

Search and Ye Shall Find

By Janet Brigham Rands

My dad used to take me fishing along little creeks (“cricks”) in the remote wilds of northern Idaho. When we were heading out to fish, my dad would walk through meadow grasses and catch grasshoppers with his cap. He then would put the live grasshoppers in an old Band-Aid can. I was not only unwilling to catch grasshoppers, but also incapable.

As we approached the creek, he would pull out a grasshopper and stick it on his fish hook alongside a tied fly (made of tiny, oiled feathers carefully configured to look like a real fly, at least to a fish). He would look at me expectantly, then shake his head in resignation and bait my hook.

We looked for pools where fish would congregate. He taught me to sneak up on a pool and dangle my fly/grasshopper onto the top of the water. If I followed his instructions—whispered, stayed out of sight of the fish, and kept the fly oiled and on the water’s surface—the result was invariably a tug on the line and fresh trout for dinner.

His judgment about where fish liked to hang out and what they liked to eat was nearly infallible: He knew how to think like a fish.

Like mountain trout that tend to snooze in pools, search engine results will tug on the fishing line if you give them what they want.

When the first accessible search engines emerged on the Web in the 1990s, I found myself drawing on my father’s strategy: Even though different search engines use different strategies, the approach to using them efficiently is about the same, no matter what search engine you use. Like mountain trout that tend to snooze in pools, search engine results will tug on the fishing line, if you give them what they want.

Avoid Broad Terms

The first thing to learn is to box in the results you want. If you use a broad term, you’ll get a gazillion broad results, few of them relevant.

Let’s say you’re hoping to find information about your Scots-Irish ancestors, who settled in Canada in the early 1800s. If you enter simply *Canada immigration*, the results will be many pages of general information about being an immigrant in Canada, starting with instructions on how to become a Canadian citizen. These results are of little use because the search was too general.

So you try to narrow the search by focusing on the year

they emigrated, and you enter *Canada immigration 1819*. This time, you get specific family websites for 1819 emigration, passenger logs, and related lists, but nothing specific about your ancestors. This is because the search was too specific. By tying it to a specific year, 1819, you limited it too strictly. Perhaps a website won’t mention that year, or won’t use the terms *Canadian* and *immigration*. Unless the website has metatags that respond to keywords in a search (which most homegrown websites don’t), overarching terms about your search might yield nothing useful.

It’s time to think like a fish.

Think, what do I really want to find? And, what words might show up in a website? In other words, what does this “fish” like to “eat”? The answer to the first question is that you want information about immigrants from Ireland to Canada in the early 1820s. It’s okay to truncate your terminology a bit, since Google, for example, ignores word case (upper or lower) as well as punctuation, and common words such as *to*, *in*, and *the*. If you answer your first question in a straightforward way and enter *immigrants*

from ireland to canada in the early 1820s you do find something useful, because the search engine is using your terms *ireland*, *canada*, and *early 1820s* to focus in on information.

A subtle shift in your searching will bring up different results. If you enter *Scots-Irish immigrants to Canada in the early 1820s*, you will lose many of the sites using the term *ireland*, and you’ll pull up sites more related to the Scots-Irish. To focus more accurately and yet be more inclusive, you could enter *scots scotch irish ireland canada 1820s*.

Include Multiple Terms

As brilliantly executed as Google is, the search results differ for the terms *scots* and *scotch*, since both terms are in common usage. Because the application of the terms overlaps, many sites use both terms. To be sure you don’t miss a site that uses only one of the terms, it’s best to include multiple terms.

This also can be the case for terms with abbreviations, such as *NCAA* and *National Collegiate Athletic Association*, and terms with historical precedents, such as *Ottawa* and *Bytown*. A smart web author will use all the applicable terms to maximize hits, but some web authors are stubborn about using one term in

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lieu of another. To capture their content, you'll need to think like them—if they won't bite at a tied fly, maybe they'll bite at a grasshopper.

