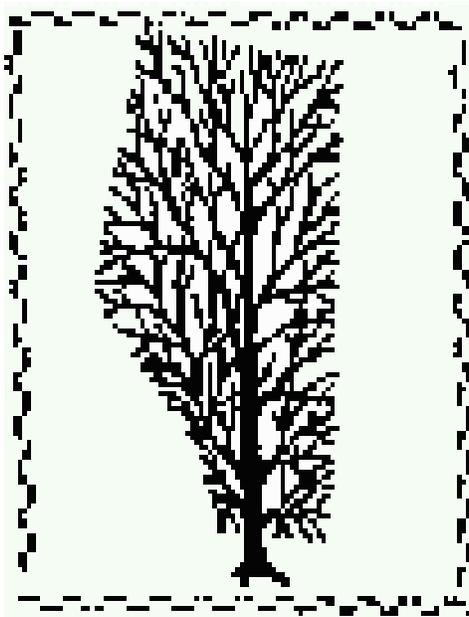


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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As the year draws to a close, I begin to think of the many challenges that have presented us this year. We experienced some happy times, some sad times and a lot of work. We prefer to think of happy times but it is those harder times that help forge us onward to bigger and better things. My relationship with Alberta Genealogical Society began many years ago. Through my association with friends I joined the organization to assist with this newsletter and to help in any other way that I could. Then life happened and I ended up helping a lot more than I had originally thought.

I've enjoyed my association with Alberta Genealogical Society and have learned and grown so much in the positions that I have held these past few years. Thank you A.G.S. for this opportunity.

Susan Haga
Lethbridge, A.G.S. President

EDITOR'S CORNER



If you want to submit any articles, genealogy humor, interesting websites or have any queries you want us to print feel free to contact us. Please let us know of any articles you would like to see on any topics. 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 and Friday 1:30–4:30 p.m. We hold meetings the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. September through May. Visitors are welcome!

Address: 1:28; 909 – 3rd Avenue North.
Phone: (403) 328-9564
<http://lethbridgeags.theboss.net/Exec.htm>

Membership Dues

In order to be a member, dues are required.
Branch: \$10.00
Alberta Genealogical Society: \$30.00
Seniors 65 and older receive a \$5.00 discount!

On Thursday, January 15, 2009 at 7:30 p.m., Belinda Crowson of the Sir Alexander Galt Archives will speak on the people of early Lethbridge. Belinda will speak on both those who are buried in the cemeteries and are highlighted in her book Vice, Virtue and Lust: Lethbridge Cemeteries. She will also speak on her present research on Lethbridge's Red Light District.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Susan Haga
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Past Presidents Advisory Group	Eleanor McMurphy, Pat Barry, Phyllis Burnett & Winn Evans

Lethbridge Family History Center

Fall/Winter Hours:

Monday 9:00-5:00 p.m., Tuesday—Thursday 9:00-9:00 p.m., and Saturday 9:00-1:00 p.m.

New at the Library and Archives Canada

by Gordon A. Watts

Column published: 04 November 2008

Library and Archives Canada (LAC) is pleased to announce the launch of *In Quarantine: Life and Death on Grosse Île, 1832-1937*, a project funded by the Department of Canadian Heritage through its Canadian Culture Online Program. Featuring a variety of documents preserved and

digitized by LAC, such as lists of births and deaths at sea, hospital registers, journals, letters, photographs and maps, this virtual exhibition tells the story not only of the quarantine station, but also of the individuals who experienced life on the island.

Immigrants at Grosse Île, a database containing thousands of digitized documents related to individuals who lived on Grosse Île, is now available through the website at:

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/grosse-ile>

The contributions of many LAC staff were instrumental in the success of this project, and their efforts are much appreciated.

LAC also wishes to thank Parks Canada for its participation and full cooperation in the creation of this virtual exhibition.

For more information, please contact project managers Sarah Hatton or Jean-Sébastien Potvin at webservices@lac-bac.gc.ca

More on-line Censuses coming to Library and Archives Canada

In the past while I have received a number of queries relating to the 1916 Census of the Western Provinces, and the 1891 Census of Canada. Those queries all asked the same thing - "When will these Censuses be available online at Library and Archives Canada?" There was concern in particular regarding the 1891 Census of Canada because it is currently available on Ancestry.ca, although except for a 14-day free trial, a subscription fee is required to access it.

At the meeting of the LAC Services Advisory Board held in Montreal on 24 October, I asked these questions of Doug Rimmer, Assistant Deputy Minister, Programs and Services, LAC. His response to my questions was that both Censuses would be available online 'soon'. He asks for your patience until they can be loaded on to the website.

Doug explained that part of the reason for the delay in placing these records online was due to the recent federal election. He stated that in the timeframe leading up to the election, and during the election itself, government departments are hesitant to make any changes to websites that could inadvertently have some kind of effect upon the election. As a result, any expected changes to the websites were put on

hold for the present. Doug indicated he would keep me advised on when these Censuses would be available on the LAC website. Like all other Censuses currently online at LAC, it is expected that these will be available without charge.

