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# CONNECTICUT GENEALOGY NEWS

A Publication of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.

Spring 2013

Vol.6, No.1

## *In This Issue*

Using the 1840 Census

Resources at the Connecticut  
State Library

Connecticut Towns & Cities  
on the CSG Website

Meet the Experts at the 45th  
Anniversary Celebration

Profiles of Connecticut Civil  
War Medal of Honor Winners

Spotlight on Branford

CSG Central News

*Plus Much More...*

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# Connecticut Genealogy News

*A Quarterly Publication of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.*

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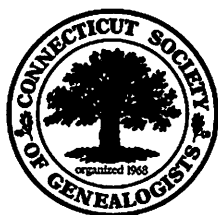
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## President's Message



The holidays are over, 2013 has arrived, and along with it our usually short-lived New Year's Resolutions. I, like most of you, made a few, the same ones I have made for years: lose weight, eat healthy, exercise more, get organized, scan all those documents/photos I have been meaning to do for years. Most of these will last just a few months, if that.

Spring, which officially begins on March 20<sup>th</sup>, is a time of new beginnings. It is a great time to make your "genealogy resolutions." Therefore, I ask that on March 20<sup>th</sup> you make your genealogy-related resolutions and that you make every effort to keep these resolutions. They are:

1. I will make plans for where my genealogy will go when I am no longer able or interested.
2. I will check with family members to determine who might want my genealogy information.
3. I will organize my paperwork, so it is easy for the next generation to use it.
4. I will label items, such as paintings, vases, or that special item of clothing you made, etc. with the name of the individual who has expressed an interest in it.
5. If necessary, I will find a repository for my genealogy research that will be the most appropriate place for it and allow others to use it.

This is not negative but very positive in that you have given thought to where all your hard work will go and insured that it is not simply thrown out.

Prior to our November 17<sup>th</sup> program meeting, held at the Connecticut Historical Society, we held a membership meeting to vote on the proposed change of our name to "Genealogy Society of Connecticut." Before that meeting, several members sent emails and/or telephoned both the CSG office and Dick Tomlinson, to discuss this issue and expressed their concerns, which were all very much against changing our name. At the meeting, Dick presented this motion and, as the presenter, he was the first to speak to the motion. He spoke against it citing all the reasons he

had received. After a lengthy discussion, the motion was defeated. Therefore, our name will remain "Connecticut Society of Genealogists."

Over the last several months, our website has been undergoing a redesign. The newly revised website is up and running. We hope you find it more user-friendly than before.

CSG's annual meeting will be Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at The Pond House in Glastonbury. In addition to a new location, we have changed the format to tighten up the meeting/program and yet to give you time to talk with what we are calling our "meet with the experts" session from 9-10. The actual meeting will begin at 10:30. The agenda is on page 15 of this magazine.

As always, if you have any suggestions or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me through the CSG office.

*Peg Limbacher, President*

## Editorial

In this issue we continue our series on the Use of Census Records with an article by Edwin W. Strickland II on using the 1840 census and Resources at the Connecticut State Library with an article about Bible and Family Records found there by Richard C. Roberts. We are also continuing our series on the Civil Medal of Honor Winners by Noreen Manzella and our spotlight is focused on the Connecticut town of Branford by Gregory Thompson. We are grateful to Richard G. Tomlinson for his contribution about the Connecticut Towns & Cities feature on the CSG website and for highlighting the 45th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting to be held in May. The editor and staff of *Connecticut Genealogy News* would like to wish CSG a very happy 45<sup>th</sup> birthday. Thank you all for your contributions and continued support of *Connecticut Genealogy News*.

### About the Cover

A small group of people met by chance while researching their family histories at the CT State Library. Bonded by a mutual passion for sharing data and for fighting to ensure access to vital records, they decided to organize. On April 20, 1968 the Connecticut Society of Genealogists was born in the auditorium of the Connecticut Historical Society. This year we celebrate 45 years of serving family historians and genealogists. For more information on how to join CSG, call the CSG Office at 860-569-0002 or visit the website at [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org).

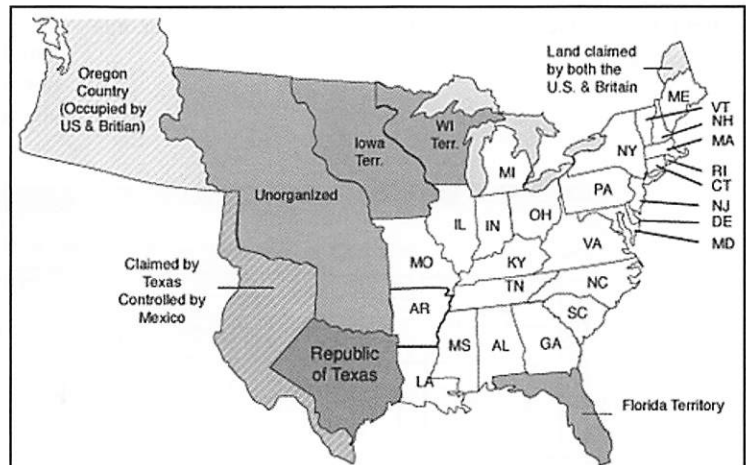


## Using the 1840, Sixth United States Census

by Edwin W. Strickland II, CSG # 3709L

The 1840 Census of the United States reported a population of 17,069,453 people (an increase of 32.7% over that of 1830) including 2,487,355 slaves. Information was to be reported "as of 1 June 1840," and took 18 months to complete, at a cost of \$833,000. It included 26 states (Arkansas and Michigan being new) and the territories of Florida, Iowa and Wisconsin.<sup>1</sup>

Instructions to the Marshals (enumerators) are reported to "be consistent with the 1830 instruction" which consisted of only two paragraphs.<sup>2</sup> The 1840 census was the first census in which the federal government supplied preprinted, (two-sided) forms. It is very important that the researcher view the second side (next image). The 1840 census was the first to collect education information on the municipality.



### INFORMATION COLLECTED

Name of County, City, Ward, Town, Township Parish, Precinct, Hundred or District Names of the Heads of Families.

1. Free White Persons. Males and females are broken down into 13 age groupings.
2. Free Color Persons. Divided into males and females, with 6 age groupings.
3. Slaves. Males and females are further divided into 6 age groupings each. The next column gives the total members of the household in the Free White, Free Colored and Slave categories.
4. Employment. The next seven columns asked for the number of people in the household engaged in mining; agriculture; manufacture and trade; navigation of the ocean; navigation of canals, lakes and rivers; learned professions and engineers.
5. Pensioners for Revolutionary or military service. Pensioners were listed here with the next column stating their age.
6. Deaf and Dumb, Blind and Insane White Persons. The deaf and dumb were further divided into three age groups. The Insane were divided into those on public charge and those on private charge.
7. Deaf and Dumb, Blind and Insane Colored Persons. Only total counts were given for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind. Those deemed Insane and Idiots were divided into those on public or private charge.
8. Schools. The last grouping applied to the community. Columns were provided for the number of Colleges and Universities; Academies and Grammar Schools; and Primary and Common Schools with columns for the number of students in each. The final column asked for the number of persons over 20 in each household who could not read and write.

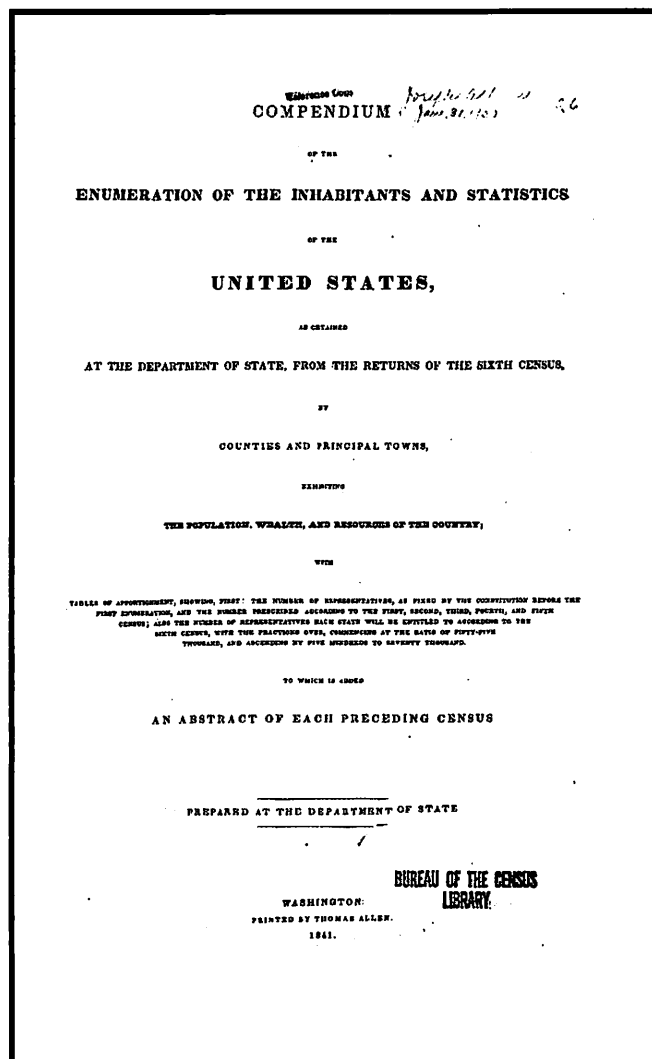


# Interesting Data From the 1840 Census

by Richard G. Tomlinson CSG # 55L

Throughout history governments have sought information about their people to serve the basic interests of taxation and assessing the capability for military service. These have long been the driving forces for taking a census. Over time, other interests have been added. This can be seen in the questions asked in the United States Federal Census of 1840 as enumerated in the previous article. Much of the focus was on economic issues and on race with a great deal of attention given to the categories of age, free white, free colored and slave.

The census was taken on the eve of the election of 1840. The Financial Panic of 1837 had tarnished President Martin Van Buren's administration and Whig candidate William Henry Harrison was assailing his record. Concern to learn more about people and situations that might cause a financial burden on the government is obvious in the questions in the census.



Information extracted from the census was compiled by the Department of State and published in *Compendium of the Enumeration of the Inhabitants and Statistics of the United States*.

The 1840 census continued the practice of collecting age information in intervals of ten years from infancy to 100, with the highest category designated "over 100." President John Quincy Adams had requested this for the 1830 census.

We cannot be certain why officials wanted to know this data down to the level of the towns or what conclusions they drew from the data. However, for us, these data open a curious window on life in Connecticut in 1840, particularly in terms of the number of people 90-100 and over 100.

We see from the table on page 6 that there were eight white males over 100 in CT in 1840. One lived in Hartford, two in Waterbury and five in the rural areas or smaller towns. There were four white females and four free colored males over 100... one each in Derby and Thompson and two each in smaller towns. There was one free colored female over 100 and she lived in one of the smaller towns. There were eight male and nine female slaves of any age in CT. Four of the male slaves lived in New Haven, one in Derby, one in Windham, and two in small towns. Three of the female slaves lived in Woodstock, two in New Haven, one in Plymouth, one in Saybrook and two in small towns.

Slavery was a front-burner issue in 1840. In New Haven 53 black Africans from the schooner, *Amistad*, were in prison while a battle raged over whether they were

property that should be returned to the owners. The U.S. Supreme Court would finally rule that they were free men and could return to Africa. Connecticut would not formally abolish slavery until 1848.

Use Of Census Records

	White	White	White	White	Colored	Colored	Slaves	Slaves
	Males	Males	Females	Females	Males	Females	Male	Female
Age	90-100	100+	90-100	100+	100+	100+	Any	Any
Town								
BERLIN	2		2					
DERBY				1	1		1	
DANBURY	3							
E WINDSOR			4					
FAIRFIELD	2		4					
GLASTON- BURY			4					
GREENWICH	2		1					
GROTON			1					
HARTFORD		1	2					
KILLINGLY	1							
LITCHFIELD	1		1					
MANSFIELD	1		5					
MIDDLE- TOWN	1							
NEWTOWN			3					
NEW HAVEN	3		2				4	2
NEW LON- DON			1					
NEW MIL- FORD	1		1					
NORWALK			2					
NORWICH	1		1					
PLAINFIELD	2		1					
PLYMOUTH	1		1					1
SAYBROOK	1		1					1
STAMFORD	1		5					
STONING- TON	2		1	1	1			
THOMPSON	1		2					
WATERBURY		2	2					
WETHERS- FIELD	2		2					
WINDHAM			5				1	
WOOD- STOCK			1					3
Sub-Total	28	3	55	2	2	0	6	7
Other Towns	64	5	98	2	2	1	2	2
CT TOTAL	92	8	153	4	4	1	8	9



## Pensioners and Students

In 1840, 57 years after the end of the Revolutionary War, there were still more than 25,000 pensioners with 1,666 living in Connecticut. A detailed list, drawn from the 180 census, has been published and is available in printed or CD format and on the Internet.

Other interesting data concerns the number institutions of higher education. The census shows four universities or colleges – in Fairfield, Hartford, Middletown and New Haven – with total enrollment of 832 students.

Principal Towns	Rev. War Pensioners	College Students	Universities Colleges	Grammar/ Academies
BERLIN	27			1
BRIDGEPORT	13			8
DERBY	13			2
DANBURY	18			1
E WINDSOR	23			4
FAIRFIELD	46	39	1	3
GLASTONBURY	11			1
GREENWICH	8			
GROTON	23	3		2
HARTFORD	19	79	1	5
KILLINGLY	20			1
LITCHFIELD	29			3
MANSFIELD	15			
MIDDLETOWN	9	147	1	2
MILFORD	29			2
NEWTOWN	6			2
NEW HAVEN	29	561	1	13
NEW LONDON	15			4
NEW MILFORD	17			
NORWALK	28			2
NORWICH	12			3
PLAINFIELD	5			
PLYMOUTH	6			
RIDGEFIELD	7			3
SAYBROOK	9			2
STAMFORD	13			
STONINGTON	13			2
THOMPSON	27			1
WATERBURY	20			2
WETHERSFIELD	24			1
WINDHAM	20			
WOODSTOCK	15			3
Sub-Total	569	829	4	73
Other Towns	1,097	3	0	54
CT Total	1,666	832	4	127

There were 127 Academies or Grammar schools in 1840, widely distributed with 73 in the principal towns and 54 in other towns. These institutions served 4,865 scholars. In addition there were 1,619 primary or common schools. The census also noted that there were 526 “white persons over 20” who could not read or write.

# Bible and Family Records at the Connecticut State Library

by Richard C. Roberts, CSG # 8680

In addition to the better-known genealogical indexes (*Barbour Collection*, *Hale Collection of Connecticut Cemetery Inscriptions*, *Church Records Index*, and *Probate Estate Papers Index*), during the early to mid twentieth century the Connecticut State Library's staff created several smaller indexes as part of State Librarian George S. Godard's plan to improve access to information. One such index is the Bible and Family Records index.



Bibles had been used as a place to record the births, marriages, and deaths pertaining to families dating back to the seventeenth century, and by the 1820s American Bible publishers began to include special "Family Register" pages on which such vital records could be recorded. State Librarian George Godard and State Examiner of Public Records Lucius B.

Barbour recognized that the family registers could be an invaluable resource for filling in gaps in Connecticut's official vital records. However, while they often contained information not found elsewhere, the registers were traditionally held by one family member, and the information was therefore not available to others. Godard and Barbour therefore conceived a project so that, as described by Godard, "the Bible and other Family Records of Births, Marriages and Deaths so universal and sacred in the days of our fathers -- but now so often overlooked, forgotten and lost -- may be conveniently and uniformly copied, preserved and made easily available..." The Bible and Family Records project began as early as 1924 under Barbour's direction. The initial phase involved the acquisition, through donation and purchase, of family register pages from family Bibles as well as other family records.

## ***Bible and Family Records Bound Volumes***

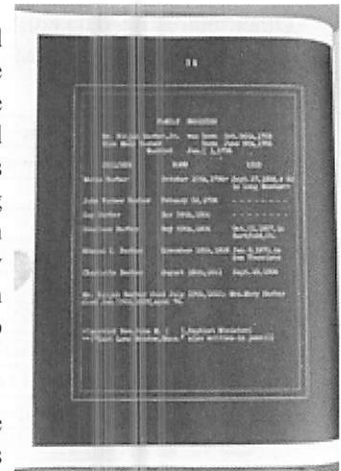
The information from the family registers was transcribed by library staff onto "an attractive form of convenient size and printed on good record paper" designed by Lucius Barbour which included "a brief statement concerning the original

and notation of its owner and location, and the name of the person who copied the same and date when copied and when received." The forms were then bound, creating the volumes now housed in the History and Genealogy Unit's Index Corridor. Each volume includes an index to that specific volume.

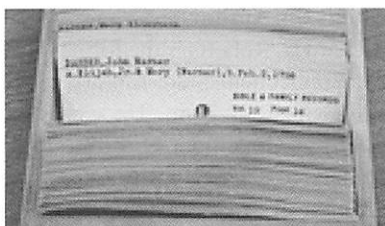
The first volume of Bible and Family Records was completed in 1928. However, it was not until after the completion and dedication of the Barbour Collection in 1932 that work began in earnest. Although Lucius Barbour died in July, 1934, the project continued under the supervision of his successor, Harold S. Burt (who served as Vice President of the Society of American Archivists in 1942-3). Most work was done during the years 1932-4, 1937-41, 1944-5, and 1953-5.

Just as the Connecticut Society of Colonial Dames of America had been enlisted to assist with the Library's Church Records project, the DAR became involved with the Bible and Family Records project. Volume 8 of the series consists of 100 registers transcribed by the Mary Clap Wooster Chapter, DAR between 1932 and 1934; Volume 12 consists of 101 registers transcribed by that Chapter in 1936; Volume 13 consists of 102 registers transcribed by the Anna Warner Bailey Chapter, DAR, in 1936; and Volume 16 consists of 195 register transcriptions received from Mrs. J. Lawrence Raymond, Registrar of DAR in Connecticut, in 1936 and 1937.

In 1979, a number of completed but unbound transcription forms, representing family registers received by the State Library between 1936 and 1957 were discovered. An index was prepared, and the forms were bound together to create Volume 27 of the set.