Use a Name

Another strategy for finding an ancestor can be to simply enter a name and see what happens. If you enter *william wilson*, you'll get a vast amount of irrelevant information, starting with the short story "William Wilson" by Edgar Allen Poe. If you narrow it by putting the name in quotation marks, so that only that ordering of the words is searched, you get virtually the same collection of irrelevant results. This is because William Wilson is too common a name for focused searching, even if you use the exact name for the search. Adding the term *canada* to the search would be useful only if the name and the country were both listed on a website. They are, obscurely, but you might have to plough through dozens of pages of results to find that site, and you might not recognize it even if you did find it.

A more efficient way to search is to include something unusual in the search. Let's say that prior research has indicated that William Wilson (common name) was married to Eliza Argue (uncommon name). If you enter "*william wilson*" "*eliza argue*" together, the search is too narrow and brings up nothing. But get rid of one of the limiting elements, the name *eliza*, and you are now searching for the intersection of William Wilson (in quotes, to keep searching for his name rather than all Williams and all Wilsons) and a family named Argue.

Bingo! You've caught a fish! Several fish, actually. This search

brings up several relevant websites relating to these two relatively obscure people's ancestors and descendants. You've accomplished what my dad always thought was the best luck in fishing—you're able to catch a fish with a grasshopper, and then use the same grasshopper to catch another fish.

Let's apply the same principles of boxing in the search results with another quest — the sort of search you'd do in family history research. Let's find the athletic record for a gymnast named "John Louis." Searching for *john* would be too general, and even searching for *john louis* would be too broad, resulting in information about people named "John Louis" who make custom closets or are ministers. It especially helps to double-check the name spelling (a computerized genealogy database is good for this, if the original entries were accurate) and learn that the name actually is *jon louis*, minus the *h*.

With a Little Bit of Luck

Enter simply *jon louis gymnastics*, and you are rewarded with multiple hits about his being the 1986 NCAA all-around men's gymnastics champion. Even the terms *jon louis ncaa* or *jon louis stanford* yield ample information about his accomplishments, whether or not you knew he was a gymnast rather than a swimmer or football player.

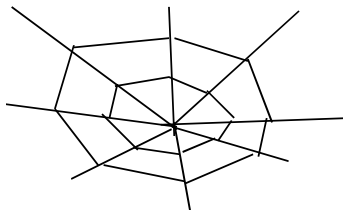
Sometimes results do seem to hide in little pools of information along the main stream. You can learn how to dangle your search line irresistibly on top of the water and reel in those elusive tidbits about your ancestors. Heat up the frying pan, and—as we always muttered around the campfire—*bon appétit!*

Spider Webs: Surrey Will Abstracts, The Canada Gazette, Texas Land Survey Maps, NewYorkAncestors.org

Surrey Will Abstracts

British Origins has published abstracts of approximately 28,000 wills proved in the Archdeaconry and Commissary Courts of Surrey. The wills are from the 15th to the 19th century. They are fully indexed and searchable online. The typical will contains about ten names, and often many more, most of whom are related. They are one of the best sources for genealogy research that can be found.

The wills are also a rich source of information about the social history of the people. They come from all walks of life. Most of the testators were people of modest means and included many artisans, small farmers, and tradesmen. Many wills describe details of the testator's property and state the value of the property. Items mentioned include clothes, furniture, tools, and land. Should you not find an ancestor, a search for a date and occupation can lead



to other individuals living at the same time and under similar conditions as your ancestor.

These abstracts include the names of all individuals mentioned in the will (testator, beneficiaries, witnesses, executors, overseers and others) and their relationships, place names, and occupations. The abstract also mentions all monetary and other bequests, and describes any land conveyed. More than a quarter of a million people are included in the index. The abstracts can be searched by name and date or the "free text" search facility can be used to search for any word used in the abstracts. To visit the site, go to:

www.britishorigins.com

The Canada Gazette

The Library and Archives Canada (LAC) announced *A Nation's Chronicle: The Canada Gazette*, a project funded by the Canadian Culture Online Program of the Department of Canadian Heritage and the Canada Gazette Directorate. The *Canada Gazette* has been referred to as "the official newspaper of the Government of Canada." It has been published for more than 160 years and has informed readers as to operations of government. All issues, starting with the first issue in 1841, will be online at the new site with a keyword search feature.