Interesting Websites

<http://www.WorldVitalRecords.com>

There is a collection of more than 60 Canadian newspapers representing every province and territory except Newfoundland and Labrador, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut. Additional newspapers from Canada will be posted at WorldVitalRecords.com as part of the International Newspaper Collection.

www.justice.qld.gov.au/bdm/IndexSearch.htm

BDM Australian-Queensland Historical Index 1829-1914

Information includes subject's family name, subject's given name, other party's names, and years to search. You can search births, deaths and marriages separately.

<http://ifhf.brsgenealogy.com/map.php>

Irish Research

<http://www.nyt.ulib.org/>

Historical New York Times Project

Newspaper issues that have been put online include the Civil War and turn of the Century 1900-1907.

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

Norway Heritage – Passenger lists and emigrant ships from Norway Heritage.

Site includes passenger lists 1825-1873, ships, historic documents, pioneer settlements, sailing ships, voyage pictures, ports and harbors, steamship companies, yards and construction.

<http://www.mckirdyindex.co.nz>

McKirdy Death Index-Scotland

Indexes searching of 360,234 names in Statutory Registers of Death for Scotland 1855-1875.

Excellent site but it is a paid site.

<http://www.epl.ca/EPLLocVor.cfm?id=64>

Edmonton Obituaries

<http://uoregon.edu/~rbear/ren.htm#>

Old Books online – Renaissance Editions

An online repository of works, printed in English between the Years 1477-1799. Sorted by author

<http://dca.tufts.edu/features/bostonstreets/>

The website provides zoomable maps from 1844, 1867, 1874, 1898, 1928, 1950 and 2001. These maps are combined with searchable city directories

from 1845, 1855, 1865, 1870, 1872, 1875, 1885, 1905, and 1925. You will find more than 2 million unique entries (including cow paths).

<http://maps.bpl.org/>

The Norman B. Leventhal Map Center
Boston Public Library's historical collection of 200,000 maps and 5,000 atlases.

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~jdevlin/>

Dunham-Wilcox-Trott-Kirk
You will find more than 3200 data files for CT, MA, RI, NJ, NY & MI including over 400 wills and probates files, 300 deeds and over 300 gravestone photos from Middlesex County, CT.

<http://www.rays-place.com/>

Biographies, town histories, cemeteries, census records, marriages, passenger lists, military records for Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Virginia, and Vermont.

<http://immigrantservants.com/search/simple>

Most indentured servants were European immigrants. This project aims to create a reconstructed passenger arrival list for people who came to Colonial America as indentured servants, redemptioners, and transported convicts between 1607 and 1820.

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

Nova Scotia Births 1864-1877, Marriages 1864-1930, Deaths 1864-1877 and 1908-1955

You'll be able to view the actual record in digitized form, and by using the Viewpoint plug-in that is provided. You'll also be able to read every detail entered on the original registration. If you want copies of the records for historical and genealogical research purposes, you can purchase them online.

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

Ancient Faces
To browse mystery photos by location click the "Free Research" tab. Scroll down the page to "Browse Mystery Photos by location."

<http://content.ancestry.com/iexec/?htx=List&dbid=1075&offeric=7858:0>

Ancestry.com—Border Crossings—Canada to U.S. 1895-1956

<http://www.ancestorsonboard.com>

Passenger lists with over 30 million records of persons leaving the British Isles from 1960 right back to 1890. You can search for records of those leaving for destinations including Australia, Canada, India, New Zealand, South Africa and USA featuring ports such as Boston, Philadelphia and New York.

<http://access.ga.e.com/newstrial/>

Newspaper birth, marriage, and death notices in the United Kingdom. The **password is british** and this is a free site only temporarily.

<http://www.libris.ca/yrkfam/>

Yorkshire Emigration to Nova Scotia 1772-1775
In all, more than 1,000 people immigrated from Yorkshire and Northumberland to Nova Scotia (including parts of what later became New Brunswick) between 1771 and 1776.

Following Websites Available for Free Access Only at Larger Family History Centers

<http://www.footnote.com>

Footnote
U.S. Revolutionary War Pension Records.
FamilySearch.org and Footnote.com will digitize and index the U.S. Revolutionary War Pension Records. The indexes and images will be viewable from the Familysearch.org and Footnote.com.

www.genline.com

Search for images available in the Swedish Church Records Archive from 1652-1923

<http://godfrey.org>

Godfrey Memorial Library has an extensive collection of essential resources to assist genealogical research. Resources include newspapers, city and business directories, vital records, printed census records, state, county, and local histories, as well as numerous family histories, and service and pension records.

<http://www.heritagequestonline.com>

Heritage Quest
a) U.S. Federal Census images 1790-1930 (name and indexes for many of the sets).
b) 20,000 published family and local histories.
c) PERSI – Index of over 1.9 million genealogies and local history articles.
d) Revolutionary War Pension, Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files.
e) Freedman Bank Records

www.newenglandancestors.org

New England Historical Genealogical Society founded in 1845.