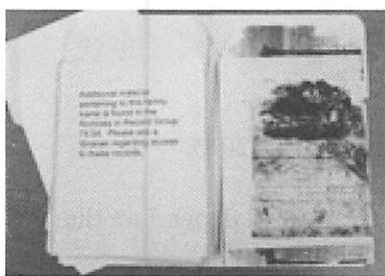


### ***Bible and Family Records Slip Index/Abstract***



As with the Barbour Collection, a “slip index” was prepared for most of the Bible and Family Records. Library staff typed information from the transcription forms onto printed sheets that were subsequently cut to produce 12 small slips or “cards” from each sheet. The “cards” were then interfiled in drawers in the History and Genealogy Index Corridor to create a slip index of approximately 25,000 entries transcribed from Bibles and other family records, with entries ranging from the 1600s to the early 1900s. Each “card” or “slip” presents a brief abstract of information found in the original record (birth, marriage, death, etc.). At the bottom of the slip are citations to volume and page numbers in the first 26 volumes of Bible and Family Records transcriptions. However, slips for Volume 27 were not prepared for inclusion in the Bible and Family Records slip index, so it is necessary to consult the index in the back of that volume.

In 1949 the slips created up to that point were microfilmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah (film numbers 2875 through 2882) and are available for use at LDS Family History Centers. Search for “Bible records from Connecticut, index cards” in the Family History Library Catalog on FamilySearch.com. (Note that any indexing done by the State Library after 1949 is not included in these films.)



### ***Special Genealogical File***

The History and Genealogy Unit’s Special Genealogical File consists of several sections: Connecticut biography, Connecticut history; town history, and family history. Within each section, folders are arranged alphabetically by individual name, topic, town name, or family name, respectively. The majority of the items in the biography, Connecticut history, and town history sections are articles clipped from twentieth century Connecticut newspapers. The family history section of the file is a unique resource that includes researchers’ notes, additions and corrections to the Barbour Collection and other records, and uncataloged periodicals.

For many years, the original Family Registers that had been transcribed and indexed in the Bible and Family Records project were also housed in these drawers. In

order to preserve these important documents for the use of future researchers, between 1990 and 1994 the History and Genealogy Unit transferred the original registers to the State Archives.

### ***State Archives Record Group 74:54***

In 1990, archivists created a record group, RG 74:54, Accession 1990-023, Special Genealogical Files. It consists of 6.5 cubic feet of manuscript items, mostly Family Registers, that were originally in the files in the History & Genealogy Reading Room. However, there are also other unexpected treasures to be found, such as diplomas, military discharges, and even certificates for shares in the vessel *Hiram Bingham*.

### ***Access***

Currently, the best access to the Family Registers is to begin with the slip index in the Index Corridor. Then, if an entry is found, note the volume and page indicated on the slip locate the record within the set of bound volumes. (Also be sure to check the index at the back of Volume 27). You may photocopy pages from the volumes.

Although the transcriptions provide much useful information, remember that they are not an original source. By examining the original records, you may determine whether entries were all written by the same or different individuals; whether differences in ink suggest they were entered over the course of many years or all at the same time; or whether -- as is the case with the records submitted by the DAR -- the “Family Record” in the bound volumes is actually a transcription of a transcription. Begin by proceeding to the Special Genealogical File in the History and Genealogy Reading Room. Using the “Family Record of ...” lines of the transcription, look for the corresponding surname in the Special Genealogical File. For example, if the record you are seeking is the “Family Record of Elijah Barber, Jr.,” look in the “Barber, Barbour” folder in the Special Genealogical File. Within the folder, you will find a number of documents relating to families with that surname. You may even find a photocopy of an original Family Register from a Bible. However, to see most original registers, you will need to follow the *Rules and Procedures for Researchers Using Archival Records and Secured Collections Materials*, available online at <http://www.cslib.org/arcrules.htm> or <http://www.ctstatelibrary.org/node/2759>.

### ***What’s Ahead?***

Currently, a cooperative project between the History and Genealogy Unit and the State Archives is underway that will ultimately make all records in RG 074:54 available online

as part of the State Library's Digital Collections. Several boxes of records have already been scanned, and creation of metadata is underway. It is expected that this first batch of images of Family Registers and related materials will be uploaded to the "Personal and Family Vital Records" section of the Digital Collections by the end of 2013. Once this project is complete, you'll be able to access the Registers from anywhere!

**Illustration Credits:**

RG 54:074, Box 1, Folder 4, Family Register of Elijah Barber, Jr.

**About the Author**

Richard C. Roberts is the former Head of the Connecticut State Library's History and Genealogy Unit. He serves on the Board of Governors of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc., and is a member of the New Hampshire Society of Genealogists, the New England Historic Genealogical Society, and the Association for Gravestone Studies. He is currently the president of the Descendants of the Founders of Ancient Windsor and president of the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium, Inc. (NERGC).



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Or by e-mail  
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- We are also pleased to receive:
- \* your suggestions for possible authors and topics
  - \* letters to the editor
  - \* news items
  - \* queries

Scholarly genealogical articles should be directed to Editor, *The Connecticut Nutmegger* (same address).

**NOTICE**

**A committee has been formed to plan a  
Reunion of the Descendants of  
Nathaniel Merriman**

**In honor of the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of his birth  
in  
Wallingford, CT  
on Saturday, 1 June 2013.**

**The extent of the program will depend on the  
level of interest.**

**If you are a descendant and are interested  
contact [pamerriman@gmail.com](mailto:pamerriman@gmail.com)  
or go to  
[www.2013merrimanreunion.com](http://www.2013merrimanreunion.com)  
or mail to  
Peter Merriman  
6 Merriman Lane  
Prospect, CT 06712**

# The CSG Database for Connecticut Towns and Cities

by R. G. Tomlinson CSG # 55L

## Why Do We Want This Information?

When we have learned the town or city where an ancestor lived or worked, there are many things that we wish to know about that location that will be helpful in developing more information. Some of this information will guide us to sources of data, and some will just be useful in filling out a three-dimensional image of their lives.

## Development of the CSG

### Database

Many of us gather scraps and bits of information about the places our ancestors lived and keep them as part of our collections of “stuff” that are helpful from time to time. For several years CSG has accumulated this kind of material and made it available on the website at [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org). This has been a fairly low-key project that has been pursued whenever time was available.

With 169 towns and cities in Connecticut, filling in all the desired data has been a major task, and progress has been slow. We begin with brief histories and the essential contact information such as the address of the town hall and the days and hours of operation when vital records could be accessed. As you will see when we display the list of categories covered, we have moved well beyond the basic data to more detailed information. Much of this information is available at various Internet sites and in publications and libraries. However, the value of the CSG database is to consolidate all of the information in one convenient location.

The enormous amount of time that has been required to do this underscores the need to create the database. The assembly of this database is a work-in-progress and will always require updates and additions as information changes and new data emerges. We feel that the database is now sufficiently developed that we should call more attention to its existence. Therefore the newly redesigned CSG website contains a prominently featured “Gateway” icon to the Connecticut Towns & Cities Database.

## You Can Help

The development of the database is and will continue to be a work-in-progress. It has always been a central characteristic of family historians and genealogists that they are eager to

share information. We have provided a means for you to do this on the CSG website. When you go to the database for Connecticut Towns and Cities, you will see that there are tools for submitting more information or correcting existing entries. Any information submitted will be reviewed and vetted by the CSG staff prior to inclusion in the database. We hope you will join in this effort. Please note, you must

register on the site and signed in to be able to add information. Projects such as Wikipedia have amply demonstrated the collection knowledge of a group greatly exceeds that of any individual.

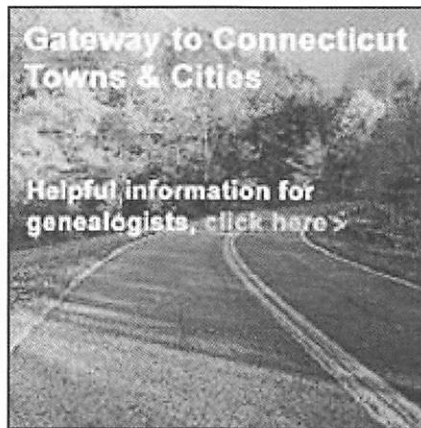
## Future Developments

The database does not include the actual vital records data, which would greatly exceed the capacity that we can provide. It does provide the information needed to locate and access these records. As the information categories that we do provide reach maturity, we hope to expand them. One area which may be suitable for expansion is

the inclusion of photographs and graphic material. Your comments and suggestions on making this database more useful are welcome. [csginc@ctfamilyhistory.com](mailto:csginc@ctfamilyhistory.com).

## Categories in the CSG Database for CT Towns and Cities

Name of the Town	Churches
Probate District	Monuments
Year Established	Communities
Year Incorporated	Historical Locations
Form of Government	Notable Citizens
Town Hall Address	Newspapers
Town Contact Information	Schools
Days and Hours Open for Research	Libraries
Web Address	Published Histories
Brief History	Genealogical Websites
Historical Timeline	Other Town Names
Settled from What Towns	Town Historian
Population History	Years Covered by Vital Records
Founding Families	Photos
Cemeteries	



## Meet the Experts At the 45<sup>th</sup> CSG Anniversary Celebration

CSG's 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting will take place on May 18, 2013. We are planning something special for this occasion and both members and the public are most welcome to come.

We have chosen a new location for this meeting. It will be held at the Pond House at 2935 Main Street in Glastonbury. This restaurant, which is less than one mile from the CSG office, is known for outstanding food and service.

We have altered our meeting schedule to facilitate attendance, be more interactive and to be more streamlined. For those who can arrive early, there will be a socialization and learning session that begins at 9:00 a.m. This will be an informal session during which you can renew acquaintances and question subject-matter experts. The subject-matter experts will be stationed at various locations. You can circulate in the room and seek out those whom you wish to question. The areas of expertise are:

### BEGINNING COMPUTER HELP

Don Naples will be at a computer and offer to answer very basic questions and give demonstrations for people who are uncertain about the basic functions of using a computer.

Don has been a CSG Governor since 2004 and enjoys helping others get started in ancestry search. His extensive, practical computer experience has been very valuable in assisting with technology planning and implementation for the Society.



### FINDING GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION ON THE INTERNET

Carol Whitmer will be at a computer with access to the Internet. Carol will answer questions about finding information on the Internet including giving demonstrations.

Carol is active researcher and lectures on various genealogical topics including finding resources which are available electronically. She is currently a member of the Board of Governors and the Treasurer of CSG. She is also a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists and a Trustee of the Connecticut Historical Society.



### RESOURCES AT THE STATE LIBRARY

Dick Roberts will be available to answer questions about using the

resources in the CT State Library for genealogical research. Dick is the former Head of the Connecticut State Library's History and Genealogy Unit. He is a Board Member of CSG and Member of several genealogical organizations. He is currently the President of the Descendants of the Founders of Ancient Windsor (DFAW) and President of the New England Regional Genealogical Conference (NERGC).

### GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN NEW YORK CITY

Gail Richmond will be available to answer questions on finding genealogical information about ancestors who lived in the New York City area. Gail is one of the newest members of the CSG Board of Governors. She was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. Gail graduated from Brooklyn College and later Eastern Connecticut State University. She subsequently earned two graduate degrees from Central Connecticut State University in the field of education and administration. After retiring ten years ago she began to pursue her interest in Genealogy and has been researching ever since. Gail attends many genealogy seminars in the New York and Massachusetts areas as well as in Connecticut.

### 45th Anniversary Celebration Agenda

For those arriving after the informal session, registration begins at 10 a.m. This is intended to make attendance more convenient, particularly for those who live some distance from Glastonbury. The President will give a welcoming message at 10:30 and a brief business meeting will include the election of officers. After the business meeting the presentations to the Twenty-Sixth Annual Literary Awards winners will be made. Lunch will follow at noon.

Joseph Camposeo, Manchester Town Clerk and Past President of the Connecticut Town Clerks Association, will speak at 1:30 p.m. on "Early Connecticut Mill Towns of the 1820s - 1850s." He will examine how the great immigrant influx of this period changed town life and what it was like to be a mill worker.

Come and join the celebration and talk family history with friends from the past and new friends you are just meeting.

1968-2013  
Serving the needs of  
family historians and  
genealogists  
for  
45 years.  
Join Us.  
The Connecticut Society  
of Genealogists, Inc.  
P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, Connecticut 06033  
(860) 469-0002 www.csginc.org



## Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.

\*\*\* SAVE THIS SECTION \*\*\*

*Please mark your calendar or save this page in a handy place with your other active calendars and datebooks.*

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 2013

**SAVE THE DATES** ~ All CSG Events are open to the public and many are free of charge. These opportunities not only provide helpful knowledge and insights into various aspects of genealogy, but the comraderie found in each gathering is always a plus. Our attendees always take away more than what they expect when they sign up. Please pre-register with the CSG Office, so we can plan appropriately and notify you of any last-minute changes or emergency announcements. All events may also be found on the CSG website, [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org). Members are reminded to invite their friends and watch this space and/or the CSG website for updated information.

**16 March** - "Genograms for Genealogists" with CSG Governor Edwin W. Strickland II. This topic studies patterns of family dynamics, relationships that apply to a pattern and utilizes naming patterns and occupations and neighborhoods to predetermine where to look for information.  
**Place:** CSG Library, 175 Maple Street, East Hartford, CT  
**Time:** 1:30 p.m. **Cost:** FREE

**6 April - RESCHEDULED IN OBSERVANCE OF EASTER** - CSG will once again co-sponsor the Connecticut Gravestone Network Annual Symposium hosted by Ruth Shapleigh-Brown. Watch the CSG website or the CGN website for more information as it is released.  
**Place:** South-End Senior Center, 70 Canterbury St., East Hartford, CT. **Time:** 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. **Cost:** CSG Members - \$5, non-members \$10. Pay at the door.

**CSG will not hold a program in April - We hope to see you at the NERGC conference in Manchester, NH.**

**17-21 April** - New England Regional Genealogical Conference these dates in Manchester, NH. Please stop by the CSG booth in the vendor hall and say "Hi." Watch [www.NERGC.org](http://www.NERGC.org) for more details and how to register.

**28 April - OPEN HOUSE** - **Place:** CSG Library, 175 Maple St., East Hartford, CT. **Time:** 1:30 to 3 p.m.

18 May 2013

### 45th Anniversary Celebration & Annual Meeting

Please join us and Joseph Camposeo, Manchester Town Clerk for the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. celebration. **Topic:** "Early Connecticut Mill Towns of the 1820s - 1850s." What was a typical early mill town like? How did the great influx of immigrants change the town, the culture and life? What was it like to be a mill worker in that time period?  
**Place:** Pond House Grille, 2935 Main Street, Glastonbury, CT 06033. **Time: Registration begins at 10 a.m.** Come early if you have genealogy questions. From 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. experts will be available to answer genealogy questions on a variety of subjects. Look for a complete schedule of events for the day on page 16 and on the CSG website under Events. **Cost:** \$37 per person. Pre-registration required. Deadline to Register: 10 May 2013.

**Saturdays in July - Summer Genealogy Classes**  
**Watch this page or the CSG Website for more details**

**21 September** - "Researching in New York State - strategies and Clues for Success" with CSG Life member John Bedard. Attendees are encouraged to bring their questions.  
**Place:** CSG Library, 175 Maple Street, East Hartford, CT.  
**Time:** 1:30 p.m. **Cost:** FREE

\*\*\* SAVE THE DATE \*\*\*

**19 October - ANNUAL FAMILY HISTORY SEMINAR**  
**Topics & Speakers:**

"Researching in the State of Rhode Island with Cherry Fletcher Bamberg.

"How to Navigate in the New LDS Family Search on the Internet and the LDS Libraries" with Helen Schatvet Ullmann.  
 "Treasures Found in the Early Connecticut and Rhode Island Town Meeting Records (Revolutionary War Period)" with Jolen Mullen.

"Researching your Ancestors at the Godfrey Memorial Library: A Good Place to Work on Your Immigrant Ancestors" with Beth Mariotti. **Place & Cost to TBD** - Watch this page & the CSG Website for more details.

### It's Dues Time Again!

By now members should have received their dues renewal forms. If not, please contact the CSG Office at 860-569-0002 or at [csginc@csginc.org](mailto:csginc@csginc.org) as soon as possible.

We do know that times are tough. For the 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row, CSG has decided not to increase the dues renewal fees. They remain at:

Basic (with online Nutmegger) - \$34  
Sustaining (with printed Nutmegger) - \$40.

Dues may be paid online on the CSG website at [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org). Sign in, then click Join Us then Join or Renew Membership. You do not need a PayPal account to renew, however, we use PayPal's secure server for processing. If you have any questions about the website, please let the office know. Please do not try to re-register.

### New This Year for Spouse/Household Memberships:

The CSG Board of Governors has decided to drop the half price fee for household memberships (those joining after 2007). Instead, there will be a flat \$5 fee for any additional household member (including spouse). Currently, this option is not available on our website, but we are working on that.

We do depend on the generous support of our members in addition to the dues renewal fee to continue operation. Please consider making an added donation to any or all of our funds (General, Library, Building, Computer or Endowment) when paying your dues this year and thank you to those who have so generously supported CSG in the past. Donations may also be made on our website - Just click the Donate button in the lower right of the Home page.

Please don't hesitate to contact the CSG Office with any questions you may have.

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### 2013-2014 Membership Cards

Your new membership will be mailed the first week of April to ensure that you have it for May 1<sup>st</sup>.

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### Name Change Vote

The vote that took place on 17 November 2012 to change the name of The Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. to The Genealogy Society of Connecticut, Inc. was defeated. The current name remains.

### Have You Seen the New Look of the CSG Website?

If you haven't been to the CSG website recently, go to [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org) and check it out. We've tried to make it much more user friendly and CSG members can still access Fold3 from the Welcome page. See page 11 of this issue for a write up our CT Towns & Cities link. This has been moved to the Home page and can be accessed by all (to add information, you must be registered). Need the CSG Database Search? CSG members must be signed in and then click the Search tab.

If you do not remember your username or password, please call or email the CSG Office. Please do not re-register.

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### Conferences and Reunions

We have been asked to announce the following conferences and reunions:

**The National Genealogical Society (NGS)** will hold its 2013 Family History Conference "Building New Bridges" at The LVH-Las Vegas Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. Mark your calendars for 8-11 May 2013. Go to [http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/attendee\\_registration](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/attendee_registration) to register or for more information.