Currently most of the digitizing of the issues remains to be done. At the time of this writing, the issues from 1998 and later were available. The remaining issues will be added as they are digitized, and the project is scheduled for completion in early 2009.

To visit the site, go to:

www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/canada-gazette/

Texas Land Survey Maps

Arphax Publishing of Norman, Oklahoma publishes land survey maps. They announced the first three books of a new series containing the Texas Land Survey Maps. The company has combined data from land ownership, geographic features, and transportation to create the land survey maps. The first three books in this series are for Cooke, Lavaca, and Rusk Counties. The remaining counties are expected to be completed at a rate of approximately one county per week until all 254 Texas counties are completed (in about 5 years). The Texas Land Survey Series will also be available in digital format soon.

The Texas land records are unique. When Texas came into the union, the state retained its public lands and used its own methods to distribute them. Texas did not

follow the same township and section method used in "public-land" states. Land parcels in Texas may be of just about any shape and size, but they are at least discernible and precise.

The Texas maps are six miles (north and south) by 4 miles (east and west). The scale of the maps gives less resolution than Boyd's public-land maps series, where the features are presented in three maps per township, but the Texas series has a really clean, highly readable map where landowners, creeks, roads, railroads, and other features are all readable. Also the Arphax's Family Maps series comes with excellent indexes. These books contain an all-name index that allows differences between sources such as the Texas Railroad Commission and the Texas General Land Office. Data from the two sources are cross-referenced. The result is an easy-to-locate single-entry in an Abstract Listing with the information from both authorities on Texas land ownership.

Arphax Publishing has only been in business for about three years. Already they have published 375 books covering counties in 18 states. Because the company is young and responsive to its customers, they pay heed to requests to expedite work on specific counties. For more information or to contact the company, go to: www.arphax.com

NewYorkAncestors.org

The New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston recently announced its new Web portal highlighting of New York resources. These resources include databases, publications, and articles focusing on New York state genealogy research. You must be a NEHGS member to visit the site at: www.NewYorkAncestors.org, and that will cost \$70 per year. That is a lot less than the cost of gas to drive to New York for most of us. See: www.newyorkancestors.org/

Your Quaker Ancestors

By Allin Kingsbury

The Quakers, formally called *The Religious Society of Friends*, are a distinct and separate group in America and throughout the world. The group had its beginning in England in the 15th century, during the period of religious upheaval. The state religion of England was changed between Catholicism and Protestantism and back again by the whims of the ruling families. If your family history includes Quakers, an understanding of these people and their beginning will help trace their history. We should all understand the Quakers, as they had a significant influence on the outcome of the history of America.

The influence of the Quakers on the American way of life is perhaps unappreciated today. Our education system is reluctant to discuss religion and its impact on history. A few of the ideas and practices of the Quakers that have become universal in our culture include:

The Quakers believe in equality of all individuals. They helped American slaves escape to freedom by being a large part of the Underground Railroad. Shortly before 1743, John Woolman, a young Quaker clerk at a store in Mount Holly, New Jersey, was asked to prepare a bill of sale for a slave for whom the proprietor had found a buyer. As the clerk complied with the assignment, he also commented that he believed that the keeping of slaves was inconsistent with the Christian religion. Gradually, John Woolman came to see that he would have to devote the rest of his life to the convincing his fellow Quakers that slaveholding was an evil practice. A great number of Friends families in both the North and the South owned slaves just like their neighbors. John Woolman undertook his first long journey into Pennsylvania and the South in 1746, persuading those he met that they were hurting themselves

and their families by keeping slaves. During the next twenty-five years, he traveled extensively from New England to the Carolinas as he carried out his mission. A few years after his death in 1772, all Quakers in America had freed their slaves.

In 1840, Lucretia Mott was excluded for the anti-slavery convention in London because she was a woman. In 1848, she joined with a few other women in calling the first women's rights convention at Seneca Falls, New York. The Quakers have supported equality of the sexes and have accepted women as ministers in their churches.