<http://worldvitalrecords.com>

World Vital Records provides access to more than 60 parish registers, Scottish death records, UK marriages, Irish prisoner records, 300 newspapers (100,000 pages added a month), over 500 online databases including vital, military, land, pension records, reference materials, family histories, maps, gazetteers and International coops

Online Directories

There are a number of directories for Eastern Canada now online:

www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/canadiandirectories/index-e.html

Other Directory Projects

The following are links to other digitization/transcription projects.

Newfoundland and Labrador

Business directories [online] –Newfoundland's Grand Banks genealogical & historical data. – [Cited Dec. 2, 2002] –Access:

<http://ngb.chebucto.org/directory.htm>

- Transcriptions of various Newfoundland provincial directories.

Quebec

Annuaire "Lovell" de Montreal et sa banlieue (1842-1999) [online] – Bibliotheque nationale de Quebec. – [Cited Jan. 25, 2006]. – Access: <http://bibnum2.bnquebec.ca/bna/lovell/index.html>

- Includes digitized images of the Lovell directories for Montreal and suburbs, 1842-1999.

Ontario

County Directories

Ontario city & farmers directories [online]. – The Olive tree genealogy. – [Cited Dec. 2, 2002] – Access:

<http://olivetreenealogy.com/can/ont/dir.shtml>

- Transcriptions of names and other information from a number of nineteenth-century Ontario county directories. Organized by county and township.

Halton Region

Halton's historical directories [online] – Halton's historical and newspaper records. – HALINET. – [Cited Dec. 2, 2002] – Access:

www.halinet.on.ca/localhistory/histdir.htm

Transcriptions of names and other information from a variety of nineteenth-century directories. Only Halton Region names have been extracted.

Toronto

Historicity: Toronto then and now [online]. Toronto Public Library. – [Cited Dec 2, 2002] Access:

[//historicity.torontopubliclibrary.ca/webHTY/index.jsp](http://historicity.torontopubliclibrary.ca/webHTY/index.jsp)

- Includes digitized copies of Town of York and Toronto city directories, 1797-1881, 1882-1900 will be added.

Internet Archive: Canadian Libraries [online] – [Cited]: Dec. 7, 2006] – Access: www.archive.org/details/toronto

- Includes digitized directories of several Ontario cities. Keyword search: directory.

Prince Edward Island

P.E.I. directories [online]. – The Island Register. – [Cited Dec. 2, 2002].

Transcriptions of several Prince Edward Island provincial directories.

- Transcriptions of several prince Edward Island provincial directories:

Hutchinson's Prince Edward Island directory, 1864 –

www.islandregister.com/hutchinson.html

Hutchinson's Prince Edward Island directory, 1864 – Appendix –

www.islandregister.com/hutchapp.html

The Lovell's Prince Edward Island directory 1871 –

www.islandregister.com/lovell.html

The McAlpine's Prince Edward Island directory 1880-1881 –

www.islandregister.com/alpines.html

Western Canada

British Columbia city directories 1860-1901 [online]. – [Cited July 29, 2008]. – Access:

www.vpl.vancouver.bc.ca/bccd/index.php

Our Roots: Canada's Local Histories Online [online]. – [Cited June 14, 2005]. – Access:

www.ourroots.ca

Includes digitized directories of western Canadian cities. Keyword search: directory.

Also Lethbridge Herald is online for free access: <http://lethbridgeherald.newspaperarchive.com/>

If you belong to a library in the Chinook area and have a pin number – Canadian newsstand is online courtesy of ProQuest with 201 newspapers – a few as early as 1985 and most as current as 2 days ago. Some you will only get an index for an obit and will have to get a copy of the original paper but some including the Victoria Colonist you will be able to get an obit right off the paper.

www.ourfutureourpast.ca/

Our Futureourpast.ca has very old papers from Alberta but you must check each paper yourself. You can find articles and obits, it takes some time but once you learn the pattern of the paper you can find lots.

Paper of Record is free but you must register www.paperofrecord.com/ limited Canadian papers but the old Edmonton Bulletin 1896-1906 and McLeod Gazette 1882-1907 are two southern Alberta searchable papers.

Here's another Alberta site that is indexing BMDs www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~abwcobit/index.htm

(Submitted by Eleanor McMurchy)

Rewarding Research in the Ships Passenger Lists

By Norma Bosman

Finding your ancestors on a ships passenger list has become much easier. During September and October of 2008 two indexed ships passenger lists became available on Ancestry. Gone are the days of guessing the date and port of entry and then spending hours viewing reels of microfilm. The original registers have been digitalized with the images available for view.

To view the images it is necessary to subscribe to Ancestry or attend a library which has a subscription to Ancestry. Fortunately, the Lethbridge Branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society has a subscription. If you are reading this article you can access the ships passenger list databases for free!

This is a personal story showing how the two ships passenger lists complement each other.

My grandmother, Selina Turner, was born 7 February 1882 in Manchester, Lancashire England. Selina is living with her aunt in Manchester at the time of the 1901 census. Occupation for Selina is machinist for clothing.