**The Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society** will be holding its 34th Annual Lancaster Family History Conference "Family History for Smarties (and others, too!)" 9-11 May 2013 in Lancaster, PA with genealogist John Philip Colletta, PhD. For more information, contact **Peggy at 717-393-9745 or email [perb@lmhs.org](mailto:perb@lmhs.org)**.

**The Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS)** will present its next Conference for the Nation's Genealogists in Fort Wayne, Indiana from 21-24 August 2013. "Journey through Generations" is the conference theme and it is hosted by the Allen County Public Library and the Allen County Genealogical Society of Indiana. Check <http://www.fgsconferenceblog.org> frequently for breaking news, details on lectures, speakers, vendors, special offers, events, research places, hotels/convention center, and information about the Fort Wayne area.

**The Sheldon Family Association** will gather for the 74th Annual Meeting and Reunion in the Oberlin, OH 2-4 August 2013 at the Oberlin Inn. Hosts Deborah Mohler and the Rev. Brian Wilbert will provide lectures and trips to the H.O. Sheldon sites. They have information about the conversion of our database of 76,000 Sheldon descendants. See [sheldonfamilyv2.org](http://sheldonfamilyv2.org) or contact **President Jeanne A. Jeffries at P.O. Box 933, Walpole, NH 03608** for more information.



**CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS**  
**45<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**  
**AND ANNUAL MEETING**

**18 MAY 2013**

**POND HOUSE GRILLE**  
**2935 Main Street, Glastonbury, CT 06033**

- 9:00 a.m. **GENEALOGICAL QUESTIONS?**  
 Come early and speak with genealogy experts on topics such as "Beginning Computer Help," "Finding Genealogical Information on the Internet," "Resources at the Connecticut State Library" and "Genealogical Research in New York City."
  
- 10:00 a.m. **REGISTRATION**  
 Enjoy camaraderie with your fellow genealogists.
  
- 10:30 a.m. **BUSINESS MEETING**  
 President's Welcome, Reading of the Minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting by the Secretary, Treasurer's Annual Report, Election of Officers.
  
- 11:30 a.m. **TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL LITERARY AWARDS PRESENTATIONS**  
 Categories to be awarded are for overall best in: Genealogy, Family History, Genealogical Resource and the "Tell Your Family Story" Essay Contest.
  
- NOON **LUNCHEON**
  
- 1:30 p.m. **PROGRAM**  
 Joseph Camposeo, Manchester Town Clerk and past president of the Connecticut Town Clerks Association will present "Early Connecticut Mill Towns of the 1820s to the 1850s." How did the great influx of immigrants change the town, the culture, the life? What was it like to be a mill worker in the 1820s-1850s?

**- OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - COST: \$37 PER PERSON -**

**CSG 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration & Annual Meeting - 18 May 2013**  
**Registration Form - Cost: \$37 per person**

Please make checks payable to and mail to: **CSG, Inc., P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033**  
 (MasterCard, Visa & Discover also accepted)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ CSG # \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ CSG # \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone/E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Meal Choice (please circle one) **Lemon Thyme Petit Chicken** or **Baked Ziti (vegetarian/gluten free)**

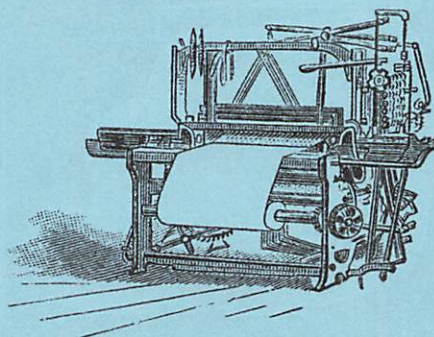
Please let us know if you have special dietary restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

# Woven in History: The Fabric of New England

## 12th New England Regional Genealogical Conference

April 17- 21, 2013  
Manchester, New Hampshire

### -WOVEN IN HISTORY- THE FABRIC OF NEW ENGLAND



*Unravel the mysteries they wove.  
What part did your ancestors play?  
Where did they come from?  
Where did they go?*

Featuring over 50 genealogical experts and 100 informative lectures, workshops, poster sessions, the Ancestor Road Show, Librarians & Teachers Day, Technology Day and popular Special Interest Groups.



Colleen  
Fitzpatrick, PhD



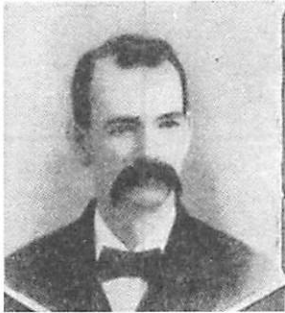
Stephen  
Morse, PhD

**Early Bird Deadline: Feb. 28th**

**Register at [www.nergc.org](http://www.nergc.org)**

# PROFILES OF CONNECTICUT'S CIVIL WAR HEROES

by Noreen Manzella, CSG # 15578



**Corporal Eugene M.  
Tinkham**  
**Company H, 148<sup>th</sup>**  
**148<sup>th</sup> New York Infantry**

Eugene M. Tinkham was born 19 April 1842 in Sprague, Connecticut to Welcome E. and Sarah L. (King) Tinkham. Identified siblings include Susan

(b.c. 1836), Sarah L. (b.c.1838), Martha L. (b.c. 1840), Alice C. (b.c.1846), Albert (b.c. 1849), George Herbert, Edwin (b.c 1852.) Fred E. (b.c. 1854). Tinkham's father had a previous marriage to Susanna Herrick and from that marriage, Tinkham's half-siblings were Calvin Herrick (b.c.1831), Henry Alonzo, and Zira Bugbee. Welcome Tinkham was a clothier in Sprague. At the age of 10, Eugene Tinkham began work in the Allen Mills in Sprague then moved to Lawrence, Massachusetts to work for the Washington Mills. He then moved to Marcellus, New York where he was foreman of the carding room at the Willard Mills.

Eugene Tinkham married Anna Jordan in Ephratah, New York on 8 March 1874. They had no children. Following his service in the war, Tinkham continued working in mills, settling in Springfield, Massachusetts. He first worked in the Smith mills, and then the Smith and Wesson factory. He then began a long employment at the armory. Tinkham served on the common council in 1900 and 1901 and was on the police committee. Eugene Tinkham was a member of the De Soto lodge of Odd Fellows, as well as the E.K. Wilcox post, serving as commander in 1890-1891. When the government made provisions to supply unmarked graves of servicemen from the Civil War, Tinkham became interested in this and worked tirelessly to this end. His nature was described as quiet and modest. Eugene Tinkham died on 2 October 1909 in Springfield, Massachusetts and was buried in New Hanover Cemetery, Hanover, Connecticut along with his parents and brother Edwin.

Eugene M. Tinkham enlisted in Company H, New York 148<sup>th</sup> Infantry regiment on 28 August 1862 in Waterloo, New York. Shortly after he was promoted to Corporal in September 1862. The 148<sup>th</sup> engaged in garrison duty at Suffok, Norkfok, and Yorktown, Virginia until 1864 when it was reassigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> division, 2<sup>nd</sup> brigade, 18<sup>th</sup> corps. The

148<sup>th</sup> then participated in the campaigns at Petersburg and Richmond at Swift Creek, Proctor's Creek, Drewry's Bluff and Bermuda Hundred. Heavy involvement followed at Cold Harbor and it was during this battle that Corporal Tinkham performed his heroic actions on 3 June 1864, as part of a skirmish line which was forced to retreat into the woods from which they had started, passing by dead and wounded. By his own words, Tinkham reported that he asked and received permission to bring whoever he could back to the lines. He reached the side of Andrew Grainer, who had a shattered ankle. By rolling him on a rubber blanket, Tinkham hauled him back to his unit. On a second trip, Tinkham found John Bortle who had been shot in several places and was helpless. Tinkham developed a system whereby he dragged the soldier to him, then moved backwards towards the woods, repeating this operation until he reached the safety of the woods. On 15 October 1864 Eugene M. Tinkham was promoted to Sergeant. The 148<sup>th</sup> followed Cold Harbor by participation in Chaffin's Farm and New Market Heights, and Fair Oaks. At each of these battles the 148<sup>th</sup> lost men and officers in action and later from wounds suffered. The 148<sup>th</sup> was mustered out in Richmond 22 June 1865.

Corporal Eugene M. Tinkham's Medal of Honor citation issued 5 April 1898 reads:

*Though himself wounded, voluntarily left the rifle pits, crept out between the lines and, exposed to the severe fire of the enemy's guns at close-range, brought within the lines two wounded and helpless comrades.*

**Sources:**

- "148<sup>th</sup> New York Infantry," *Civil War Index* (<http://www.civilwarindex.com>: accessed 3 October 2012).
- "Death of Eugene M. Tinkham," *Springfield Republican* (Springfield, Massachusetts), Sunday, October 3, 1909, p.8.
- Eugene M. Tinkham. *FindaGrave.com* (<http://www.findagrave.com>: accessed 30 September 2012).
- "New York, Town Clerks' Registers of Men Who Served in the Civil War, ca 1861-1865" *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 3 October 2012).
- Tinkham, Eugene M. *HomeoftheHeroes.com* (<http://www.homeofheroes.com>: accessed 30 September 2012).
- "U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles," *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 3 October 2012, entry for Eugene M. Tinkham.

- 1850 U.S. census, New London county, Connecticut, population schedule, Lisbon, sheet 55A (penned), dwelling 96, family 107, Welcome E. Tinkham household; digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 7 September 2012); from National Archives micropublication M432, roll 49.
- 1900 U.S. census, Hampden county, Massachusetts, population schedule, Springfield, sheet 5B, (penned), Enumeration District [ED] 588, dwelling 69, family 94, Eugene Tinkham household, digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 1 October 2012), from National Archives micropublication T623, roll 652.



**About the Author** Noreen is a Governor of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. and serves on the Publication Committee. Over 15 years of searching Noreen’s varied ethnic ancestry evolved into experience in research from pre-Revolutionary Pennsylvania to 19th century Little Italy in NYC.

Other family research includes 19th century German railroaders and famine Irish quarrymen in NY. Her research has led to expertise in identifying, locating, and establishing contact with 20<sup>th</sup> century descendants of ancestors, a skill she has employed for clients. A 35-year career teaching grammar, research and writing on the secondary level has laid the foundation for Noreen’s interest in helping others write their personal memoirs.

**The Following is a List of Connecticut Civil War Medal of Honor Winners Profiled to Date in  
*Connecticut Genealogy News***

<b>Volume 3 #1</b>	<b>Page</b>	<b>Volume 4 #2</b>	<b>Page</b>
Major William Bliss Hincks	20	Quartermaster Sergeant George C. Williams	18
Lieutenant John Calvin Curtis	21	Captain George W. Corliss	19
Private Wallace A. Beckwith	22		
		<b>Volume 4 #3</b>	
<b>Volume 3 #2</b>		Private Nicholas Fox	9
2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant William Edgar Simonds	22	Corporal Charles H. Marsh	10
Captain Edwin Michael Neville	23	Sergeant Allen Tucker	11
Brigadier General Edward Washburn Whitaker	23		
		<b>Volume 4 #4</b>	
<b>Volume 3 #3</b>		Quartermaster Sergeant David H. Scofield	17
General Daniel Webster Burke	10	Sergeant James T. Murphy	18
Lieutenant Aaron Steven Lanfare	11		
Corporal Elijah W. Bacon	12	<b>Volume 5 #1</b>	
		Sergeant Wesley Gibbs	21
<b>Volume 3 #4</b>		Sergeant Christopher J. Flynn	22
Captain William Stone Hubbell	8		
Captain Samuel Belton Horne	9	<b>Volume 5 #2</b>	
First Sergeant Frederick Randolph Jackson	10	2nd Class Boy Oscar Edward Peck	18
<b>Volume 4 #1</b>		<b>Volume 5 #3</b>	
Sergeant Robert A. Gray	25	Major William Sully Beebe	21
Corporal John Gideon Palmer	26	1 <sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Frederick Clarence Buck	22
Landsman Lorenzo Deming (aka Denning)	27		
		<b>Volume 5 #4</b>	
		Corporal Private Robert Wright	20



# Spotlight on Connecticut Towns & Cities



## Spotlight on Branford, Connecticut

by Gregory E. Thompson, CSG # 12873

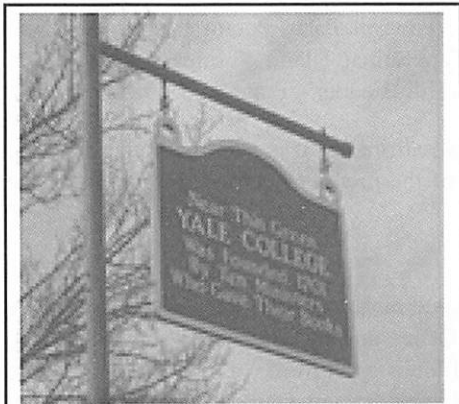
### Historical Profile

Before the settlement of what is now Branford in 1638 by the English, the land that is now Branford and North Branford was called “Totoket” or place of the “tidal River.” The sachem Montowese had inherited this land from his mother who was a Quinnipiac Indian of chiefly lineage from what was to become New Haven. His father, Sowheage, was the sachem or chief of the Mattabesec Indians whose land stretched northward to Middletown and beyond. The two tribes shared possession of “Totoket” which enabled them to have access to the sound to obtain seafood and to gather shells for making their wampum, and for trading with the Europeans.

The Dutch were the first to set up trading posts on what is now the Branford River about 1635. They had a structure which they had built called the “Dutch House” in what is the present day area of Dutch wharf. Sachem Montowese allowed the Dutch trade of beaver and other valuable animal furs from his domain.

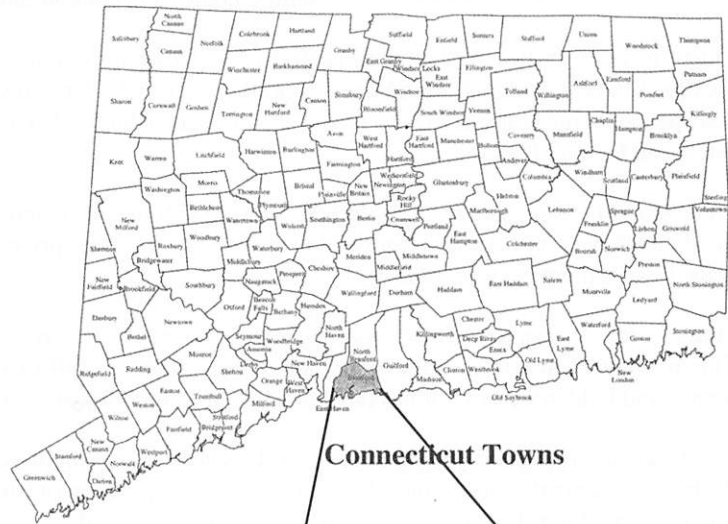
In 1638, the New Haven Colony traded “Eleven coats of trucking cloth and one coat of English cloth made in the English Fashion” to the Mattabesec Indians for the land called “Totoket” and the first permanent settlement was established around 1644 when people from Wethersfield came here and renamed the territory “Branford” after the town of Brentford in Middlesex County, England.

The town quickly became a central force for shipbuilding and coast wide trade. The first industry began in 1655 when the first iron furnace in Connecticut was set up on the banks of Lake Saltonstall on the East Haven–Branford border.



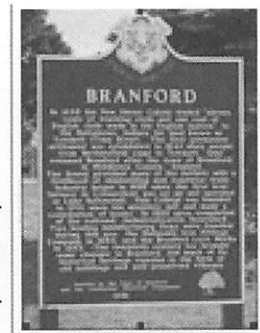
In 1701, aside from all of the shipbuilding and industry that had been set up in the town, a group of ten ministers met and made a contribution of books which would be the founding of Yale College, a designation that has been in dispute with the town of Saybrook where Nathaniel Lynde donated the first land for the founding of Yale College. Both towns claim the Yale fame.

By 1852, the railroads had opened up the territory for industrialization and the Malleable Iron Fittings Company was founded in 1854 and the Branford Lock works in 1862. These two industries attracted people from all over the country seeking employment and was the central force of the community for over a century. My great-grandfather moved his family from Tolland, Connecticut to work at the factory.



Connecticut Towns

Branford



However, much of the historical heritage of the town lies in its old buildings and well-preserved villages. There are seven major sections of Branford and many smaller ones.



**Branford Center District** – contains the town green, many old churches and many historical homes and businesses. Traditionally, the graduating class of the Branford High School graduates on the green in front of the town hall, weather permitting.

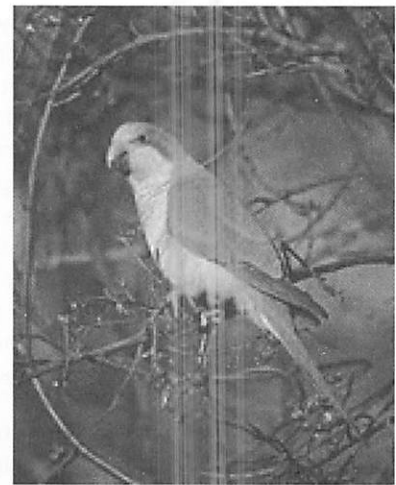
**Branford Hills** – this section is located on the western end of town and contains all of the heavy commercial businesses such as fast food, grocery stores and shopping centers. It is also home to many residential complexes including single and multi-family homes and condominiums.

**Indian Neck** – located in the south-central part of Branford, and is a peninsula bordering Branford Harbor and is the location of Foote Park and John Sliney Park. It is also a very large residential part of town and contains some of the oldest and special architectural homes. The Owenego Beach Club is also located here. Some of the town's most expensive real-estate can be found here.

**Pine Orchard** – is located between Indian Neck and Stony Creek and is the home to the Pine Orchard Yacht and Country Club as well as some very pricey real estate. It is the town's premier residential area.

**Stony Creek** – another affluent area located in the Southeastern section of town. This is where you will find the Thimble Islands which are full of rich history of pirates and hidden treasure. It has the ambiance of a small sea-side village.

**Short Beach** – is primarily a summer resort type area and is highly residential and the home to several small islands. It is known for its population of Monk Parakeets, often called “Short Beach Parrots.” These are non-native birds.