Pacifism is another strong belief that Quakers have. They never take part in war, but accept assignments caring for the injured. They have gone to prison at times rather than fight. Their compassion for others has led to other changes. William and Esther Tuke, Friends living in York, England became convinced that the mentally ill could make substantial progress if they were treated in a loving way. At the time, mental patients were locked and chained in institutions and were treated like criminals, humiliated and brutally punished for variant behavior. In 1796, William Tuke opened "The Retreat" in York, England, the first institution in the world that offered compassionate care to the mentally ill.

In 1817, Elizabeth Gurney Fry, a Quaker minister and the wife of a banker, walked alone into the woman's quarters of Newgate Prison in London. Surrounded by a group of bitter and dangerous women prisoners, she lifted a child into her arms, and all became quiet. She suggested that they start a school for their children who were in prison with them, using the inmates as teachers. Soon the women wanted to learn to read and sew. In time, many of the women were changed from common criminals to industrious members of society. Elizabeth Fry is now recognized as the

pioneer of prison reform the world over.

Quakers try to live a simple life style. They are known for their plain dress, their simple worship service, and their straightforward and honest business dealings. The Quakers were known to deal fairly and honestly with the Indians and live peaceably with other people. During the 17th century, it was the common practice to bargain for goods in the shops. The buyer would offer a price far below market value, and the shopkeeper began with a price far above his expectations. Then the bargaining would start. The Quaker shopkeepers began the practice of posting fair prices on all of the items in their stores. They refused to negotiate on these prices. Over time, the community accepted the practice. People realized that they could send a child to the store, and the child would receive fair treatment as to the price of goods. Eventually almost all businesses came to accept this Quaker practice.

Among the well-known Quakers are the Rowntree and Cadbury families. They ventured into the chocolate and cocoa business because they felt that hot chocolate would be an alternative to alcoholic beverages. In Philadelphia, a Quaker grocer named Joseph Hires developed a concoction he came to call *Root Beer*, in the hope that his employees and others would drink it instead of alcohol. In 1768, a Quaker doctor named Thomas Dimsdale was invited to Russia by Empress Catherine II to introduce vaccination against smallpox. Another Quaker doctor, Joseph Lister, is known as the father of antiseptic surgery. Today, a popular mouthwash widely used in the United States carries his last name, and almost everyone has heard of Quaker Oats,

William Penn, an influential Quaker, carefully worded the *Frame of Government* for the Pennsylvania colony to provide both liberty and responsibility. His colony of Pennsylvania had a government dedicated to religious freedom, equality and peace. He laid out Philadelphia as the first planned city in the New World. Pennsylvania soon became a haven for many religious groups, who came to America to escape religious persecution. When the Founding Fathers met to write the *US Constitution* that would define the government of the United States, they turned to William Penn's *Frame of Government* for Pennsylvania. If they had looked to Puritan New England for their model, there could have been an established state church. If they had turned to Virginia for their model, there could have been an established privileged class. Most of the rights and freedoms that we take for granted as a part of our way of life in America today were originally set forth in Penn's *Charter of Liberties* for his colony.

Today the Quakers number about 300,000 worldwide. Approximately 125,000 live in North America. Surprisingly, the largest concentration of Quakers is located in Kenya. Most Quakers in the United States live in the Northeast and Midwest. At one time, many lived in the South, but left in protest of slavery.

George Fox

George Fox is the founder of the Quaker movement. He was born in a small hamlet in England in 1624. From an early age, he was quite religious and observed people constantly. He was known for his honesty and integrity. Shortly after his birth, Charles I and Queen Henrietta Maria came to rule England. Catholicism was reinstated, and other religious groups were severely persecuted.

When George Fox was nineteen, he left his family and began seeking the true religion. He found groups of people that were called "Seekers." They began to follow his teachings and tell others about them. During the early summer of 1652, Fox journeyed into the Lake District in northwest England. A base was established for the Quakers at Swarthmore Hall in Lancashire, through the hospitality of Margaret Fell and her husband, Justice Thomas Fell. The Quaker message was soon carried throughout England and Wales and, to a lesser extent, into Scotland. William Edmundson is credited for introducing the Quaker religion among English settlers in Ireland. Other messengers carried the new religion to the Netherlands and throughout the low country of northern Germany. In 1655, the first Quakers had reached Barbados in the West Indies. In Italy, at least one of the Quakers was put to death by the Inquisition, and others suffered long imprisonment.