My grandfather, Lewis Stockwell, was born 9 April 1882 in Leeds, Yorkshire, England. Lewis was living with his parents in Padiham, Lancashire, England in 1901.

With use of the Canadian Passenger Lists Indexing, I found my grandfather arriving in Canada at the port of Halifax on the 6 March 1909.

After many years searching for more information about Selina between the 1901 English census and her marriage in 1912 – I found her on the Canadian Passenger List. She arrived in Quebec on 19 July 1912. Turner is a

common name but I felt confident that I had the correct person as the age was correct, she was to be married, she was traveling to Lethbridge and her occupation was machinist. I assume that she immediately boarded a train arriving in Lethbridge shortly before her marriage to Lewis on July 27!

Sometime after this marriage, Selina returned to England, leaving my mother to be raised by her father, Lewis. The family never spoke about this, and I always wondered when Selina had left and how old my mother had been at the time. With the indexed UK Incoming Passenger Lists, this information was now easy to find. On this index Selina is found traveling from Montreal, Canada and arriving in Glasgow, Scotland on 3 September 1919. The remainder of Selina's story is very sad as she died of tuberculosis in 1921 in Manchester, England.

Collections Canada has the digitized images of the Canadian Passenger Lists on their website at www.collectionscanada.gc.ca. A search can be made by date or port of entry but not by name.

The named index is available on Ancestry.ca or Ancestry.com. Collections Canada provides the following information regarding the Canadian ports of entry and dates for the available passenger lists:

Quebec City and Montreal (Quebec), 1865-1935;
Halifax (Nova Scotia), 1881-1935;
Saint John (New Brunswick), 1900-1935;
North Sydney (Nova Scotia), 1906-1935 (these include mostly ferry arrivals from Newfoundland and St-Pierre-et-Miquelon, with a few passengers in transit from other countries);
Vancouver (British Columbia), 1905-1935;
Victoria (British Columbia), 1905-1935; via New York, 1906-1931; and other eastern United States ports, 1905-1928 (these lists include only the names of passengers who stated that they intended to proceed directly to Canada).

The Canadian Passenger Lists indexing is not always indicative of the information on the list. It is important to search many different ways to find your people. Be creative! For example: William Smith and his wife Aolty; William Smith is clear on the passenger list and in the index. The name Aolty is not as clear but could pass for Dolly, it is clear that she is the wife of William. After finding William in the index out of curiosity I searched for Aolty. Remember I had already found William so I knew the date and name of the ship. It took several attempts before I discovered that she was listed in the index as Adolf Smith!

Ancestry.com gives the following description for the UK Incoming Passenger Lists, 1878-1960.

“This database is an index to the Board of Trade’s passenger lists of ships arriving in the United Kingdom from foreign ports outside of Europe and the Mediterranean from 1878-1888 and 1890-1960. Information listed on the passenger lists may include: name of passenger, their birth date or age, port of departure, port of arrival, date of arrival, and vessel name.

The passenger lists date from 1878 to 1888 and 1890 to 1960. However, many of the pre-1890 lists were irregularly destroyed by the Board of Trade in 1900. Therefore, there are not many lists included in this database that date from these earlier years.

Separate lists were kept for British (and Commonwealth) passengers and Alien passengers. In addition, there was a variety of form types used throughout the years. These differences in forms may result in a variety of information recorded for different passengers.”

The UK Incoming Passenger Lists are much easier to search. The indexing appears to be more accurate and the pages are much more legible. People who were deported are noted on the list. Sometimes, they are listed at the bottom of the page, deported is listed in the column for occupation or there is a bracket with deported on the right hand side of the page. Deportation seems to be rather common and it raises the question: What were the reasons for deportation? As noted above separate pages for British and Aliens are included and often a group of the same nationality would be traveling together.

I have found several of my Great aunts and uncles on the two lists as well as my grandparents. This has been an exciting and rewarding research experience for me and has enhanced our family stories.

Causes of Death: A Guide to Archaic Terminology

(Constance R. Cherba and Edward E. Deckert—Family Chronicle—May/June 2007 pgs 12-14)

The city sexton who recorded the cause of death usually obtained this information from the next-of-kin or, occasionally, the undertaker rather than from a medical practitioner.

People often died without medical care, so no trained expert determined the cause of death. Often the symptoms evident at the time of death were listed as the cause of death, and the underlying disease went unnamed.

In a 21-year period, 1855 to 1875, 59 percent of deaths (Dubuque, Iowa) occurred among children younger than 18, 24 percent among men and 17 percent among women. Among the youngsters, the top 10 causes of death were cramps, dysentery, summer complaint, scarlet fever, lung fever, consumption, croup, fits, accident and inflammation of the bowel. Men most frequently died from consumption, accidents (drowning, burns, falls, stabbing, etc.), typhoid, old age (average age was 74.9 years), lung fever, dropsy, heart disease, bilious fever, inflammation of the bowel and apoplexy. Females died from consumption, complications of childbirth, old age (average age was 77.4 years), inflammation of the bowel, typhoid, dropsy, lung fever, heart disease, inflammation of the lung and paralysis.