**Hotchkiss Grove** – is located between Indian Neck and Pine Orchard and consists of First through Ninth Avenues, as well as parts of Hotchkiss Grove Road, Seaview Avenue, and Dudley Avenue. It has a small beach used for swimming and mooring boats and features a raft to swim out to. Haycock Point is a small peninsula going out into the water with a small pier and grass. Occasionally residents of Hotchkiss Grove can rent the point to host parties. Every first Saturday of August, Hotchkiss Grove Day is held, with the day starting with a costume parade, games, and prizes. In the afternoon there are beach games in which kids compete with one another on the beach, a clam bar, and live music. Dinner, a raffle, auction, and dancing close out the evening. Historically Hotchkiss Grove was a summer community with beach cottages and dirt roads; over the past two decades most of the cottages have been converted into permanent, year round residences.

Other communities in town include: Branford Point, Brocketts Point, Brushy Plain, Cherry Hill, Clam Island, Double Beach, Goodsell Point, Granite Bay, Haycock Point, High Island, Jepson Island, Johnson's Point, Kidd's Island, Killam's Point, Lamphier's Cove, Little Pumpkin, Money Island, Pawson Park, Potato Island, Rockland Park, Sagamore Cove, Scotch Cap, Sumac Island, Summer Island, Sunset Beach, Thimble Islands, Todd's Hill, Vedder's Point, and Wheeler Island.



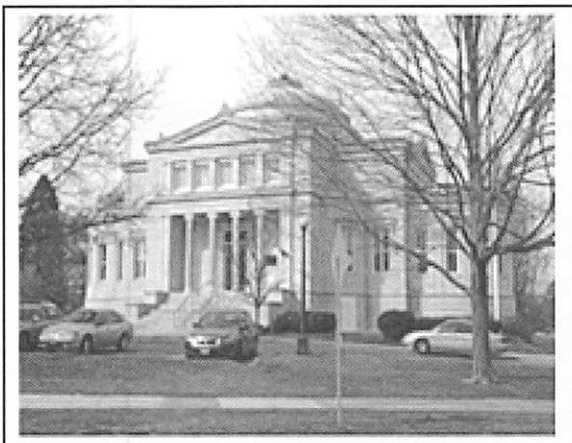
In addition to all the listed above attributes, it is also the home of “The Chowder Pot Restaurant,” one of the premier Seafood restaurants in the state.

### **Genealogical Resources**

The Branford Town Hall is located on the Town Green and contains the Town Clerk's Office, the Tax Office and the Branford Probate District, which includes records for Branford and North Branford. The Town Clerk's office is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and no appointment is necessary for research. They will, however, ask for your Genealogical Society Card (CSG Blue Card) and a photo I.D. in order to access the indexes of the Vital Records. The Clerk will bring you the actual records, and those with

Social Security numbers have restricted access. Copies of Vital Records are \$20.00 each. They prefer that requests are made for one book at a time.

The Blackstone Memorial Library - In 1890 the need for a public library was discussed by a committee and they reached out to Timothy Blackstone, a Branford resident who was looking for a memorial in the name of his father. He donated \$300,000 to build the library and another \$300,000 for an endowment. Timothy directed that the library be named in memory of his father, thus the “James Blackstone Memorial Library” was built. The library is in the Neoclassical Revival style with details taken from the Erechtheum of the Athenian Acropolis. The exterior, including the dome, is made entirely of Tennessee white marble. Taking nearly three years to complete, it was dedicated on June 17, 1896. Two bronze doors weighing nearly 2,000 pounds each were designed by William Fitzroy Smith. They feature two lion’s paws resting on mother earth and at the top is a small ram’s head. A magnificent rotunda is paved with marble mosaic floor tiles that were designed in Paris, France exclusively for the library. The dome of the rotunda is embellished with large paintings that illustrate the history of book making. The associate librarian, Barbara Cangiano, won the 2004 New York Times Librarian Award for her outstanding service, which is indicative of the library staff at the library. Friendly, helpful staff is always available. The library does have a genealogy collection. It is not displayed, but you can ask to view it. There you will find many private collections of cemetery and vital records that have been accumulated by the Town Historian, Jane Bouley. The library also has several cemetery publications that were compiled by Bouley and published by the Branford Historical Society.



The Branford Historical Society is located in the Harrison House at 124 Main Street. It is open on Saturdays from 2 to 5 p.m. or by appointment. The Historical Society does maintain a Branford Families file at the Blackstone Memorial Library and encourages those with Branford roots to contribute to this file. Most of their genealogical records are housed at the Blackstone Library.

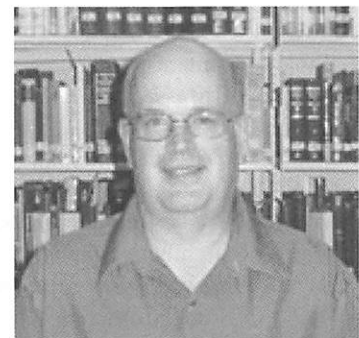
Cemeteries – Branford is home to several historical cemeteries, the oldest being Center Cemetery located on Montowese Avenue. This cemetery has been in operation since the 1600’s and was the first of the family cemeteries created and is still used today. The earliest stone still in existence is that of William Rosewell in 1694. Other old stones that are still in existence are quite remarkable in their epitaphs and design. Three other cemeteries are equal in their historical significance as well, including the Mill

Plain Cemetery on Mill Plain Road and the Damascus Cemetery on Damascus Road. Both of these cemeteries have been transcribed and the books are available for purchase from the Branford Historical Society. The third cemetery is the Stony Creek Cemetery in the Stony Creek Section of the Town. All of these older cemeteries are worth a visit.

Having lived in this beautiful historical New England town, it is certainly a place to stop on your quest for Branford-New Haven ancestry.

**About the Author**

Gregory E. Thompson was born and reared in the New Haven area and has been interested in his family history since he was a child. He is directly descended from the Indian Princess, Pocahontas, and from several Mayflower passengers. He teaches a class on genealogy at the Milford Public Library. Greg earned degrees in Economics and Accounting from the University of New Haven. He has been the General Manager for several restaurants during his career. He is the Archivist for the Connecticut Society of Mayflower Descendants, the Historian of the Elder William Brewster Society and a Board Member of several genealogical and historical societies, and a member of many other related organizations including CSG.



**A full Index of *Connecticut Genealogy News* is in process. For convenience, here is a compilation of the Tables of Contents.**

*- Stephanie Hyland, Editor*

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## ***Book Reviews***

*by Russell A. DeGrafft, CSG # 19174*

***Witchcraft Prosecution: Chasing the Devil in Connecticut*** by Richard G. Tomlinson. Published by Picton Press, P.O. Box 1347, Rockland, ME 04841, 2012. 6 x 9, hardcover, Library of Congress Control Number 2012941973, ISBN 0-89725-914-9, 224 pages. Order directly from CSG, Inc., P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033; from the CSG website: [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org) under **Books**, then **Bookstore** or by calling 860-569-0002. Cost is \$33 plus \$5 postage & handling. CT residents please add 6.35% sales tax. MasterCard, Visa or Discover accepted.

Local author and historian, Richard G. Tomlinson has written a fascinating book about a rather dark and sometimes forgotten chapter of Connecticut history. In earlier times and even on a wider, global scale, many people feared witches for the harm they might do. This book is entertaining and thought provoking for any historian interested in early New England witchcraft prosecution. It widely explores the guilt and emotional beliefs of those times and shines a realistic light on their reported outcomes. This book sports a thorough table of contents which serves as an excellent road map for the reader. The many selected illustrations provide a magnet of interest to the genealogist. The book concludes with a helpful appendix of the Wyllys Papers and an every name index. This is an enjoyable and enlightening read for any person interested in local history. It is highly recommended.

***Insubordinate Spirit: A True Story of Life and Loss in Earliest America 1610-1665*** by Missy Wolfe, 6 x 9, softcover, 272 pages. Published by Globe Pequot Press, Guilford, CT. Library of Congress Cataloguing-in-Publication data is available on file. Order directly from the publisher at [GlobePequot.com](http://GlobePequot.com), \$16.95 plus P&H.

As a student of the Winthrop families, a researcher will find this beautifully researched book a rare wealth of accumulated facts and challenging details. The author had the foresight to modernize the spelling, grammar and punctuation in the period correspondence which enables the researcher/reader a smoother road of understanding. For this she should be commended. Ms. Wolfe has provided the amateur historian a wealth of information by exploring England to the dusty vaults of New London's Historical Society. The clearly presented family trees of the Hallett and Patrick/Feake families illustrate even more clearly this generous offering. The generous use of reader's textual aids are remarkable throughout the book. The author provides a carefully mapped journey to follow beginning with an excellent table of contents and ending with an alphabetical index that sums up her research. The many maps, charts, graphs and photographs provide the reader with an excellent source of pleasant diversions. This book is deserving of a special place in your library.

# Queries

*Members may submit up to three queries per issue of Connecticut Genealogy News. Queries may also be submitted by email. Send to [csginc@csginc.org](mailto:csginc@csginc.org) and indicate "Queries" in the subject line. Contact the CSG Office with any questions you may have.*

Byron S.<sup>7</sup> **BONNEY** (Alfred<sup>6</sup>) b 30 May 1839, Eaton, Madison Co., NY; m 22 March 1874, Forland, KS (near McPherson) Laura B **CAUDLE**, b MO. Byron Bonney is buried in McPherson Cemetery, McPherson County, KS. Want all info on Laura and her sister Martha Catherine Caudle.

Want all info on descendants of Thomas **BONNEY** who came from Sandwich, England to Duxbury, MA on *The Hercules* in 1634.

Frederick **BONNEY**, son of Benjamin **BONNEY** and M. **STONE**, b 13 Sept. 1865, Williamstown, MA; d 2 Oct. 1929; m 4 Oct. 1893 Ina **PIERCE**. Want all info on Frederick Bonney's parents.

*Richard W. Bonney, CSG # 571  
373 High Rock Street  
Needham, MA 02492-1539*

Want any specific information about Peter **FESSMER** (or **FESSNER**) d 26 Jan. 1928 prob. Wallingford, CT and bro-in-law of Bernard and Pauline (**PANKONNE**) **SCHOTT** in New York passenger list 17 April 1906.

*John F. Battick, CSG#20264  
308 Foxcroft Center Road  
Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426*

Samuel W. **SMITH**, brick and stone mason, b abt 1811, New York or England. 1880 res Norwalk, Fairfield Co., CT; d 1895; bur Riverside Cemetery, Norwalk. His wife, Anna "Ann" (**GIBNEY**) **SMITH**, b 1835, Ireland or England; d 1894; bur Riverside Cemetery, Norwalk. Children listed on 1880 census: William H. Smith, 23; Clara Smith, 20; Albert/Elbert O. Smith, 17; Mary Smith, 15. According to a 1916 obituary of William H. Smith, Mary became Mrs. Stephen W. **VELSOR** res Quintard Ave., Norwalk area.

Need all info on parents of Samuel and Anna and any other family info.

William H. **SMITH**, b 1856-1858 in New York. His wife Jennie "Jane" (**GIBSON**) **SMITH**, b 1863 poss. in Edinburgh, Scotland; d 1907; bur Riverside Cemetery, Norwalk, Fairfield Co., CT. Children listed on the 1900 census: Binny "Blos" "Blossom" Smith, 12; Gibson Smith, 6.

Need any information on William's wife Jennie "Jane" and any other family information.

Comfort **RAYMOND**, son of Russell Gregory **RAYMOND**, b 15 July 1710 or 1750 in New Canaan, Fairfield Co., CT; d 25 March 1799 in New Canaan. Russell b 1782 in New Canaan.

Looking to connect the following names to families in Norwalk and New Canaan:

Benjamin **ALLEN**, b 4 Oct. 1743 in Fairfield, CT; d 27 March 1827 in Westport, CT.

Catherine Augusta (**HOYT**) **DENTON**, dau of George **HOYT** and Lucy **ALLEN**.

John Secor **ALLEN**, son of Benjamin and Rhoda **ALLEN**.

*Sherrin A. Smith, CSG # 20196  
[sas56chevy@aol.com](mailto:sas56chevy@aol.com)*

## Donors

Many have donated to support our 2012 Annual Appeal and other funds. If you do not see your name in this issue, it should be in the next. Thanks to all who support CSG. We cannot do it without you.

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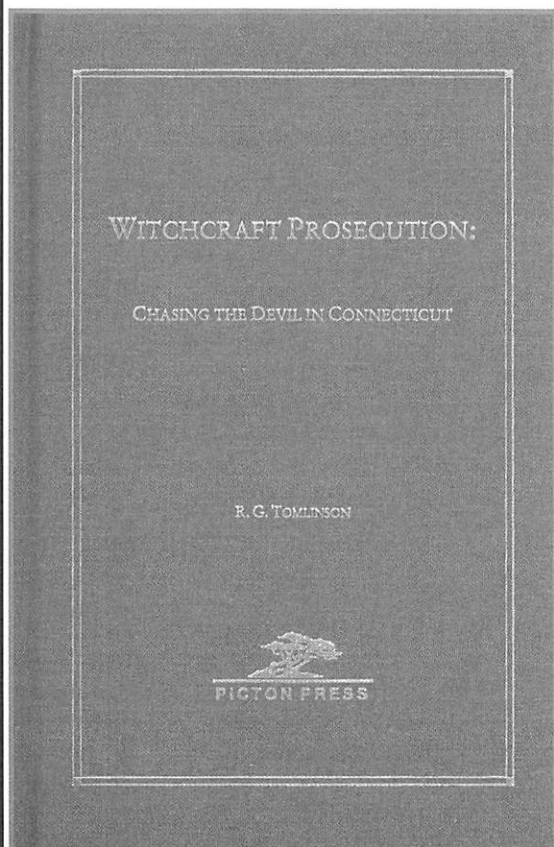
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### Computer Fund

15548 Patricia Atwood

# Witchcraft Prosecution: Chasing the Devil in Connecticut

by Richard G. Tomlinson



This definitive history of witchcraft prosecution in Connecticut in the 17th and 18th century covers every known case of formal accusation or suspicion of witchcraft. Includes over forty cases. Also includes a table of the accused, annotated descriptions of the original court documents in the Wyllys Papers Collection and historical profiles of key persons. Hardcover, 6 x 9, 224 pp., illustrated, Picton Press. \$33 plus \$5 S&H. CT Residents please add 6.35% sales tax.

## What People Are Saying About the Book

*Richard G. Tomlinson has just published an immensely useful history/reference work on the history of witchcraft in Connecticut. This is a topic of perennial interest, and all who are interested in this subject will want/need to add this book to their collections.*

Walter W. Woodward, Connecticut State Historian

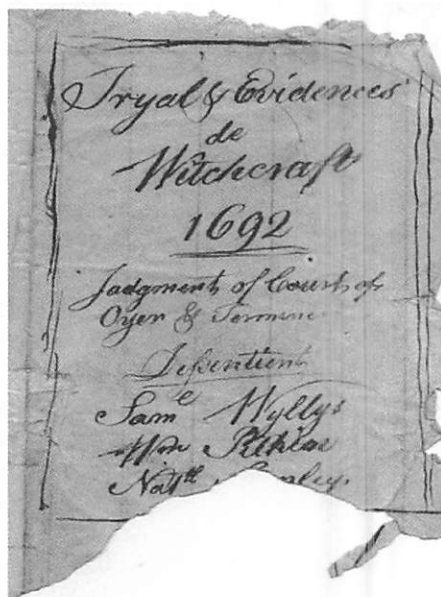
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Wyllys Papers, John Hay Library, Brown University

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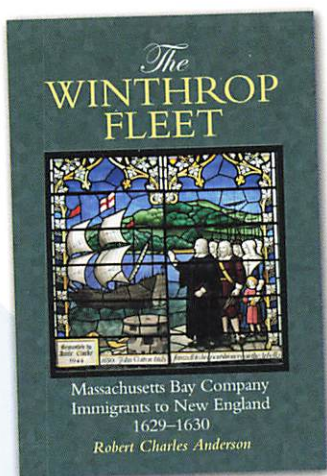
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by Robert Charles Anderson, FASG



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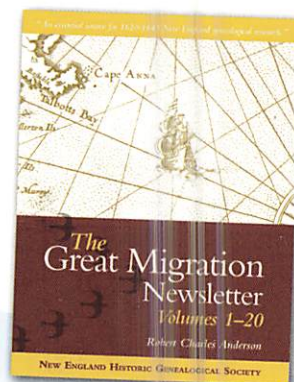
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# CONNECTICUT GENEALOGY NEWS

A Publication of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.

Summer 2013

Vol.6, No.2

TAXABLE LIST of *Samuel Clemens* of HARTFORD, for 1874.

ARTICLES.	OWNER'S VALUATION.	ASSESSOR'S VALUATION.	BOARD OF RELIEF'S VALUATION.
	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.
1 Dwelling Houses, <i>Farmington Avenue</i>		<i>80,000</i>	
Acres of Land,			
Stores,			
Mills, Manufactories,			
/ Horses,	<i>150.-</i>	<i>150</i>	
Oxen,			
/ Cows,	<i>100</i>	<i>50</i>	
Other Neat Cattle,			
Sheep,			
Swine and Poultry, over exemption,			
/ Coaches, Carriages, and Wagons,	<i>250</i>	<i>250</i>	
Farming Utensils, Mechanics' Tools, over exemption,			
Clocks, Watches, Time Pieces, Jewelry,	<i>1,200</i>	<i>1200</i>	
Piano Fortes and other Musical Instruments, not exempt,	<i>200</i>	<i>200</i>	
Household Furniture, exceeding \$200,	<i>1500</i>	<i>1500</i>	
Libraries, exceeding \$50,	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	
Quarries, Fisheries, Mines,			
Bridge, Turnpike, Plank Road, and Ferry Stock,			
Bank Stock,			
Insurance Stock, <i>200 shares Hartford Accident Ins. Co. 10,000</i>			
State, Canal, and all other Stock, except U. S. and Railroad in this State,			
Railroad, City and other Corporation Bonds, with number, am't and kind,			
Average amount of Goods for the year, with balance of good debts due me,			
Investment in Mechanical and Manufacturing operations,			
Investment in Vessels, Steamboats, and Commerce,			
Money at Interest, in this State and elsewhere,	<i>30,000</i>	<i>20,000</i>	<i>20,000</i>
Money on hand or on deposit, exceeding \$50,	<i>2,000</i>	<i>2,000</i>	<i>2,000</i>
All Taxable Property, not specifically mentioned,			
Ten per cent additional for persons neglecting to make a list, and sworn to,			
/ POLL,			
1 Dogs, number and kind, <i>male, spotted, worthless.</i>			

PERSONALLY APPEARED, *S. L. Clemens* of HARTFORD, of the State of Connecticut, and made oath, before me, that the above list, according to his best knowledge, remembrance, or belief, is a true statement of all his property liable to taxation, and that he has not conveyed or temporarily disposed of any estate for the purpose of evading the laws relative to the Assessment and Collection of Taxes in this State.