The movement was disliked by both the Puritan government of Cromwell and by the restored monarchy of Charles II. The Quakers, as they would become known, refused to pay tithes to the state Church; to take oaths in court; to practice *hat honor* (to remove their hats to the king or others in positions of power); or to engage in a combat role during wartime. These practices caused severe persecution of the group. Later the Quakers developed a concern for the disadvantaged, including slaves, prisoners and inmates of asylums. They agitated for the end of slavery and for reform of prisons and mental institutions. Many of them were in and out of prison a number of times for their belief and activity. George Fox and many of his followers lived in deplorable conditions for many years.

It was in the mid 1660s that the first Quakers came to America. Small groups came to New England, to the Chesapeake Bay area of Maryland, and to the Tidewater area of lower Virginia. A few years later, the Quakers had become established in New Amsterdam (now New York). In 1668, there were Quakers living in eastern North Carolina. From the beginning, the new religious movement faced a great deal of persecution. Persecution was very severe in New England. Four Quakers were hanged on Boston Common for the crime of preaching Quakerism.

On June 28, 1672, George Fox traveled to America. Some Quakers had come to America before this time but they were unorganized. George Fox organized the groups and put order in their affairs. After setting the Quaker church organization in order, Fox return to England. During the leadership of Cromwell, England did not have a national policy of persecuting the religious dissenters. Following the restoration of the monarchy in 1660, severe persecution of religious dissenters began on a national scale. It is estimated that about 450 Friends died in prison between 1662 and 1688; another 15,000 suffered imprisonment, severe fines, or both. Fox and many other Quakers were imprisoned during this period. In 1691, Fox died just two days after preaching a powerful sermon.

William Penn

William Penn was born in London on October 24, 1644, the son of Admiral Sir William Penn. He was raised among the privileged class and received an excellent education. However he shocked his associates when he joined the Society of Friends, or Quakers. Despite the unpopularity of his religion, he was socially acceptable in the King's court because he was trusted by the Duke

of York, later King James II.

In 1638, a small colony of Swedes settled at Christiana Creek, now located in the state of Delaware. Governor Kieft, of New Amsterdam, considered the colony a threat to his authority. He restored Fort Nassau, located south of the Camden, New Jersey, which had been abandoned earlier. The Swedes gradually extended their settlements over the area from Cape Henlopen to a point opposite Trenton. The governor of the Swedes built a fort and a residence on the island of Tinicum, south of Philadelphia. In 1655, the Dutch attacked the Swedes and captured their forts. The Swedes continued on their estates, under Dutch authority.

The territory of New Jersey was granted to Lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret in 1664. Berkeley sold his share in 1674 to John Fenwick, in trust for Edward Byllinge, who subsequently assigned his claim to William Penn and two other Quakers. The province of New Jersey was then divided such that Carteret received the eastern part, which is now New Jersey. The Quaker assignees received the land west of the Delaware River. The colonies of Massachusetts and Maryland had already been established to provide religious liberty for the Puritans and the Catholics. William Penn suddenly became interested in establishing a new colony in West Jersey (Pennsylvania) as a place for the persecuted Quakers to settle.

The first attempt at settling the Quakers was in West Jersey (Pennsylvania). A constitution for the colony was adopted, granting civil and religious liberty. Quakers were advised to take advantage of it, and more than four hundred emigrated to the province in 1677. King Charles II owed William Penn £16,000 from a loan that Admiral Penn had made. Seeking a haven in the New World for persecuted Friends, Penn asked the King to grant him land between Lord Baltimore's province of Maryland and the Duke of York's province of New York. With the support of the Duke, Penn was granted his petition. The King signed the Charter of Pennsylvania on March 4, 1681, and the King named the new colony in honor of William Penn's father.