While we have named the most common causes of death in early Dubuque, it has yet to be determined what these terms mean in current medical language. To aid today’s genealogist, we have compiled the following glossary:

Abscess: a swelling in soft tissue filled with pus caused by an infection.

Ague: malarial infection characterized by stages of chills, fever, sweating.

Apoplexy: paralysis caused by stroke.

Bilious Fever: fever associated with liver disease.

Blood Poisoning: see septicemia.

Blood Flux: blood in the stool, also known as dysentery.

Bright’s Disease: an inflammatory disease of the kidneys.

Canine Madness: hydrophobia. Also known as rabies.

Catarrh: inflammation of the mucous membranes of the head and throat.

Childbed Fever: see puerperal fever.

Chin Cough: see whooping cough.

Cholera Infantum: a common, non-contagious diarrhea of young children, occurring in summer or autumn due to spoiled milk. Also known as summer complaint.

Cholera: an acute, infectious disease characterized by severe diarrhea, vomiting and cramps.

Chorea: a nervous disorder marked by spasmodic movement of the limbs and facial muscles due to streptococcal infection.

Congestion of the Brain: hydrocephalus. Also known as stroke, cerebral hemorrhage, meningitis.

Congestion of the Lungs: pulmonary edema, sometimes an indication of heart disease.

Consumption: pulmonary tuberculosis.
Coup de Soliel: Sunstroke.
Cramps: abdominal pain. Also known as colic.
Croup: a spasmodic laryngitis seen mainly in children and associated with a cough and difficulties in breathing.
Debility: abnormal bodily weakness or feebleness.
Diarrhea: a frequent and profuse discharge of loose or liquid stool.
Diphtheria: an acute and often fatal infectious disease of the upper respiratory tract in which a membrane grows across the throat.
Dropsy: accumulation of abnormally large amounts of fluid in tissues and cavities of the body caused by kidney disease or congestive heart failure.
Dysentery: inflammation of the colon and intestines leading to frequent passage of stool, blood and mucous. Also known as flux or bloody flux.
Dyspepsia: acid indigestion or heart burn, sometimes symptomatic of a heart attack.
Encephalitis: swelling of brain tissue due to infection. Also known as sleeping sickness.
Enteric Fever: see typhoid fever.
Enteritis: inflammation of the bowel.
Erysipelas: a feverish, contagious disease characterized by intense red, local inflammation of the skin caused by streptococcus bacterium. Also known as Rose or Saint Anthony's Fire.
Falling Sickness: epilepsy.
Fever of the Brain: inflammation of the brain or meninges as in encephalitis or meningitis.
Fever of the Lung: pneumonia. Fits, spasms, convulsions: violent, involuntary muscular contractions of the extremities, trunk and head.
French Pox: syphilis. Also known as bad blood, great pox, lues, Naples disease.
Gout: an arthritic disease marked by recurrent acute attacks of pain, tenderness, redness and swelling around the joints and tendons.
Grippe: influenza
Hydrocephalus: enlarged head from accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid. Also known as water on the brain.
Indolent Fever: rise in body temperature causing little or no pain but causing weakness and lassitude.
Inflammation of the Brain: inflammation of the meninges which are the membranes enveloping the brain and spinal cord. Also known as meningitis.
Inflammation of the Lung: inflammation of the bronchial tubes in the lungs. Also known as bronchitis.

Inflammation of Spine: also known as meningitis.
Intussusception of the Bowel: obstruction in the bowel caused by a length of intestine passing another organ.
Jaundice: a yellow pigment deposited in the skin, whites of the eyes and mucous membranes, caused by an increase of bile pigments in the blood due to obstruction of the liver glands.
Lead Poisoning: nerve and brain damage resulting in paralysis and mental disorders. Often caused by pottery glazes, paints and lead salts used in early medicines.
Lockjaw: early symptom of tetanus characterized by spasm of jaw muscles and inability to open jaws.
Malaria: disease caused by parasite transmitted by the bites of mosquitoes. Also known as ague, or congestive fever, or marsh fever.
Marasmus: progressive wasting away of the body brought on by malnutrition.
Milk Fever: infection from drinking contaminated milk. Also known as undulant fever or brucellosis.
Mortification: gangrene or death of tissue.
Paralysis: loss of the power of voluntary motion or sensation in any part of the body.
Peritonitis: inflammation of the peritoneum which is the membrane that lines the cavity of the abdomen.
Phthisis: also known as consumption or tuberculosis.
Pneumonia: inflammation of the lungs, usually due to viral infection. Also known as winter fever.
Puerperal Fever: rise in temperature due to a serious infection of the placenta following child delivery.
Putrid Fever: see diphtheria.
Quinsy: an acute inflammation of the soft plate around the tonsils, often leading to an abscess.
Scarlet Fever: an inflammation of the nose, throat and mouth caused by hemolytic streptococcus which produces a red rash. Also known as scarlatina.
Scrofula: tuberculosis of the lymphatic glands, especially those in the neck. A disease primarily affecting children and young adults.
Septicemia: a bacterial infection condition of the blood, marked by chills, fever and inflammation of lungs, kidneys and other organs.
Shaking Palsy: Parkinson disease.
Sleeping Sickness: see encephalitis.
Softening of the Brain: the result of a stroke or hemorrhage in the brain, resulting in the brain tissue softening.