Hartford, October *2* 1874.

*Chas. E. Perkins* Assessor.

WM. BENTON, THOMAS BELKNAP, JOHN M. NEV, ASSESSORS.

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Analysis & Opinion  
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CSG Central News

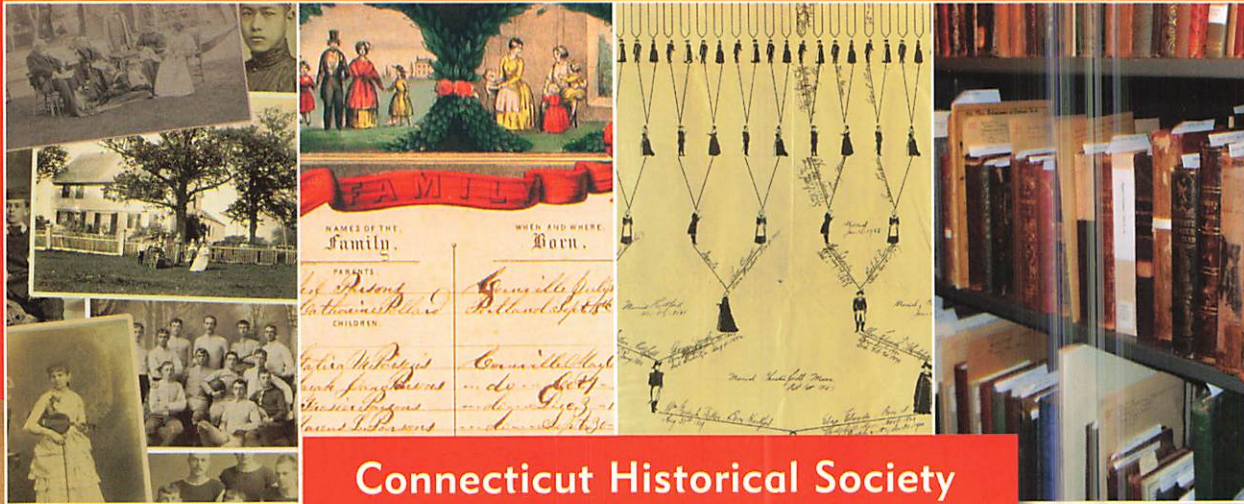
Profiles of CT Civil War  
Medal of Honor Winners

Spotlight on Essex

Plus

Much

More ...



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# Connecticut Genealogy News

*A Quarterly Publication of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.*

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## President's Message



As I write my last message as President of CSG, spring has just arrived, and yet you are reading this in the summer. We will have had our Annual Meeting and elected our new officers for 2013-2014. I have enjoyed my time as President and thank you for your support. I will continue on the board, just in a different capacity.

By the time this magazine is published, I personally will have downsized and

moved to a new abode. Downsizing is scary to all of us. What to get rid of, what to keep, what to donate, what to sell. As I sit and look at all the boxes already packed (still have many more to pack), I know that what I think will fit in, will not. So I imagine that although I have gotten rid of many pieces of furniture, there will be more downsizing as the months go by. All of you will face this challenge eventually.

As summer approaches with its long light-filled days, I hope you will all make time to organize your genealogy so that it will be usable to others, whether someone in your family or not. Additionally, I hope you will also identify those items in your possession that you know someone in your family or a friend would want, when you no longer want or need them. Remember, you don't have to give things away, but it will be incredibly helpful to your family if you put labels on items with the names of the individuals you want to have them.

There are many new devices which will make saving your documents and photos electronically and allow you to get rid of some of the paper we all have managed to collect over the years. In addition to scanning on your printer, there are small hand-held devices which are easy to use and quick. However, that being said, the scanning is the easy part. You then should identify your scanned document/photo and put it in an electronic file so you can more easily find it. Remember, whether you store in a box, a file cabinet or on the computer, you must be able to find it later. It is not a quick job, but a very rewarding one in the end.

I want to thank you for all your support this year. I know you will continue to support CSG in upcoming years. And remember, that we are all volunteers and, therefore, we can use your help. Check with the office to find out about the various ways you can help.

As always, if you have any suggestions or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the CSG office.

*-Peg Limbacher, CSG President*

## Editorial

Happy New Year (CSG began its 45th year on May 1st)! With the coming of the new year, we have elected new governors to the board and are sorry to see Jolene Mullen step down. Connecticut Genealogy News would like to thank Jolene for her help with this publication and grateful that she has agreed to stay on the Publications Committee so we don't have to say good-bye after all. Welcome to the Board long time CSG members, Beverly Lawton, Justin Piccirillo and Merris Williams.

In this issue, we take a look at how to use the 1830 U.S. census with Nora Galvin and feature for the first time resources at the Hartford History Center of the Hartford Public Library, written by Cataloging Specialist Jennifer Sharp. CSG Life member Bob Rafford writes a very informative article on the two bills that are currently (at the time of this writing) before the Connecticut Legislature. "Analysis and Opinion" may be a continuing series in this magazine. Congratulations to all the 2013 Literary Awards contest winners and thank you to all that entered. The winners are featured in this issue as well as book reviews of all the entries. Thank you to Russell DeGrafft for the Spotlight on Essex as well as the many book reviews he writes for us and to Noreen Manzella for the profile of the Connecticut Civil War Medal of Honor recipient. Connecticut Genealogy News greatly appreciates all who have contributed to producing this issue.

*-Stephanie Hyland, Editor*

### About the Cover

The city of Hartford recently turned over a large accumulation of papers to the Hartford Public Library related to the history of Hartford. These papers, some of which date to the 17<sup>th</sup> century, are being catalogued and are housed in the History Center of the library. Typical of these documents is the 1874 tax return of Hartford resident, Mark Twain, shown on the cover. (Was his dog really worthless?) Digital Specialist, Jennifer Sharp, who is preparing this material for online access, discusses the History Center in this issue. See page 5.



## Using the 1830, Sixth United States Census

by *Nora Galvin, CSG # 18813*

When the U.S. population was enumerated in 1830, President Andrew Jackson was in the early part of his first term. In addition to people in the 24 states, residents of the District of Columbia and the Arkansas, Michigan and Florida Territories were counted. In Connecticut, 53,819 households were enumerated.<sup>1</sup>

Schedules for the 1830 census contained 62 columns which were spread over two pages. For the first time, the schedules were printed. They were uniform—sheets measured 18 ½ inches by 16 inches—and easier to bind into a book. There was printing on both sides, and sometimes we see enumerators' ink marks from one side that have soaked through to the back.<sup>2</sup>

Only the head of household is named for each family. There is no way to know if families were living in individual dwellings or in multi-family houses because neither dwellings nor families were numbered. No instruction was given to enumerators about how to list the individuals. In the examples examined by the author, names were not listed alphabetically and most likely reflect the order of visitation.

Most of the columns were for increments of age, but there were also a few questions about physical disabilities and citizenship. There was a heading with spaces to write the name of the enumerator and the state. The name of the town or county was written in the first column on the front side of each page.

Age divisions on the census were repeated under broad categories of race and gender. The population count was recorded in these six categories:

Free White Persons, male and female

Slaves, male and female

Free Colored Persons, male and female

Answers to the social-statistics questions were collected in two categories:

Free White Persons

Slaves and Colored Persons.

Interestingly, the age categories for white persons were different from those for people of color. Whites were counted in the following age groupings:

0 to 4	15 to 19	40 to 49	70 to 79	100 years & older
5 to 9	20 to 29	50 to 59	80 to 89	
10 to 14	30 to 39	60 to 69	90 to 99	

People of color were counted in these age groupings:

0 to 9	24 to 35	55 to 100
10 to 23	36 to 54	100 years +.

Clearly there was interest in knowing about young black people and less interest in a precise age-grouping of older black people. The proliferation of age categories for white people is not explained in census documents and is somewhat mystifying.

The social-statistics questions counted people, black and white in separate columns but with no distinction for gender, who met the following criteria:

deaf or dumb, under 14 years of age

deaf and dumb, age 14 to 24

deaf and dumb, age 25 and older

blind (any age).

In addition, people who were aliens ("foreigners not naturalized") were counted. This question only was asked of white people because non-whites could not be citizens at that time.

### How the 1830 census can help you

With so many categories for ages, the members of white families might be more easily identified. Censuses can't tell exactly which individuals were living in pre-1850 households, but it can be a useful exercise to compare the family list to the people counted on the census to get an idea whether there were multiple generations in the household or if certain members were living elsewhere, perhaps as apprentices or hired workers. A good match between known family members and the counts of people in a household can be important evidence that the family was indeed living in a certain place in 1830.

The question about citizenship may help you to determine which generation of your family was born in the old country. Place of birth was not asked on the census for another 20 years. Information about physical disabilities might indicate early evidence of inherited conditions, or might explain the failure or success of various family members. Examination of the second of each page in a town can tell

<sup>1</sup>"1930 United States Federal Census," search term "Connecticut"; [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com), accessed 10 April 2013.

<sup>2</sup>Blank form for 1830 Census, [www.census.gov/history/www/through\\_the\\_decades/overview/1830.html](http://www.census.gov/history/www/through_the_decades/overview/1830.html), accessed 10 April 2013. Also, <http://www.census.gov/population/ancestry/data/pol02marv-pt2.pdf>, accessed 10 April 2013.



## Resources at the Hartford History Center

by Jennifer Sharp, Cataloging Specialist, Hartford Public Library

The Hartford History Center is home to the Hartford Collection, a non-circulating, multi-media collection of more than 100,000 books, trade publications, city directories, postcards, photographs, and memorabilia conveying over 300 years of community life in Hartford. Though the Collection was formally established by Chief Librarian Magnus Kristofferson in 1945, it includes the archives and special collections of the Library itself, which date to the 18th century.

Today the collection includes first-edition volumes of Hartford authors Mark Twain, Lydia Huntley Sigourney, Noah Webster, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Chuck Stone, and Wallace Stevens. Additionally, the Collection holds an inscribed copy of Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and the complete 90-volume bound collection of the Noah Webster pamphlets.



**James Santa-Mo**  
Hartford Public  
Library Staff

The material in the Hartford Collection is divided into three sections: Hartford subjects, Hartford authors, and Hartford imprints. All books, including city directories, currently available for study may be found by searching our online catalog. The catalog may be accessed either through the Library's homepage (<http://hplct.org>) or directly on the History Center's page (<http://hhc.hplct.org>). Card indices for Hartford imprints and the pamphlet collection are

available in the History Center. Among the pamphlets are city reports, church bulletins, sermons, agency reports, school bulletins, theater programs, etc.

Our Hartford periodicals include online access and microfilm of the *Hartford Courant*, microfilm of the *Hartford Times\**, and smaller Hartford-based publications, such as *Hartford Advocate*, *Hartford News*, *Southside Neighborhood News*, *Hartford Inquirer*, *Northend Agent's*, and *West Indian American*.

Our 19<sup>th</sup> century papers include *The Hartford Chat* (1891-1892) and *The Evangelist* (1824).

Photograph collections held by the History Center include those taken by the City of Hartford's Engineering Department (1909 – 1954) and the Parks Department (late 1800s – 1950s). Individuals, such as Herbert J. Stoeckel, Anthony "Tony" DeBonee, and Marc-Yves Regis, have donated their collections as well. We have Hartford Housing Authority photos (1940s – 1970s), and the photo morgue of the *Hartford Times* (1950-1976). To protect the original photos, we generally provide photocopies for researchers to review. We will, however, pull the originals as necessary.

The History Center holds two complete sets of the Geer's City Directories, one of which is on open shelves and available to anyone visiting (most of our collections are in closed stacks). We also have Hartford phone books and crisscross directories.

Manuscript and record collections continue to grow. One of the gems is the Hartford City and Town Clerk archives. Comprising records from the settlement

of the city in the 1630s to the middle of the 20th century, the material is divided into eleven series and numerous sub series. The series are: Streets, City Government, City Property, Education, Legal Matters, Public Utilities, Public Welfare, Public Works, Transportation, Private Property, and Other City Business.

The Streets series contains records about the construction and maintenance of the city's roads. This includes the records of the Board of Street Commissioners. City Government covers the people who run the government, primarily the Mayor, the



**Eileen Colletti**  
Hartford Public  
Library Staff



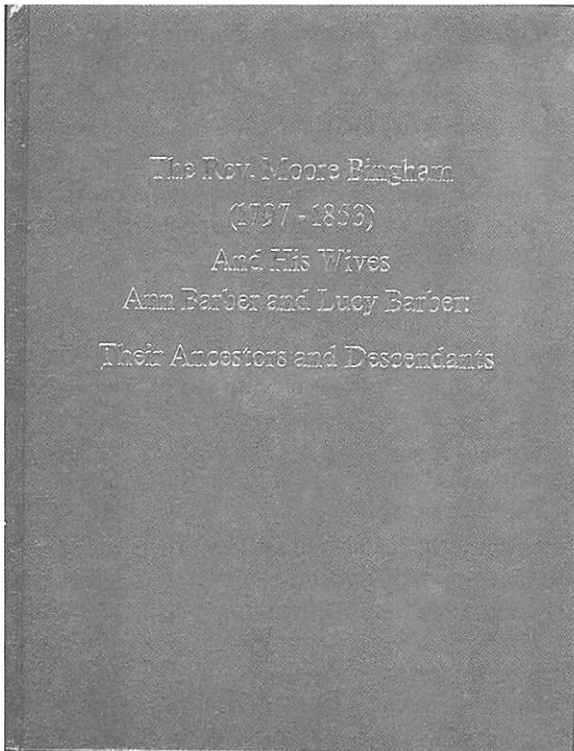


## ANNOUNCING THE 2013 CSG LITERARY AWARDS CONTEST WINNERS

Congratulations to all the winners of this year's contest and thank you to all who entered. The winning "Tell Your Family Story" Essay is announced on page 9. The essay will be published in its entirety in the *Connecticut Nutmegger*, Volume 46 #2 (September 2013). Book reviews of all the winning entries may be found on page 23 of this issue of *Connecticut Genealogy News*. Book Reviews of all the entries will appear in upcoming issues.



### Winner of the 2013 CSG Grand Prize for Genealogy



*The Rev. Moore Bingham  
(1797-1853)  
And His Wives  
Ann Barber and Lucy Barber:  
Their Ancestors and Descendants*

**Janey Eaves Joyce**, a fifth-generation Texan, attended the University of Texas, Austin, and the University of Houston before marrying Aristide Joseph Joyce Jr. and promptly producing four boys. After the youngest began school, she joined the *Pine Bluff* (Arkansas) *Commercial* as a trainee reporter and later worked as reporter and editor for three other newspapers. She began researching her ancestors and those of her late husband in 1994. She decided to retire from the newspaper business in 1995 and to concentrate on genealogical research, becoming certified by the Board for Certification for Genealogists in 2002. In 2005, she published *Bartlett Eaves (ca. 1765-ca. 1833): His Ancestors and Descendants*, a 546 page genealogy. She is an

active member of the San Antonio (Texas) Genealogical & Historical Society, where she has edited the society's periodical, *Our Heritage*, for seven years, and 25 of the 27 books the society has published since 1997. She compiled one of those books and was a compiler of 18 others.

These days she serves as one of the lecturers in SAGHS's monthly "How to Find Out Who You Are" classes.



# Winner of the 2013 CSG Brainerd T. Peck Award for Family History



## *Early Families of Middletown, Connecticut* *Volume I: 1650-1654*

by Reginald W. Bacon



**Reginald W. Bacon**, an editor and designer still engaged professionally in the history, museum, and preservation field, has been editor of *The Middler*, a publication of the Society of Middletown First Settlers Descendants since 2005, and researcher/compiler/designer of the organization's web site content since 2006.

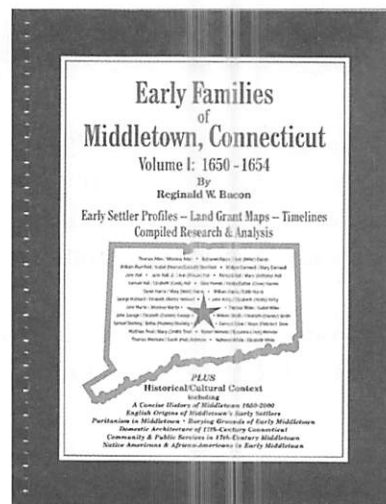
His first career was as a newspaper and magazine journalist and editor, but, after a decade, that was set aside in favor of a well-traveled career in show business as an acrobatic juggler, comedy tap dancer, and jazz/ragtime tenor banjoist/vocalist. He and his wife, the sensational club-juggler L.J. Newton, toured nationally throwing things at each other for nearly 30 years, working in every kind of venue from theatre and film productions to the circus arena, resorts, prisons, and on the corn-dog circuit. Today, as a scholar of early 20th-century popular music and entertainment, he presents an illustrated lecture/performance and exhibition, *A Vaudeville Retrospective*, exclusively for museums, libraries, and college theatre departments.

Since running away *from* the circus to join a museum, he works for Historic New England (SPNEA) and also on independent interpretation and collections projects. He serves on the board of the 1710 Weeks Brick House & Gardens (Greenland, N.H.) and the Newburyport Preservation Trust (Newburyport, Mass.). Publications aside from genealogy-related writings include two books on his circus/variety specialties, and a local history and memoir of Tannersville, N.Y. He is a graduate of Syracuse (N.Y.) University and Harvard's graduate program in Museum Studies and is a member of professional associations such as the American Alliance of Museums and the American Association for State & Local History.