In April 1681, Penn made his cousin William Markham deputy governor of the province and sent him to take control. In England, Penn drew up the *First Frame of Government*, his proposed constitution for Pennsylvania. Penn's preface to the *First Frame of Government* has become famous as a summation of his governmental ideals. Later, in October 1682, the Proprietor arrived in Pennsylvania on the ship *Welcome*. He visited Philadelphia, newly laid out as the capital city, created the three original counties, and summoned a General Assembly to Chester on December 4. This first Assembly united the Delaware counties with Pennsylvania and adopted the *Great Law*, a humanitarian code which became the fundamental basis of Pennsylvania law and which guaranteed liberty of conscience. The second Assembly, in 1683, reviewed and amended Penn's *First Frame* with his cooperation and created the *Second Frame of Government*. The Pennsylvania charter expressed a purpose to convert and civilize the Indians. As a Quaker, Penn believed in the equality of all and supported conversion of the Native American. However, Penn's primary motive for the colony was to provide a haven for his fellow Quakers. By the time of Penn's return to England late in 1684, the Quakers were well established in America.

In 1682, William Penn and eleven others purchased East Jersey (New Jersey), so that the whole province would be under Quaker control. Robert Barclay, who wrote the book, "Apology for Quakers," was appointed governor for life.

Soon after this, Penn obtained a grant of the present state of Delaware, which was then called "The Territories." Delaware was at first governed by the Pennsylvania Assembly.

In 1701, the Pennsylvania Constitution was revised again, which gave the Assembly full legislative powers and permitted the three Delaware counties to have a separate legislature. Deputy or lieutenant governors resided in Pennsylvania and represented the Penn family proprietors, who remained in England until 1773. After 1763, these governors were members of the Penn family. Incidentally, William Penn's heirs eventually abandoned their Quaker faith. The Assembly in Pennsylvania was usually dominated by the Quakers until 1756.

The Quakers Settlement in America

Pennsylvania held the largest concentration of Quakers in America, New Jersey and Delaware also had large, influential groups of Quakers. The Quakers began settling the Jerseys during the 1670s. As early as 1672, Friends were granted positions of authority in the governments of East and West Jersey. Migration of Quakers from the British Isles to America grew to significant levels after 1681. A large Quaker community developed in the Delaware Valley area, centered in the new city of Philadelphia.

In the colonial period, Quakers were an influential group both politically and numerically in parts of New England, particularly in Rhode Island. This was also the case in North Carolina. In Virginia, the Quakers struggled with an unfriendly colonial government. An influx of new Quaker settlers from Pennsylvania added to their numbers and served to strengthen the group. Their anti-war position was probably responsible for a large migration of Quakers to Ontario, Canada. Also during the colonial period, there was a steady migration of Quaker settlers through western Maryland into northern Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley, and down to the Piedmont area of North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. After the Revolution, some Quakers began to settle eastern Tennessee and southwestern Pennsylvania, along with many others who were moving west.

As settlement of the Northwest Territory began, soon after 1800, Quaker settlements were established in Belmont County in eastern Ohio and along the Miami River Valley in southwestern Ohio. By 1810, the Quaker settlements were beginning in Indiana; by 1825 they had spread to the Illinois border. Some of the Quakers who settled the Midwestern states came from Pennsylvania and New York, but a very significant majority of these settlers migrated from the South, where the Quakers, who had freed their slaves, felt increasingly uncomfortable in an economy and a culture based on slavery. By 1780, the Quaker slaves had been freed. During the next few decades, almost all Quakers left the southern states.

In time, the Quaker population became more stable while managing to expand west. The younger generation came of age and looked for cheap land. Settlements were established in Vermillion County Illinois in the early 1830s. The first Quaker settlement in Iowa was established in 1835, when Isaac Pidgeon moved

his family to Henry County in southeastern Iowa. Settlements in Kansas and other states followed. In 1886, a group of Quakers had been established in Pasadena, California. Today most Quakers in the United States are in the northeast and Midwest, but groups are found throughout the country.