Spotted Fever: either typhus or meningitis.

Thrush: a disease in which there are white spots and ulcers on the mouth, lips, tongue and in the throat caused by a parasitic fungus.

Typhoid Fever: an infectious disease marked by fever, diarrhea, prostration, headache and intestinal inflammation caused by the bacterium *Salmonella typhosa*.

Typhus: an acute, infectious disease transmitted by lice and fleas and characterized by high fever, headache and dizziness. Also known as typhus fever, malignant fever, jail fever, hospital fever, ship fever, brain fever, spotted fever, petechial fever, camp fever, and trench fever.

Variola: also known as smallpox.

Whooping Cough: an infectious disease common amongst children caused by bacterium and marked by convulsive, spasmodic cough, sometimes followed by a crowing intake of breath. Also known as pertussis.

With the advent of improved sanitation, refrigeration, pasteurization, immunization and medication such as antibiotics, the modern community has been able to eradicate many of the causes of death which plagued the early residents of North America. Often the only remains of some of the causes of death are a sexton's cryptic notation on cemetery records.

Acronyms that May Be Found on Tombstones

(Kathleen Shanahan Maca, Family Chronicle—March/April 2007 pg. 14)

AOF—American Order of Foresters

BPOE—Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks

DAC—Daughters of American Colonists

DAN—Daughters of the Nile (women's auxiliary of Shriners)

DAR (NSDAR)—Daughters of the American Revolution

DUV—Daughters of Union Veterans of Civil War

F&AM or FAM—Free and Accepted Masons

FCB—Knights of Pythias (Friendship, Charity, Benevolence)

FOE—Fraternal Order of Eagles

FOF—Fraternal Order of Firefighters

FOP—Fraternal Order of Police

GAR—Grand Army of the Republic

IOF—Independent Order of Foresters

IOKP—Independent Order of Knights of Pythias

IOOF—Independent Order of Odd Fellows

KC, K of C—Knights of Columbus

LGAR—Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic

MWA—Modern Woodmen of America

NSDAR—National Society Daughters of American Revolution

NIWA—National Indian War Veterans

OES—Order of Eastern Star

ORM—Order of Red Men

POSA—Patriotic Order of the Sons of America

RAM—Royal Arch Masons

RIP—requiescat in pace, Latin for “Rest in peace”

SCV—Sons of Confederate Veterans

UCV—United Confederate Veterans

UDC—United Daughters of the Confederacy

USWV—United Spanish War Veterans

VFW—Veterans of Foreign Wars

WOW—Woodmen of the World

Deciphering Old Handwriting

(Pat Wohler, Internet Genealogy—internet-genealogy.com—Feb/March 2007)

Almost all the old documents we use in our research are handwritten and those from the late 19th century are not usually too difficult to read. However, older documents can present problems in writing styles.

Before the mid-17th century, most English documents were written in a style called “Secretary Hand”. It was developed in the 16th century and was a cursive style in which the pen did not leave the page between the letters.

It was gradually replaced by the “Italic Hand”, which was developed in Italy during the Renaissance and was the style of choice in academic circles. It is a little easier for us to read because it is the root of our style of writing.

Old handwriting is known in academic circles as paleography and there are a number of excellent books and articles available on the subject. University libraries would be a good source for these. There are also several excellent websites that can help to prepare us to deal with these confusing documents.

Sabrina Murray, a Florida genealogist, taught a course on deciphering old handwriting and a lot of the material from that course is presented at the following website.

<http://amberskyline.com/treasuremaps/oldhand.html>.

This site is a good place to start. It is fairly basic and has lots of links to actual examples of old writing and the abbreviations often used. The only limitation is that the examples are all taken from documents produced in the US and the style of writing can vary a little from that in England or elsewhere.

The Finnish Genealogical Society has a site that focuses on old European handwriting styles. They have samples of both upper and lowercase alphabets from different periods, which is very helpful. You can download or print out these alphabets as working guides or study aids. Their site is at www.genealogia.fi/faq/faq031e.htm.

The National Archives in the UK has produced an online learning resource that should win awards. You can find their informative website at the following link.

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/palaeography/.

There are considerable reference materials on abbreviations, dating; the use of numbers, money and measurements, but the heart of the site is 10 tutorials. Each tutorial focuses on one document. A discussion of the document and its historical context is followed by specific tips for reading it. The abbreviations used peculiar forms of letters or words and confusing spellings are noted and related to the numbered line in the document. A glossary is provided for terms used in the document. There is even an alphabet of the letters used in the document and their modern counterparts. An online tutorial allows you to transcribe the document one line at a time and submit for verification. An immediate response will show you where you have made any errors, if you have made any. You can download a PDF file of the whole tutorial to your computer. However, I found it easier to print out directly from the screen. You have the option of printing the whole document and the correct transcription of it. This is really worth taking a look at.