The author began his own family history quest in the mid-1970s and inevitably the road led to Godfrey Memorial Library in Middletown. The paternal surname line of his family lived in Middletown from 1650 until the late 19th century, resulting in descendant relationships to half of the first 23 Middletown families and a third of the first 90 families. The years of accumulating family information and photos led to the compilation of *The Bacon/ Weeks Story: People, Places, & Events Through the Generations* (2002). In an effort to help others with contextual family history discoveries outside the confines of names, dates, and research libraries, he conceived and implemented the Family Genealogy Day program (2006), an event-planning template for the collaboration of museum and genealogy organizations. At Family Genealogy Day programs, participants can walk in the footsteps of ancestors, directly experiencing original family farmsteads and historic houses.

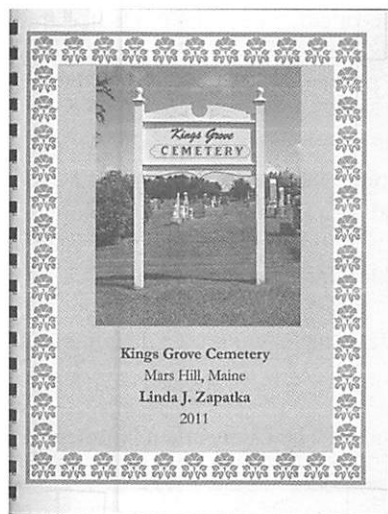
*Early Families of Middletown, Conn., Vol. I: 1650-1654*, grew from (1) his specific research on early settler families for the SMFSD web site; (2) the local history context articles developed for the SMFSD Middler; and (3) his museum work interpreting 17th-century history, architecture, and domestic life for the contemporary public.

The author and his wife live in Newburyport, Mass., a historic seaport city north of Boston where the Merrimack River meets the Atlantic Ocean.



# Winner of the 2013 CSG Prize for Best Genealogical Resource Publication

## *Kings Grove Cemetery, Mars Hill, Maine* by Linda J. Zapatka



**Linda J. Zapatka** has been involved in genealogy for more than twenty-seven years and is an active member of The Connecticut Society of Genealogists (CSG), the Maine Genealogical Society, Old Maine Cemetery Association, Indian & Colonial Research Center, Aroostook County Genealogical Society and the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. In 2010 she was awarded a plaque for her research and work with the Aroostook County Genealogy Society creating books containing obituaries, marriages, births and historical information from 30 years of four separate northern Maine newspapers and for her work at the Fort Fairfield Library where she catalogued the obituaries from their collection of newspapers from 1863 to 1953, which library researchers use on a frequent basis.

When her husband retired in 2006, they moved to Maine and have since returned to Connecticut where they spend their winters to be closer to family and friends. Her summers are spent taking pictures in Maine cemeteries and gathering research on the occupants of cemeteries and towns. She spends winters in Connecticut putting all the information gathered into book form.

Linda started doing the Castle family history in 1986 for her dad, Herbert Castle, who passed in 2004. He was always interested in his roots and asked Linda to do research, not realizing it would become a passion. Research at that time meant going from town to town gathering any and all information on the Castle family, taking it home, sorting through it all to connect the correct parts, which led to yet another town. If she hadn't had a CSG card at the time this research wouldn't have gone quite so well. Linda was able to trace the original Henry Castle born England, coming to the United States and landing in Virginia, aboard the *Transport of London Edward Walker M*, on July 4, 1635.

Linda began to research her mother's family, Giggey, which took her to northern Maine where she worked with her aunt and was able to help trace the female side back to the *Mayflower*. When Linda moved to Maine, she spent time transcribing old newspapers in the Fort Fairfield Library. Transcribing the old newspapers from 1863 to 1877 ended in her first research book for which she received the 2004 Literary Award in the Genealogical Resource category from CSG. At the same time she worked in cemeteries for family research, she decided a book would be beneficial. The book took three years to complete, but was worth the time and effort. She produced her first cemetery book *Riverside Cemetery, Fort Fairfield, Maine*, and received a CSG Literary Awards Honorable Mention in 2006. In 2010 she received CSG Honorable Mention for *Green Ridge Cemetery, Caribou, Maine*.



A list of her 21 reference books and 15 cemetery books are on her website: [www.littlepicturesite.com](http://www.littlepicturesite.com). She has recently completed books for the two last cemeteries in Mars Hill, Maine. She is working on two of the three cemeteries in Blaine, Maine. Another trip north will help put the finishing touches on these books to help complete the last Blaine cemetery, hopefully sending all 6 of them to the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. to be copyrighted in the fall.

Her first year back in Connecticut, she created a book on *The Old Burying Ground Cemetery* in Plymouth, Connecticut, a reference for the Plymouth Historical Society, which has been restoring the old cemetery gravestones. She may return for an update when the society has completed its work.

## Winner of the 2013 Literary Awards “Tell Your Family Story” Essay Contest

### *Twenty-One Ashley Street: Looking for Patrick McCarthy* by Denise S. Kennedy



Denise Kennedy was born and raised in Hartford, Connecticut, where she graduated from Noah Webster School and Hartford Public High School. She has been a Connecticut public school educator for twenty-eight years and is currently the school librarian at the Classical Magnet School in Hartford.

She has been interested in history and genealogy for as long as she can remember. As a child, Denise loved hearing stories about her grandparents and their parents, as well. Looking for more stories, she began researching the life of her great grandfather, which culminated in her writing the essay “Twenty-one Ashley Street: Looking for Patrick McCarthy.”

Denise and her husband, Peter, live in West Hartford. They have two grown daughters and four grandchildren.

Look for her complete essay in the September 2013 issue of *The Connecticut Nutmegger*.

#### ***Hartford History Center, continued from page 6***

For the protection of the documents, please only use pencil when researching. Admission to the History Center is always free.

We hope you will visit and come to love our collections as much as we do. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have.

The Hartford Public Library is located at 5000 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06103. It can be reached at 860-695-6300. There is limited free parking in the parking facility behind the library, accessed from Arch Street.

\*The microfilm collections are on the ground floor of the Downtown library and may be used at any time during normal Library hours.

#### **Photographs**

Staff member James Santa-Mo continues to inventory the pamphlet collection. Staff member Eileen Colletti prepares to research in one of the Geer’s city directories.

Tax bill of Samuel L. Clemens, 1874, Hartford Town and City Clerk archives, Hartford History Center, Hartford Public Library.

#### **About the Author**

Jennifer Sharp is an archivist working with the Hartford History Center at the Hartford Public Library. She received her degree in Archives and Records Management from the University of Michigan’s School of Information and has previously worked at Colonial Williamsburg and the Connecticut Historical Society.

# The People's Records

by Dr. Robert L. Rafford CSG # 2736L

**Editor's Note:** This article of analysis and opinion by Dr. Rafford represents a departure from the usual type of article published in this magazine. It is presented here because it deals with issues of great current interest to many family historians and genealogists. Connecticut Genealogy News would entertain responsible articles of alternative opinion and analysis in the future.

## Introduction

Once again, Connecticut legislators have submitted draconian bills that would make secret public records, depriving genealogists and others access to the records of our government. Two proposed bills in the Connecticut General Assembly constitute the greatest threat that genealogists, journalists, academics and the general public have ever faced regarding access to vital records. We should all be alarmed and take action immediately to stop the threat to our civil liberties and to the access which millions of genealogists and other citizens across the nation, especially those with roots in Connecticut, have exercised for almost four centuries.

Nora Galvin, professional genealogist and president of the Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council, Inc., and I testified before legislative committees in opposition to these bill proposals, and we have made a difference. The severity of the original proposals has been toned down and a threat to restrict open marriage records has been eliminated. However, these bills are still harmful.

The state's Freedom of Information Commission, the state's Chief Medical Examiner, major newspaper editors, as well as the Council on Freedom of Information (ctcouncilfoi.org), an organization representing most of the major news media in Connecticut and elsewhere, all oppose these bills.

## Background

Newtown, Connecticut's, Town Clerk Debbie A. Aurelia apparently importuned four local Republican representatives to introduce three bills in the Connecticut General Assembly, seemingly because of anger at news media personnel for exercising their legal right to request copies of the death records of the children killed in Newtown on December 14.

Representative Mitch Bolinsky of Newtown, a co-sponsor of both bills, testified that he "felt the outrage, the pain of observing the jackals descend upon my town clerk's office at a time of great, great community loss." He testified that Ms. Aurelia, who telephoned him on December 17, "was, quite frankly, just a little bit beside herself over the prospect of having a reporter standing before her less than 72 hours [after] one of the greatest tragedies in the history of the United States befell our town looking for death records for minor children." As of early March, Ms. Aurelia had not

released these death certificates to requesters, a violation of the Freedom of Information Act.

## The Bills

**HB 5733** constitutes the greatest threat to open records. It would prohibit public access to all death records less than 100 years old, enabling them to see only electronic versions of a death record which would be stripped of all pertinent family information, leaving only, to quote the bill, "the name, gender and date of death of the decedent, and the town in which the death occurred and [the public] shall not have access to any other information contained in the death certificate." Since our testimony, the bill has been softened, but it is not clear if it would allow genealogists access to these records.

**HB 5421** currently seeks temporary concealment of death records of minors under the age of 18 for a period of six months to all but close relatives and official agencies, but it is not clear if it would allow access to genealogists.

## Discussion

Now, you might be asking yourself, how does making secret the death record of a person who died, say, in 1915, help grieving families in Newtown. In her February 20 and 22 verbal and written testimonies, Ms. Aurelia called for the legislature to "permanently restrict access to all death [and marriage] records, not just for minors" to "only immediate family and authorized agencies and attorneys." She claimed that "[d]eath and marriage certificates are official state documents and are only vital to the parties named on them." This far exceeds any concern growing out of the Newtown massacre.

Although HB5733 might allow genealogists access to death records less than 100 years old, it would hamper our access to all records because many towns have single books containing birth, marriage and death records together far into the twentieth century. It would effectively close all records under 100 years old to reporters and researchers, academics, and probably genealogists.

In addition, it would remove death records under 100 years old from the purview of the Freedom of Information Commission, as is the case with birth records. In order to enforce a request for a birth or death record, genealogists

would be forced to petition a Superior Court judge for a writ of mandamus. Last year, when Hartford City clerks refused to show me a death record, currently a violation of the FOI Act, I was able to settle the matter with the help of the FOI Commission.

One bill is designed to prevent the press from obtaining death certificates, particularly, and the public would also be deprived of one more record. But the overall scope of both bills goes far beyond this; closing death records for six months, let alone 100 years, is unprecedented in our state's nearly 400 years of history.

As genealogists, we pride ourselves on the emphasis we place on gathering and evaluating evidence for the facts we wish to establish in our research. Similarly, we expect that legislators will use a reasonable method to identify a problem, illustrate it with examples, propose solutions and show how they will solve the identified problems. This is not always so with the legislative process.

With these bills, Representatives Bolinsky, Kupchick, Hovey and Senator McKinney have allowed emotion and impulse to lead the way, with reason trailing far in the distance. Nobody has offered the slightest evidence, in written or verbal testimony, of cases illustrating any harm that releasing death records has caused individuals or families in our state's history. Nevertheless, the bills were still produced and continue to hang over our heads.

Proponents of restriction have produced only vague hints of what they see as the potential harm of releasing these records to the public. They allude to the press "stalking" families, yet I have only seen respectful reporters doing their jobs. Indeed, I was very grateful for the reporters who respectfully interviewed Robbie Parker, the father of a victim, in front of the cameras on December 14 for one of the most meaningful and healing talks to the public since the tragedy.

Death records are not autopsy reports, which are closed to the public, and do not contain graphic details. In fact, readily available obituary, engagement, marriage, birth records and other news stories in newspapers and online contain far more personally identifying information than vital records.

In clumsy attempts to bolster a non-existing case, "identity theft" is thrown into the mix, as if secretizing these documents is a measure to prevent it. The facts contradict that myth. My research on identity theft shows that in states where vital records are wide open, for example, Massachusetts, the incidence of identity theft is far less than in highly restricted states such as my native New York. An examination of official literature on identity theft will not show anything but the slightest evidence relating it to death or marriage certificates.

The greatest threat of identity theft emanates from the cybersphere, where millions of facts about consumer identification are gathered from computer hacking daily, or from lost or stolen wallets and credit card scams, or from insiders in governmental and industrial organizations.

### Conclusion

These bills would not protect a single person or family from any harm, but they would harm citizens by hiding our records from us.

A suitable compromise could be struck by the following proposal: allow the chief executive officer of a municipality in which a dreadful event occurs to petition a Superior Court judge to grant a temporary closure of a death record for a period not to exceed 30 days.

The system of record availability now in place works and has served us well through time. A time-honored tradition should only be tinkered with if there is overwhelming and compelling necessity and little has been demonstrated in this case.

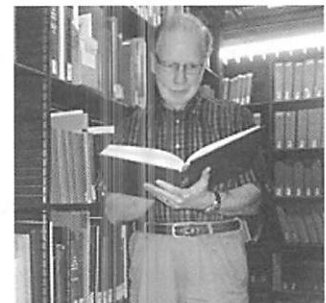
We are all heartbroken about the killings in Newtown on December 14. Genealogists care deeply about protecting families as much as anyone. If we thought that there was any benefit to passing this legislation, we would certainly support it, but there is no demonstrated benefit in closing these records to millions of genealogists, reporters, historians and others, none whatsoever.

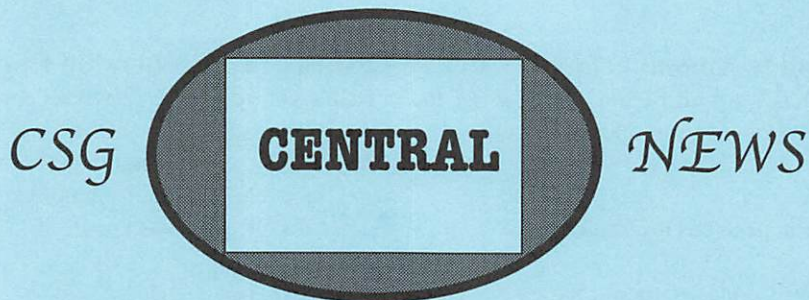
Furthermore, as Americans in a free society, we have a right to the records that our government keeps for us. We enjoy the freedom of the press where reporters have access to facts and keep us informed.

Please join me in contacting all legislators immediately to tell them that bills 5733 and 5421 are unnecessary, harmful and unacceptable in a free society.

### About the Author

Dr. Robert Rafford is a Unitarian Universalist minister, a native of Brooklyn, New York, with 40 years of research experience, a professional genealogist for last 18, has taught genealogy in many Connecticut community colleges and, through the Connecticut State Library, founded the Naugatuck Valley Genealogy Club. He is a former president of the Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council, Inc., the Municipal Historian of Middlebury, Connecticut and president of the Middlebury Historical Society, etc. He was featured last year on *Who Do You Think You Are?*





CSG **CENTRAL** NEWS

## Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.

\*\*\* SAVE THIS SECTION \*\*\*

*Please mark your calendar or save this page in a handy place with your other active calendars and datebooks.*

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 2013

**SAVE THE DATES** ~ All CSG Events are open to the public and many are free of charge. These opportunities not only provide helpful knowledge and insights into various aspects of genealogy, but the comraderie found in each gathering is always a plus. Our attendees always take away more than what they expect when they sign up. Please pre-register with the CSG Office, so we can plan appropriately and notify you of any last-minute changes or emergency announcements. All events may also be found on the CSG website, [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org). Members are reminded to invite their friends and watch this space and/or the CSG website for updated information.

**Saturdays in July - Summer Genealogy Classes with CSG Governor, Edwin W. Strickland II.** Cost is \$15 per class or \$50 for all 4 classes. See page 15 for more details.

**21 September** - "Researching in New York State - Strategies and Clues for Success" with CSG Life Member John Bedard. Attendees are encouraged to bring their questions.

#### CHANGE IN LOCATION and STYLE

#### THIS WILL BE A LUNCHEON MEETING

**Place:** Pond House, 2935 Main St., Glastonbury, CT.

**Time:** Registration: 11:30 p.m., Lunch at Noon, Speaker begins at 1:30 p.m. **Cost:** \$25 per person.

Meal Choices are: Chicken Florentine or Vegetarian Lasagna. Pre-registration required by 3 p.m. 13 September 2013. Please mail check payable to CSG, Inc. to CSG, Inc., P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033. See p. 16 for flyer and registration form.

\*\*\* SAVE THE DATE \*\*\*

**19 October - ANNUAL FAMILY HISTORY SEMINAR**  
**Topics & Speakers:**

"Researching in the State of Rhode Island with Cherry Fletcher Bamberg.

"How to Navigate in the New LDS Family Search on the Internet and the LDS Libraries" with Helen Schatvet Ullmann.

"Treasures Found in the Early Connecticut and Rhode Island Town Meeting Records (Revolutionary War Period)" with Jolene Mullen.

"Researching your Ancestors at the Godfrey Memorial Library: A Good Place to Work on Your Immigrant Ancestors" with Beth Mariotti.

**Place:** Holiday Inn North Haven, 201 Washington Ave., North Haven, CT 06473.

**Pre-registration required by noon on 11 October 2013.**

**Cost:** \$45 if registration is postmarked by 30 September 2013, \$55 thereafter.

**16 November** - "Milford Area Families"

Speaker: Gregory Thompson.

**Place:** Milford Public Library, 57 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT 06460.

**Time:** 1:30 p.m. **Cost:** FREE

### 2014

In case of a cancellation due to inclement weather, please watch Channel 3/WFSB's Early Warning Network.

**18 January** - "How I Solved My Brickwall Problems"  
BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Attendees will tell how they solved their own brick walls.

**Location:** CSG Library, 175 Maple St., East Hartford, CT

**Time:** 1:30 p.m.

**Cost:** FREE

**15 February** - "Techniques for Interpreting Old Handwriting"  
RESCHEDULED FROM FEBRUARY 2013

Speaker: Edwin W. Strickland II

**Place:** CSG Library, 175 Maple St., East Hartford, CT

**Time:** 1:30 p.m.

**Cost:** FREE

## CSG By-Law Change Announcement

Please note that as a result of our bi-annual review of the by-laws, the Board of Governors proposes the following changes to be made:

### Article II, Section 1 Purpose & Objectives

Add 2<sup>nd</sup> bullet point:

“To express the society’s concern about records preservation and public access to records.”

Add last bullet point:

“To cooperate with regional, national and individual societies with like purposes.”