As the communities of Quakers stabilized and became more isolated from neighbors, the denomination was divided by schisms starting in 1827 and resulting from differences over religious doctrine. The requirements for membership in the denomination had grown more rigid. Some members were disciplined and withdrew from the group. At one time, the Quakers discouraged marriage outside the denomination. Pressure on members alienated some. These problems and others reduced the growth rate of the Quakers during the 19th and 20th centuries. This is significant to family historians because it is possible that there are Quakers in many family trees that are unknown to members of the family, due to their having left their Quaker affiliations as a result of these issues.

To be continued next month

Mark Your Calendars

August 9: The presentation by Marcia Holstrom, *Migration Routes West of the Mississippi*, is postponed until the August meeting due to an illness.

September 2: The deadline for the "Lore Galore" family history writing contest. See the Web site or the June PastFinder for contest rules. Go for the prize money.

October 11: Remember the Barbara Renick Seminar from 9:00 to 4:00. She will teach 4 classes:

The Magic of Family History

Eleven Layers of Online Searching

Evaluating What You Have Found: The Third Stage of Research

Mistakes I've Made (and you can avoid) as a Computer Genealogist

Of Interest Cape Breton Records at Beaton Institute, Publish your Own Book, Familybuilder Celebrates First Year

Cape Breton Records at Beaton Institute

Sister Margaret Beaton was a librarian at Xavier Junior College, located on Scenic Cape Breton Island in Nova Scotia, Canada. She collected material about Cape Breton people and about the Gaelic heritage of the area. She left the library in 1966 to manage the large and growing archive at the college and worked there until 1975, when she was killed in a car crash. Shortly after her death, the archive was renamed the *Beaton Institute* in her honor and was moved to Cape Breton University.

Today the archive houses about 3,000 manuscript collections, more than 150,000 images and about 4,000 audio and video recordings related to Cape Breton settlers. The material fills more than 1.5 kilometers of shelf space. The archive receives more than 3,500 research requests each year. It is probably the best source available for records relating to Cape Breton genealogy and history.

On the walls are old maps marked with the names of the families that lived in Cape Breton County. Visitors can look at the maps and find where their ancestors lived. Then, by consulting a city directory from the early 20th century, they look up an address to determine if the old homestead still stands. Many of the early settlers were from Gaelic families. Even today, Cape Breton has a college that offers courses taught in the Gaelic language.

Publish your Own Book

Blackwell bookshops in the U.K. are offering a system that will print and bind a 200-page book in 7 minutes at 60 of their retail outlets. The printer is called *Espresso Book Machine*. The printer is used by the World Bank in Washington and the Library of Alexandria in Egypt. Blackwell expects that, by keeping a digital inventory and printing the books on demand, they can compete with the online book sellers that carry huge inventories like Amazon.com. Many smaller booksellers are losing market share to Amazon.com and they hope Blackwell will succeed because it may provide them

with a way to compete with Amazon.com and other Internet booksellers, thus saving them from financial failure.

If the venture is successful, it will become available in many other countries. It would be great for printing out of copyright genealogy books that have been captured digitally. The technology would also be good for genealogists who want to publish in small quantities.

Several companies have tried to market digital books, but it appears that most individuals like the old-fashioned printed book. It will take a significant cost saving to convert these readers to reading digital books. The low-cost print-on-demand service does appear to have possible appeal to the genealogist requiring a small quantity of books to be printed.

Familybuilder Celebrates First Year

Familybuilder™ is one year old and claims to be the fastest growing genealogy site on the Internet and the fourth busiest genealogy site. This family networking site is adding 2 million family trees each month and currently has more than 16 million family trees available on the Web site. To visit the site, go to: www.familybuilder.com

Quotable Quote

'Tain't worthwhile to wear a day all out before it comes.