If you are dealing with Scottish documents or will be, then I have another resource for you. The Scottish Archive Network has three interactive tutorials online at www.scottishhandwriting.com.

Apparently, they are planning on adding a few more. These tutorials take you through the common Secretary Hand and some of the particulars of its application in Scotland. The second tutorial demonstrates how individual differences develop among writers, just as they do in our time. The third one is an introduction to court records with information on Scottish vocabulary and legal jargon. This is a great resource for the Scottish researcher.

Whatever route you take, developing a facility for reading old handwriting is going to take some time and work, but it is really worth it for the joy of being able to decipher our past.

What's In a Name?

(Rick Crume, Family Chronicle—Jan/Feb 2007)

It's fun to learn what our family names mean and when our ancestors first adopted them. People just went by just one given name in the middle ages, but they gradually added another name to help distinguish themselves from each other. The nobility and landowners usually

adopted permanent surnames before merchants and commoners.

Surnames derive from four main sources. Patronymic names are based on the father's first name, so John Robertson's son might be called William Johnson. Some surnames come from place names. If James came from the forest, people in the meadow may have called him James Atwood. In other cases, people adopted a nickname, such as Strong or an occupation such as Wright, as their surname.

Naming practices vary greatly in different countries, ethnic groups and time periods. Most people in England adopted surnames by 1400 but some farmers and workers in Wales and other countries didn't take surnames until the 19th century or later.

Our guide to surname origins covers 28 ethnic groups and notes when patronymic names prevailed and how they were formed. We also alert you to related online resources and sites where you can get in touch with other genealogists interested in the same names. Whether you're researching a Smith or a Rumpelstiltskin, understanding the naming practices in your ancestral hometowns will help you link the generations in your family tree.

American

African-American

As slaves, African Americans often had no surnames or used their owner's name. Many blacks didn't adopt surnames until emancipation, when they took their former master's name, a common name in the area of the name of a famous American, such as Washington, Jefferson or Jackson.

If you'd like to connect with other genealogists researching the same African-American family names, check out the AfriGeneas Surnames

www.afrigeneas.com/surnames/

American Indian

Each Native American tribe has its own naming practices. In the late 1700s and throughout the 1800s, many Indians adopted last names. Some Cherokees translated their names, typically names for an animal or insect, into the English equivalent, such as Wolf or Cricket. Other tribes took compound names, such as He Who Thinks and Holy Bear. Many Indians chose European names like Boudinot and Ross.

To find others researching the same Indian names, go to Rootsweb's ethnic-native mailing lists directory, found at website

lists.rootsweb.com/index/other/Ethnic-Native, and click on a list name, such as Cherokee surnames. Then you can search the mailing list's archives.

British and Irish

English

Norman barons introduced surnames into England after 1066 and most English families adopted hereditary surnames by 1400. Fixed surnames draw on trades (Smith), topographical names (Green, Hill), place names (London); fathers' names (Johnson) and nicknames referring to appearance or character (White, Swift). Today England has more than 45,000 surnames. genuki.org.uk/big/NamesPersonal.html Has links to several surname sites.

Irish

Hereditary surnames were widely used in Ireland by the 12th century. The Irish form of patronymics uses the prefixes Mac or Mc, as McCarthy, for "son of", and O, as in O'Reilly, for "grandson of" or "descended from". Descendants of Anglo-Norman invaders substituted Fitz, as in Fitzgerald, for the prefix Mac. When England laid claim to Ireland in the 16th century, many Irish names of Gaelic origin were anglicized and many Irish people adopted English surnames. Nineteenth-century Irish emigrants often dropped the prefixes.

Rootsweb's Fianna Surnames, rootsweb.com/~fianna/surname/surname.html has a large registry of researcher's Irish surname interests.

Scottish

Early Scandinavian settlements influenced Scotland's use of patronymics, which persisted until at least the 18th century in the Highlands. A patronymic name can use the suffix -son or the prefixes Mac or Mc. Robertson, naturally, means the son of Robert. The prefix Mac or Mc, as in MacDonald and McDonald, literally means the son of Donald, but anyone who lived in the area controlled by this clan chief could have taken the name. Patronymics can also be used with occupations, as in the name McIntyre, which indicates the son of a carpenter.

Other Scottish surnames are derived from places (Burns means "stream"), occupations (Webster means "weaver") and nicknames (Reid means "red")

genuki.org.uk/indexes/SurnamesLists.html, lists surname interest registries covering all of Scotland and specific counties.

Welsh

In stark contrast to England, the patronymic naming system pre-dominated in Wales. Most members of the gentry adopted fixed surnames in the 1700s, but farmers and workers still used patronymic names in the 1800s and later. The persistence of patronymic names in Wales left the country with few surnames. For example, the 10 most popular surnames covered almost three-quarters of the population in the county of Cardiganshire in the early 1800s.

Use GENUKI's Online Welsh Names Directory, www.list.jaunay.com/ to find other genealogists researching the same surnames.