### Article III Board of Governors

Section 1: Change the sentence that says “A Governor must be a member in good standing and must maintain a qualifying member classification, both requirements as defined in Article V” to read, “A Governor must be a member of CSG in good standing for at least one year and must maintain a qualifying member classification as defined elsewhere in these bylaws.”

Add a last section to section 1: “A candidate for President must serve at least one year on the Board of Governors before being nominated for President.”

### Article IV Officers

Section 1, third line: substitute as defined elsewhere in these bylaws for under article .... President should be limited to two consecutive full terms.

Section 3: Remove clause.

Section 4c: Fourth sentence, change “...in accordance with Article 6, Section 2 of these Bylaws” to “as defined elsewhere in these Bylaws.”

### Article VI Committees

Section 5: “Membership” will be added to the list of committees.

### Article IX Roberts Rules

We will replace the words “newly revised” with “current edition.”

### Article X Effective Date of Revised Bylaws

Section 1: First sentence: Change “...as described in Article VII, Section 1” to “...as provided elsewhere in these Bylaws.”

**A copy of the current bylaws may be found on the CSG Website under About Us. A vote to approve the changes by the general membership will be held at the program meeting scheduled for 21 September 2013. Members must be present to vote.**

## 2013-2014 Membership Cards

Thank you to all who have renewed their membership in CSG. We couldn't do this without you. We began mailing the 2013-2014 membership cards the first week of April. If you have renewed and have not yet received your membership card, please let us know.

## Transaction Code

The transaction code is the 4-digit number on your membership card after your member number. Members only need this number when registering for the first time on the CSG website. The number changes every year to help protect the security of your information on the CSG website. The CSG staff will take care of updating this on the website from year to year as the system does not allow you to do it. *Please* do not substitute this code for your member number when corresponding with CSG.

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## Conferences and Reunions

We have been asked to announce the following conferences and reunions:

**The Sheldon Family Association** will gather for the 74th Annual Meeting and Reunion in the Oberlin, OH 2-4 August 2013 at the Oberlin Inn. Hosts Deborah Mohler and the Rev. Brian Wilbert will provide lectures and trips to the H.O. Sheldon sites. They have information about the conversion of their database of 76,000 Sheldon descendants. See [sheldonfamilyv2.org](http://sheldonfamilyv2.org) or contact President **Jeanne A. Jeffries** at P.O. Box 933, Walpole, NH 03608 for more information.

**The Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS)** will present its next Conference for the Nation's Genealogists in Fort Wayne, In. from 21-24 August 2013. “Journey through Generations” is the conference theme and it is hosted by the Allen County Public Library and the Allen County Genealogical Society of Indiana. Check <http://www.fgsconferenceblog.org> frequently for breaking news, details on lectures, speakers, vendors, special offers, events, research places, hotels/convention center, and information about the Fort Wayne area.

**The Sgt. William Harlowe Family Association, Inc.** will be holding its annual meeting and reunion Saturday, 24 August 2013 to Sunday, 25 August. 2013 beginning at the Beal House in Kingston, MA. Visit [www.harlowefamily.com](http://www.harlowefamily.com) or email Kimberly S. Northrup at [kimmnorthrup.com](mailto:kimmnorthrup.com) for more information.



**The Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.**  
*presents*

**Introduction to Genealogy  
 with Edwin W. Strickland II**

**- OPEN TO THE PUBLIC -**

Classes held Saturdays in July beginning July 6<sup>th</sup>  
 from 9 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

CSG Research Library open from 11 a.m. to Noon  
 for those attending the classes.

**Place:** CSG Library, 175 Maple St, East Hartford, CT.

**Cost:** \$15 per session or \$50 for all four sessions

**Pre-registration Deadline:** July 1, 2013 (we need at least 6 people to sign up for all 4 classes to hold the course.

**July 6<sup>th</sup> - Session 1:** Getting Started; The Mythical Trunk;  
 Everything You Can Do Wrong;  
 Family Group Sheets/Pedigree Charts  
 Handling Names, Dates and Places  
 Citing Sources

**July 13<sup>th</sup> - Session 2:** Vital Records; Bible Records; Church Records;  
 Cemetery Records

**July 20<sup>th</sup> - Session 3:** Census Records; City Directories; Newspapers

**July 27<sup>th</sup> - Session 4:** Internet Resources and Genealogy Software.

**To register, contact the CSG Office at 860-569-0002 or at [csginc@csginc.org](mailto:csginc@csginc.org)**

**Make checks payable and mail to:**

**CSG, Inc., P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033**

***(MasterCard, Visa & Discover accepted)***

**CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS**  
presents

**John Bedard**  
**“Researching in New York State:  
Strategies and Clues for Success”**

**21 September 2013**

**POND HOUSE GRILLE**  
**2935 Main Street, Glastonbury, CT 06033**

**11:30 a.m.: REGISTRATION**

**NOON: LUNCHEON**

**1:30 p.m.: PROGRAM - John Bedard is a life member of CSG with many years of research experience in New York State. He has developed strategies that have proven very successful. Attendees are encouraged to bring their questions.**

**- OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - COST: \$25 PER PERSON -**

**Luncheon Meeting with John Bedard - 21 September 2013**

**Registration Form - Cost: \$25 per person**

**Pre-Registration required by 13 September 2013**

**Please make checks payable to and mail to: CSG, Inc., P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033**  
**(MasterCard, Visa & Discover also accepted)**

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_ **CSG #** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ **CSG #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone/E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**Meal Choice (please circle one) Chicken Florentine or Vegetarian Lasagna**

**Please let us know if you have special dietary restrictions** \_\_\_\_\_

# PROFILES OF CONNECTICUT'S CIVIL WAR HEROES

by Noreen Manzella, CSG # 15578



## **Brigadier General Alexander Shaler 65<sup>th</sup> New York Volunteers**



Alexander Shaler was born 19 March 1827 to Ira and Jerusha (Arnold) Shaler, grandson of James and Olive (Tyler) Shaler and David and Jerusha (Thomas) Arnold. Of his reported 10 siblings, identified siblings include Louise (b.c. 1811), Tamzin (c.1822-1844), Henrietta (c.1824-1847), and an unnamed sibling who died very young. The Shaler ancestry can be traced to Thomas Shaler who emigrated from Stratford-on-Avon, England, and in 1662 moved from Hartford, Connecticut with others, to settle Haddam (CT). Ira Shaler was a merchant sailor conducting business between the West Indies and New York. When Alexander was about seven years old, the family moved to New York and his father began a new business venture dealing in bluestone, an important building material of the day. It is possible that some of the bluestone used for sidewalks in lower Manhattan may have been set by Shaler himself. Shaler studied in private institutions in New York and the Brainerd Academy in Haddam. At a young age, he began employment with his father's firm and continued in the business until 1861. At one time he was involved with three companies, including A. Shaler & Co., blue stone dealers (New York); A. Shaler, blue stone and building materials (New Jersey); and Shaler, Gardner, & Co., general contractors.

Alexander Shaler married Mary McMurray in New York City on 31 March 1847. Children of this marriage include Camilla C. (b.c. 1847); Emma (c.1849), who married Henry Carr, Mary (22 February 1857-22 September 1932), who married C.K. Penney; Martha Washington Shaler (b.c. 1860); and Ira Alexander (16 September 1862-29 June 1902) who also married. After the war, Alexander Shaler had a varied and full life, celebrating over 60 years of marriage to Mary. His many undertakings involved serving as President of the New York Board of Health at a time

when sanitary conditions were deplorable and under attack; with the organization of the National Rifle Association; as president of the Association of Union ex-Prisoners of War, and as mayor of Ridgefield, New Jersey. Shaler was regarded highly for his performance as a commissioner of the New York Fire Department. The city of Chicago consulted him after the Chicago fire of 1871 and he spent time there organizing the department. Son Ira Alexander was a civil engineer who served in the Spanish American War and died in an accident during the building of the New York subway system. Alexander Shaler died 28 December 1911 at his residence in New York City and was buried in Ridgefield Cemetery, Ridgefield, New Jersey.

Prior to the Civil War, as a young adult, Alexander Shaler demonstrated a love of military life when he joined the Fifth Company, Washington Greys of the New York state militia. His attention to detail of drilling was widely known and admired and he was promoted within the company. Shaler transferred to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Company, National Guard, Seventh Regiment and again was promoted to captain within that unit. In addition, Alexander Shaler served in the Hudson Brigade of New Jersey as his residence varied between New York and New Jersey.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Alexander Shaler was appointed Lieutenant Colonel of the 65<sup>th</sup> New York Volunteers on 11 June 1861 and was promoted to Colonel in July 1862. After the assault on Marye's Heights at Fredericksburg, Shaler was promoted to Brigadier General. It was at Marye's Heights that Alexander Shaler performed the service which brought him the Medal of Honor. On 3 May 1863, the head of the Union charging the column was in danger of being overrun by the enemy's severe fire from artillery and infantry. Colonel Shaler charged forward with a supporting column. His actions turned the Confederate flanks back. With the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Division of the 6<sup>th</sup> Army, and acting as a commander, Alexander Shaler led the march of the corps 34 miles in 19 hours to reach the battle at Gettysburg. During 1863-4, General Shaler helped guard Johnson's Island, in Sandusky Bay in anticipation of the release of a large number of Confederate prisoners. He was in charge of the prison before he returned to the Army of the Potomac. At the Battle of the Wilderness, Shaler was captured and spent 6 weeks as a prisoner before being exchanged. He then was assigned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 2<sup>nd</sup>

Division, 19<sup>th</sup> Corps. Shaler's next assignment was to the 7<sup>th</sup> Army Corps in Arkansas and he was appointed to be Major-General of the U.S. Volunteers by brevet. He mustered out on 24 August 1865.

Brigadier General Alexander Shaler's Medal of Honor awarded on 25 November 1893 reads:

"At a most critical moment, the head of the charging column being about to be crushed by the severe fire of the enemy's artillery and infantry, he pushed forward with a supporting column, pierced the enemy's works, and turned their flank."

**Sources:**

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**About the Author**

Noreen is the Secretary on the Executive Board of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. and also serves on the Publication Committee. Over 15 years of searching Noreen's varied ethnic ancestry evolved into experience in research from pre-Revolutionary Pennsylvania to 19th century Little Italy in NYC. Other family research includes 19th century German railroaders and famine Irish quarrymen in NY. Her research has led to expertise in identifying, locating, and establishing contact with 20<sup>th</sup> century descendants of ancestors, a skill she has employed for clients. A 35-year career teaching grammar, research and writing on the secondary level has laid the foundation for Noreen's interest in helping others write their personal memoirs.

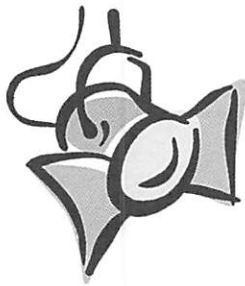


# Join Us

**IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER,  
WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN  
THE CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS**

**MEMBERSHIP LEVELS BEGIN AT \$34\*  
FOR MORE DETAILS & APPLICATION GO TO [WWW.CSGINC.ORG](http://WWW.CSGINC.ORG)  
860-569-0002  
[CSGINC@CSGINC.ORG](mailto:CSGINC@CSGINC.ORG)**

**\* Plus \$3 Initial Registration Fee**



# Spotlight on Connecticut Towns & Cities



## Spotlight on Essex

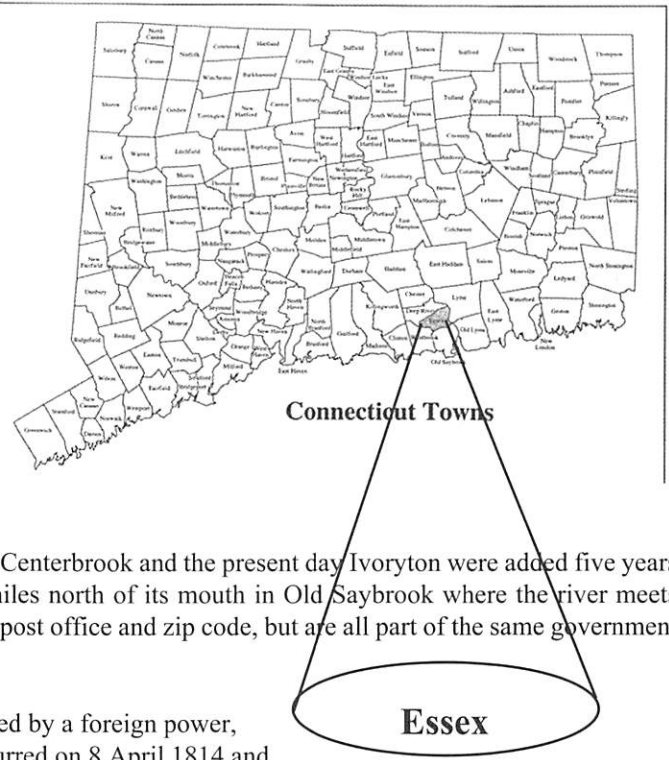
by Russell Degrift, CSG # 19174

### Historic and Geographic Profile

In the early beginnings, the Nehantic Indians were the first people to live in this area. The land was rich with wildlife, the soil was fertile and the waters were full of fish and crabs. A British surveying company deemed this section of the Saybrook Colony as a perfect spot for a new colony which began to emerge around 1664. But it was not until 1722 when the Colonial Government granted what was known as Potapaug Quarter permission to form a Congregational Church.

The area that we refer to as Essex remained in Potapaug Quarter of Saybrook until 1845, when the state legislature split off Essex Village to become the Town of Essex. Centerbrook and the present day Ivoryton were added five years later. Essex lies along the Connecticut River, just five miles north of its mouth in Old Saybrook where the river meets Long Island Sound. Each of the three villages has its own post office and zip code, but are all part of the same government and school system.

Essex is one of the few American towns to ever be attacked by a foreign power, according to Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia. This occurred on 8 April 1814 and the economic losses were among the largest sustained by the United States during the War of 1812. On that date, approximately 136 British marines and sailors under the command of Richard Coote rowed six boats from four British warships anchored in Long Island Sound, six miles up the Connecticut River, past the unmanned fort in Old Saybrook and arrived at the boat launch at the foot of Main Street. Essex is fortunate to have so many historic reminders of the past.



According to Wikipedia, “East Main Street, entering Ivoryton from Centerbrook is “Victorian Row.” All the houses along this way were owned by executives or stockholders of Comstock, Cheney & Co. Contrast this with Essex Village, where there are relatively few Gothic or Victorian style dwellings, two examples of which are the 1855 “Gingerbread House” at the corner of Riverview Street and Maple Avenue and the Parker House on North Main Street.” Other great houses, such as the Dickenson mansion on North Main Street in Essex Village and the A.W. Comstock and R.H. Comstock houses in Ivoryton, stand in sharp contrast to the smaller capes in Centerbrook and the factory dwellings in Ivoryton, but they are all equally important in showing us historic Essex.

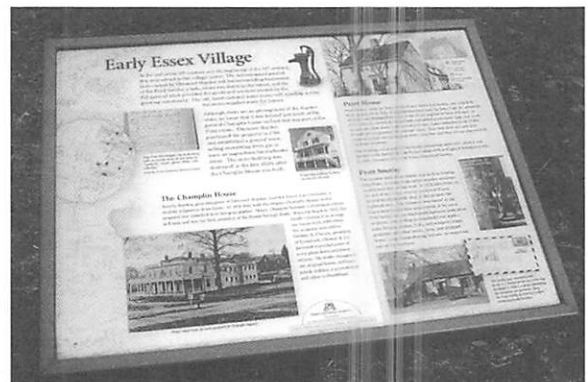
## Genealogical Repositories in Essex

**The Essex Public Library** is a charming structure located at 33 West Avenue. It boasts a collection of over 53,000 volumes and has an annual circulation of over 53,000. Researchers are encouraged to use this facility for their own researching purposes and will find an extremely large portion of the shelved collection devoted to the significant history of Essex, its charm, pioneering families and surrounding areas. Please call the library staff to arrange a researching appointment. The library is closed on Sunday.



The knowledgeable staff of the **Essex Town Hall**, under the direction of Ms. Fran Nolin, Town Clerk, are extremely willing to assist any researcher during their office hours. They do not require an appointment, but it is helpful if you call ahead. Their on-site records, those in the excellently preserved volumes and those transcribed onto computer files, date from 1852 to the present. The staff are able to direct researchers to alternative centers for other records as well. The town clerk's office may be reached by calling 860-767-4340 ext. 128 or 129. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**The Essex Historical Society** was founded in 1955 and is led by current president, Sherry Clark. Its main objectives are to promote an interest in history, particularly of the Town of Essex and to establish and maintain a museum where books, documents, pictures, furniture, tools, implements, records and many other articles associated with the town's history may be preserved and displayed. According to its website, <http://www.essexhistory.org>, email is the preferred method for contacting the Society. Their email address is: [Ehs@essexhistory.net](mailto:Ehs@essexhistory.net). It can also be reached by mail or phone.

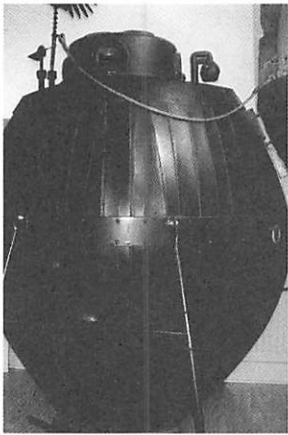


Chris Pagiliucos, the current Essex Community Historian, is delighted to assist any researcher. He may be reached directly by email at [pagliucos@gmail.com](mailto:pagliucos@gmail.com) for appointments.

## Other Places of Interest for Genealogical Enthusiasts



**The Connecticut River Museum**, located along the Connecticut River in historic Essex village at 67 Main Street, has the distinction of being situated atop a rich cultural area of Connecticut history. You can climb aboard a replica of *The Turtle*, the world's first submarine, used during the Revolutionary War. You can also experience the 1814 British raid on Essex, travel back through time to the age of steamboats and wooden ships and experience the excellent hands-on children's center. For more information, call 860-767-8269.



Replica of *The Turtle*, the world's first submarine.



**The Essex Eagle Watch** boat tours sponsored by the Connecticut Audubon Society are operated out of the Connecticut River Museum. According to its website, you can get an up-close view of wintering bald eagles along the Connecticut River from 1 February 2013 to 17 March 2013. Call the Connecticut River Museum for advance reservations or for information or email at [crm@ctrivermuseum.org](mailto:crm@ctrivermuseum.org).