Sarah Orne Jewett

American Novelist

1849-1909

Massachusetts Colonial e-books of Interest

The following books can be downloaded from the Internet and will be of interest to genealogists working on colonial Massachusetts families:

History of the Early Settlement of Bridgewater

This site has a complete transcription of Nahum Mitchell's 1840 account of the history and genealogy of Bridgewater, Plymouth County, Massachusetts. To view the book, go to: <http://plymouthcolony.net/bridgewater/mitchell/contents.html>

History of Hingham

This three-volume work on Hingham, Plymouth County, Massa-

chusetts history and genealogy by George Lincoln was published in 1893. Some sections have been transcribed, and the remaining sections are displayed as page images. To view the book, go to: <http://plymouthcolony.net/hingham/history/contents.html>

History of Marshfield

This two-volume work on Marshfield, Plymouth County, Massachusetts history and genealogy by Lysander Salmon Richards was published in 1901-1905. Some sections of the book have been transcribed, and the remaining sections are available as page images. To view the book, go to: <http://plymouthcolony.net/marshfield/richards/contents.html>

Ask the Doc — “I Give No Answers Before Their Time!”

Q On the Family Screen, I would like to have not only birth dates for the children, but death dates displayed as well. I don't need to see Parent Link. How can I make this change?

A Unfortunately, the PAF program does not provide a means for changing the template for the Family Screen. In addition, all further development for the PAF program has been frozen due to the work being done on the *newFamilySearch* system currently being deployed by the LDS Church.

Q Is there a way to include notes about a town in PAF? I don't want it in notes for an individual because then if I wanted to consult the notes about a particular town, I would have to remember which individual I had put the notes under. I have information from various gazetteers that I would like to include in my PAF file.

A There is no built-in means for creating notes for information not associated with an individual. However, I have two workable suggestions. The first is to create a dummy record for an individual named something like *Miscellaneous Information*. In the “Notes” function, create a Note Tag called “TOWN.” Then you can enter as many entries in the Notes screen as you need for towns, events, or other items.

A second solution is to enter the notes about a town in the notes for one of the individuals who might be associated with the town. You will not have to recall the specific individual's name because you can use the Advanced Focus/Filter search feature to locate the record. For example, suppose you have an entry in your PAF database for Thomas Hanlon, and in the Notes for Thomas you created the following entry: TOWN: Australia, Queensland, Beenleigh. The area was first opened in 1840 by timber getters in search of cedar and hardwood but very little is known of the actual history until 1863 when a family, headed by Thomas Hanlon, arrived by the boat “Furet Star.” Hanlon was to have worked for the Manchester Cotton Company, which had been experimenting with cotton crops in the district. However, he fi-



nally settled on an area of land on the northern bank of the Logan River.

You can have entries like the above scattered all over the place in your database. If you want to get a list of the records that have town details, simply do a search as follows: Search > Advanced Focus/Filter > Field Filter Define > Possible Fields: Notes > Contains > Text = TOWN.

Or you can search for the specific town details by entering the name of the town in the Notes > Contains > Text field.

Q My Individual Screen has become completely blank, yet the database holds some 800 individuals. The Family View and the Pedigree View are fine.

A The first thing to check is if there are any column headings showing on the “Individual” list. If not, the usual problem is that the columns have become compressed into the left margin of the screen and need to be dragged to the right. Place the mouse pointer in the grey title bar at the far left of the screen until it changes into a double vertical line with horizontal arrows. While holding down the left mouse button, drag each column to the right until the column is wide enough to display the contents of the column.

If that is not the problem, check to make sure there are columns selected for display by placing the mouse pointer on the title bar and right clicking the mouse. In the pop-up box, select the “Add” or the “Modify Columns” option. Verify that there are column names in the right-hand right window labeled “Fields” for the Template. If not, double click on the columns listed in the left window labeled “Possible Fields.” Then click “OK.”

If there are column labels on the screen, then try clicking on the “RIN” column heading to force the program to recalculate the index. Do the same with the “Full Name” column heading.

If that doesn't solve the problem, you should reinstall PAF, making sure that no other programs are open in Windows during the process.

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SV-CGG meets monthly, except December, on the second Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints building, 875 Quince Avenue, Santa Clara, CA. We offer classes and sponsor guest speakers at meetings to help family historians with computer technology and research techniques. Membership dues are US\$15 per year (US\$20 for Canada and US\$25 for other international). Members are offered classes at meetings, mentor help, *Silicon Valley PastFinder* (a monthly newsletter published each month there is a meeting).

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