Family Association Trip To The Netherlands—Six Cousins Have Fun!

(By Judy Morris—pg 4 of Stoutenburge-Teller Family Association Newsletter—Aug. 15, 2008)

Betsy Neal's careful planning resulted in Betsy, Louise Hall, Alice Box and me meeting at the train station at the Amsterdam airport on June 10th, where we caught a train to Amersfoort, our home base for the next week. We found Trudy Thompson at the Amersfoort train station. When we got to their lodging, we roused our Hawaiian cousin, Kathy Johnson, who was napping after her long trek. We were unpacked and set for the week by dinner time.

I needed a history refresher before we left, so I pass this along. Everyone in the group was related to a son of Jacobus Stoutenburgh and Margaret Teller. Jacobus was the son of Tobias, the son of Pieter Stoutenburg who settled in New Amsterdam.

We headquartered in a wonderful old town named Amersfoort. It was originally a walled town with a canal, but as the population grew, houses were built on the wall and as the town spread outwards, a second wall was built.

A forty minute train ride put us into the heart of Amsterdam. Look out for bicycles! We learned very quickly not to step out into the street without looking twice, as trams and bikes were everywhere.

Our first stop was the Rijksmuseum. We heard the first time, but not the last, that many rooms of this museum were closed for renovation. We were curious to see the portrait of Johan van Oldenbamevelt (JVO) who had purchased the property at Stoutenburg. Johan was a very powerful man at the end of the 16th and at the beginning of the 17th centuries in the Netherlands.

We were unable to locate the portrait that was supposed to be hanging in this museum, but we were told that there were prints we could see at the Rijksmuseum library located in another section of town.

Our group intended to meet there the next day, but directions were not the best and Kathy and I were the first to locate the library. After washing our hands and pledging our first born children, we spent the next five hours looking at several files which contained prints of JVO, his execution and his children. Louise and Alice followed our footsteps the next day.

Our next adventure was to visit the “town” of Stoutenburg about 10 miles from Amersfoort. Well, we passed through a little hamlet about a kilometer long called Stoutenburg. Then we visited the Stoutenburg castle. The remains of the old castle are no longer there. The castle that is there now is from the 1800s, and although fun to see, it was not a true Stoutenburg castle. But that didn’t stop us from touring, walking and having fun adventures.

Kathy, Betsy and I took the train to The Hague where JVO was executed. There was a moment when we walked into the old square that stopped us short. It really looked like the prints of the execution. We located a statue of JVO seated in a small park nearby and could feel his presence.

Interlink Genealogy (Canadian) Books

Finding Your Canadian Ancestors

In *Finding Your Canadian Ancestors*, authors Sherry Irvine and Dave Obee guide you through Canadian genealogical records, first by record type and then according to province. The authors detail government and ecclesiastical records, as well as records related to special groups such as Aboriginals Acadians, and Loyalists. C\$22.00

The Beginner’s Guide to Ontario Genealogy

By Fraser Dunford. This book is designed to help the beginner. Addressing only material relevant to Ontario and using only Ontario sources, this is the basic book to read if you are a beginner interested in Ontario genealogy. Here’s basic help with finding maps, censuses, religious records, civil registrations, municipal records, land records, newspapers, immigration/emigration records, and wills. C\$9.95

British Columbia 1871: A List of Residents Based on the Work of Edward Mallandaine

Compiled by Dave Obee. This is a 115-page index to residents of B.C. as recorded in the first half of 1871 – just before it became a province. This information was gathered at the same time that a census was being taken in other parts of Canada, so it complements that resource. It puts all of the names from the directory into two lists – Greater Victoria and everything else. C\$15.00

Federal Voters Lists in Ontario 1935-1979

By Dave Obee. Published April 2004. This is the first comprehensive guide to using Ontario’s federal voter’s lists in family history research. The book explains what the lists were for, how they were compiled, and how they can be used. The lists are available on microfilm from the National Archives of Canada. C\$7.95

Federal Voters Lists in Western Canada 1935-1979

By Dave Obee. Published April 2003. This is the first comprehensive guide to using federal voter’s lists in family history research. Dave explains what the lists were for, how they were compiled, and how they can be used. There is a 30-page guide to the microfilm numbers for all of the federal constituencies in the four western provinces as well as the territories. C\$7.95

Western Canadian Directories on Microfiche /Microfilm-Third Edition, Published Apr/2003

By Dave Obee. Expanded and updated—twice the size of the second edition. This guide lists local directories that have been reproduced in microform, and lets researchers know what to look for. It includes entries for directories covering Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, and the Yukon between 1860 and 1995. C\$9.95

Upper Canada Naturalization Records 1828-1850

Second edition. By Donald A. McKenzie. Now indexed! After 1829 all men over the age of sixteen who were not British subjects and who had lived in Upper Canada more than seven years were required by law to take an oath of allegiance. This book now contains nominal indexes to all the surviving records now in Archives Canada. 2005. C\$12.00

(For more Interlink books see their site at www.interlinkbookshop.com/canada.htm)