Wintering Eagle



During the raid of 1814, the British marched to the Bushnell Tavern, which is now **The Griswold Inn**, an excellent restaurant and inn located on Main Street. The British seized the town's store of ropes and, according to an 1814 issue of the *Hartford Courant*, "\$100,000 or upwards worth of rum." This building and the Amasa Hayden House (now the Inn annex) were built at the same time and bear architectural similarities. The Inn was first a three-story building in the lower valley and the garrett may have been used to house shipyard workers. It was purchased by Ethan Bushnell in 1806. The present taproom was a former school house that may have been joined to the Inn to serve as a kitchen at one time.

### The Essex Steam Train and River Boat

is great sight-seeing fun and one of the major attractions in Essex. It is a two and a half hour, narrated steam train and riverboat excursion through the Connecticut River Valley. At the historic 1892 Essex station, you will board vintage railway cars pulled by an authentic steam locomotive. The train takes you to the Deep River landing where you board a riverboat and take a one hour long cruise along the Connecticut River before heading back to Essex Station. For reservations or for more information, contact The Valley Railroad Company, One Railroad Avenue, P.O. Box 452, Essex, CT 06426 or call 860-767-0103 or 800-377-3987 or email: [valley.railroad@snet.net](mailto:valley.railroad@snet.net).



Don't miss **Essex Ed**, a larger-than-life ground hog who makes his usual annual pilgrimage on Groundhog's Day from Essex Boat Works on Ferry Road up to the top of Main Street leading a parade of people and antique vehicles. Each year this ground hog is dressed in special attire, acknowledging a special occasion or person. All are invited to join in and are encouraged to bring their own noisemakers and ground hog gear to celebrate the day as this beloved animal searches for spring.

The lovely homes along Main Street were built in the early 1800s for the shipyard people who wanted to be close to their places of business. There are other houses scattered throughout the village that are also worth noting: the Pratt House (c. 1732), the Tooker House (c. 1735), the Conklin Shipyard (mid-19th century) and the Elias Starkey House (c. 1815-1819).



The Pratt House



The historic **Grove Cemetery**, pictured to the left, is one of the oldest burying grounds in Essex. In recent years this cemetery was given a streetscape enhancement and the old tomb was opened during the renovations. The contents were photographed and recorded. Members of Hayden family and other families in wooden sailing ship building and financing are buried here. **Riverview**

**Cemetery**, which oversees Grove Cemetery, has a host of local persons who were involved in the establishing of Essex Village and its surrounding environs buried there.

### Sources

Ancestry.com  
Essex Historical Society, Web Publications  
Essex Public Library  
Essex Town Hall  
Google  
*The Hartford Courant*  
*The Shoreline Times*  
Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia

### A Special Thank You

On a brilliantly sparkling Valentine's Day in February 2013, the author met with Ruth Schumacher of Essex and began the initial developments of this article. He feels indebted to her for her willingness to share her time, boundless energy and vast amounts of material she has accumulated over the years for the creation of this Spotlight on Essex, Connecticut.

### About the Author

Russell A. DeGrafft has been an active member of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. for many years. His book reviews and Spotlight on Connecticut Towns & Cities articles have appeared in many issues of *Connecticut Genealogy News*. He actively participates in the Massachusetts and Rhode Island, genealogical societies. He is also a member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, as well as the East Lyme Historical Society and the Descendants of Textile Workers of America. These involvements have provided him the opportunity to research family histories for well over 25 years. A former educator, he spent many years in various educational fields where his love of history and academia were evident.



# Book Reviews

by Russell A. DeGraff, CSG # 19174

***The Rev. Moore Bingham, (1791-1853) and His Wives, Ann Barber and Lucy Barber: Their Ancestors and Descendants***, compiled by Janey Eaves Joyce, CG. Published by the author, printed by Family History Publishers, Bountiful, Utah, 2011. Library of Congress Control Number (LCCN) 2011909959. 8 x 11, hardcover, 479 pages. Order directly from the author at 16214 Rocky Creek, San Antonio, TX 78247-1143 or email [jejoyce@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jejoyce@sbcglobal.net). Cost \$45.00 plus S&H.

This book is the grand prize winner of the 2013 Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. Literary Awards Contest. See write up about the award and author on page 7. This all encompassing book, penned by a very dedicated author, will provide any reader/researcher with multiple family details beginning from the early days of Rev. Moore Bingham and descending through approximately fifty-five generations. The Bingham researcher will find this book a wonderful source of details when fleshing out a personal genealogy. The table of contents is an invaluable guide to direct the researcher. Each generation has an easy to navigate genealogical summary and the many illustrations, which include photographs, charts and maps, enhance the ease of navigating through all the generations. A list of sources and a thoughtfully laid out index complete this book and make it an easy reference guide and an invaluable source for any Bingham descendant.

***Early Families of Middletown, Connecticut, Volume I: 1650-1654*** by Reginald W. Bacon. Published by Variety Arts Press, P.O. Box 4898, Newburyport, MA 01950. LCCN 2012949502, ISBN 978-0-9817945-5-6. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, 194 pages, 2012. Order directly from the publisher at the above address or from the author at [vwbacon@comcast.net](mailto:vwbacon@comcast.net) or write to Reginald W. Bacon, P.O. Box 489, Newburyport, MA 01950. Cost is \$50.00 plus S&H.

This book is the winner of the Brainerd T. Peck Family History Award in the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. 2013 Literary Awards Contest. See write up about the award and author on page 8. Middletown played a significant role in the history and development of Connecticut. Its inhabitants, beginning with the early Native American influences to our present times, have provided economic contributions to a rapidly developing territory. This all encompassing book is a wealth of information for any researcher interested in treading the grounds of this very early settlement and now cosmopolitan city. The author has outdone himself in providing a wide variety of information starting with its early settlers to the present day Society of

Middletown First Settlers Descendants. The book is replete with scores of photographs, charts, graphs and drawings. Not only is the reader treated to early settler profiles, but also to reproductions of land grant maps, a history of Middletown and multiple time lines. A very helpful composite index of individuals and place names used within the material concludes this book. This is a must read for anyone interested in a city and its inception and should be displayed in a place of significance in one's library. The reader should be prepared to get far more than he expects.

***Kings Grove Cemetery, Mars Hill, Maine*** by Linda J. Zapatka. Published by the author. LCCN TX 7-651-635. 8 1/2 x 11 1/2, softcover, 322 pages, 2012. Order directly from the author at [lzapatka2140@hotmail.com](mailto:lzapatka2140@hotmail.com) or write to Linda J. Zapatka, 47 Belanger Road, Caribou, ME 04736. Cost is \$70 plus S&H.

This book is the winner of the Genealogical Resource category in the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. 2013 Literary Awards Contest. See write up about the award and author on page 9. *Kings Grove Cemetery* was obviously a labor of love for the author. It was a very personal project completed by a very directed and tenacious person. The reader/researcher will find a wealth of information in this book. Anyone with a family member buried here will be delighted to find a visual and all encompassing presentation of each gravesite. The book has a very rich table of contents that is a very clear guide for the reader. The many photographs are a visual bonus. The cemetery index at the conclusion of the guide makes it easy to use. An excellent resource.

***Ancient Burying Ground, Main and Gold Street, Hartford, CT*** by David Shortell. Self-published. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, 74 pages, 2012. Order directly from the author at [dshortell@comcast.net](mailto:dshortell@comcast.net) or write to David Shortell, 36 Gillette St., West Hartford, CT 06119. Cost is \$34.99 plus S&H.

This book was entered in the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. 2013 Literary Awards Contest. This book includes the oldest cemetery in Hartford, Connecticut. A person interested in carved gravestones will definitely find this book well worth the time to explore and contemplate. Not only has the author provided an all encompassing database, but he also takes the reader on a journey through noteworthy generations of Hartford's history. There are many photographs and a supplementary DVD in Excel format. The reader is treated to a multiple array of charted materials, including a chart that graphs the deaths by age as well as by decades. The reader is also guided through the many clearly marked sections of the Burying Ground by a huge fold out chart at the back of the book. A well planned and informative document.

***From the Old Sod to the Naugatuck Valley, Early Irish Catholics in New Haven County, Connecticut* by Janet Maher. Published by Apprentice House, Communication Department, Loyola University Maryland, 4501 North Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21210. ISBN 978-1-034074-75-6. 8 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, 336 pages, 2012. May be purchased by ordering from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). Cost is \$65.95 plus S&H.**

This book was entered in the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. 2013 Literary Awards Contest. A massive volume of Irish lore, this book will attract not only the beginning researcher but also those charter members of TIARA. The author, a native of Connecticut, has equipped this scholarly book with multi-colored and black and white photographs. The author uses larger print size than usual as she maps and transcribes the oldest Catholic cemetery in Naugatuck, where generations of people and their descendants who helped shape the character of southern Connecticut lay interred. An excellent set of researcher's tools enable the user of this material to accurately navigate throughout its contents. Starting with a clearly defined table of contents and ending with a plethora of selected bibliographical works, broken into sections determined to be primary and secondary sources, this book's organization is a reader's delight. The concluding section entitled Recommended Organizations is a source not usually included, but is an added bonus for the researcher.

***The Nickerson Family, Part 5: Nicholas* by Pauline Wixon Derick and Burton Nathaniel Derick. Published and copyrighted by The Nickerson Family Association, Inc., P.O. Box 296, North Chatham, MA. 8 1/2 x 11, hardcover, ISBN 078-0-9659269-2-8, LCCN 2011943965, 278 pages, 2011. Order from Sheridan Books, Inc., 100 Staebler Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Contact person: Rebecca Humrich at 734-661-8423. Cost is \$60 plus S&H.**

This book was entered in the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. 2013 Literary Awards Contest. Book 1 in this series won the grand prize in the 1997 Literary Awards Contest. The Nickerson Family Association is a strong and cohesive organization with a goal that appears to be providing a vast amount of information to researchers, both new and experienced alike. The many drawings, photographs, and assorted illustrations add an excitement to the materials that few other books generate. There is a well laid out table of contents to guide the reader along the way, followed by several personal acknowledgements and thumbnail histories of the family and their communities. A massive index of persons concludes this easily searchable book and provides the researcher with clear, simplified access to the book's contents. Also included is a beautifully coordinated index of places. This book is a must read for those researching the Nickerson family.

***The Story of An Ordinary Man in Extraordinary Times, Colonel Charles Everest Robinson, 1901-1956* by Francis Dorr Robinson and Dorothy Bowering Robinson. Self-published; printed by Cape Cod Regional Technical High School, Harwich, MA. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, 227 pages, 2012. For more information about this material ,write directly to the authors at Francis D. & Dorothy B. Robinson, 160 Silver Leaf Lane, West Yarmouth, MA 95273-5531 or email at [dbrob160@verizon.net](mailto:dbrob160@verizon.net).**

This book was entered in the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. 2013 Literary Awards Contest. The very personal material was co-written by this military man's son and daughter-in-law. This book documents the travels of Colonel Robinson, and also clearly and graphically explains the origin of this family in England and its genealogical position on Cape Cod. This book is well worth considering, and readers will find its contents brimming with carefully thought out prose. The vast and rich documentation of the Robinson family is a genealogical treat to the reader/researcher. There is a table of contents to help guide the reader/researcher through the pages. The multiple photographs, charts, graphs and citations handsomely augment its contents. A carefully written bibliography is included at the end. The book would have benefitted from an index. However, any Robinson ancestor will enjoy this book and most definitely benefit from the vast amount of researching this family has done.

***An Interesting Life: 105 Years of Curiosity and Adventure*, compiled and edited by the Reverend George Wells Raze. Self-published with the assistance of Lulu.com. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, 227 pages, 2012. Order directly from The Rev. George Wells Raze, 234 Essex Meadows, Essex, CT 06426 or email at [gwraze@snet.net](mailto:gwraze@snet.net). Contact the author for cost of book plus S&H.**

This book was entered in the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. 2013 Literary Awards Contest. Ruth Elizabeth Raze, the compiler's aunt, lived an interesting life for more than 100 years. She was a generous and respected person and teacher. This more than chronicles her school days. It illustrates, through preserved letters, Ruth's journey in Turkey. These weekly letters sent to her mother comprise the basis of this book. It is a light-hearted glimpse into Ruth's many adventures. The book does not contain a table of contents or an index, making it a bit of a challenge to navigate, but the many photographs, charts, sketches and assorted illustrations give the reader a tantalizing peek into this unusual culture. This amusing and entertaining book is a worthy read for anyone interested in the Raze family.

*The Diary of Elliott Mason Andrews of Bethel, Brookfield, Naugatuck, New Canaan and Danbury, CT, 1837-1908* transcribed by Christine Cervenka Finney with additional research notes and genealogical information about more than 80 people named in the diary. Self-published. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, 55 pages, 2012. Order directly from the transcriber at 600 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville, MD 20815 or by email at [cervenfinn@comcast.net](mailto:cervenfinn@comcast.net). Cost is \$12 plus S&H.

This book was entered in the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. 2013 Literary Awards Contest. In the words of the transcriber, "This book is presented in a format that invites the family historian or other researcher to investigate further the life of Elliott Mason Andrews, his family and his friends." The special feature of this document is a transcription of his diary. The listing of names is a researcher's dream, as it will provide names

that could prove helpful in personal research. This easy to follow format will enable the reader/researcher to appreciate the diligent work of the transcriber. Clearly written with handsome photographs, the book concludes with an index of names and Connecticut place names mentioned in the diary. This is a fascinating read for anyone interested in following the day by day events of Elliott Mason Andrews, beginning in January 1886.

## Queries

Members may submit up to three queries per issue of *Connecticut Genealogy News*. Queries may also be submitted by email. Send to [csginc@csginc.org](mailto:csginc@csginc.org) and indicate "Queries" in the subject line or mail to CSG, Inc., Attn: *Queries Editor*, P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033. Contact the CSG Office with any questions you may have.

John C. FOWLER b 1833-34 at Canterbury, Windham Co., CT; m Abby CONGDON of Montville, CT. Listed on the 1860 census as living in Montville. Need par for John C. FOWLER.

David Martin, CSG # 13231  
[davidmartindr@aol.com](mailto:davidmartindr@aol.com)

Clark(e) PHELPS 1810-1840, m Laura E. MUNSON, bur Pinesbridge Cemetery in Beacon Falls, CT. Clark(e) is buried near his mother Esther. Esther's maiden name is unknown. Her headstone says "wife of Ira." Clark(e) and Laura had a son, Edward. Seeking any info on Clark(e) Ira PHELPS.

Seeking info on Francis T. MCCORMICK of New York b 1876; m Nellie BURKE b 1874 of New Haven. Francis moved to CT.

Sheila N. Phelps, CSG # 20025  
[briteeyes@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:briteeyes@tampabay.rr.com)

Eliphalet Hobart HEWITT b 7 AUG 1767 at Stonington CT; s of Nathaniel (b 15 OCT 1746 Stonington) & Anna (HOBART/HUBBARD) HEWITT; d between 16 JAN 1815 and 01 JAN 1818 in Williamsburg District, SC. Nathaniel m(1) Anna 30 NOV 1766 at Stonington, m(2) Sarah AVERY. There were 4 children from the first marriage: Eliphalet, Sarah, John & Nathaniel. Seeking any info that would show Eliphalet's removal to SC.

Seeking any info on Anna HOBART.

Seeking info on Sarah HEWITT who m Elam CHEESBOROUGH.

Seeking any probate info on Nathaniel HEWITT.

Trisha Holbert, CSG # 20255  
[gmu0108@yahoo.com](mailto:gmu0108@yahoo.com)

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Thanks to all who support CSG.  
We cannot do it without you. If  
you do not see your name in this  
issue, it should be in the next.

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18263 Leslie K. Chapman

In the last issue, for this category,  
CSG #18107 Victoria Brady made  
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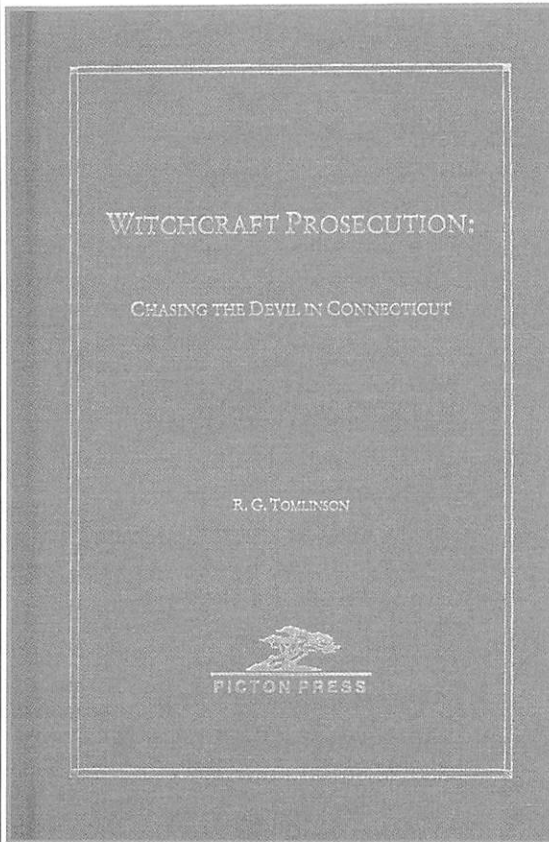
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09307 Garry D. Peters  
19411 Paul R. Stanton  
15642 Aldora Targowski
- Computer Fund**  
19228 Judith A. Barry  
13134 Luella P. Bartes  
12833 Patricia R. Butterworth  
15948 Frank L. Calkins  
18838 David F. Carberry  
00676 Betty Ann Chapman
- 19484 Sandra K. Cheney  
18104 Edward A. Chittenden  
12581 Walter Clemens  
16554 Suzanne M. Cornwell  
15538 Joan Correll  
04431 Robert O. Decker  
14574 John J. Doody  
04236 George R. Finch  
07687 Shirley Janssen  
11571 Frederick Johnson  
17827 Robert T. Johnson  
12276 Marjorie T.J. Mack  
10501 Samuel G. Morrison  
04279 Linda B. Morrissey  
14420 Donald Naples  
11379 Michele Oltra  
13477 Judy L. Pardee  
09307 Garry D. Peters  
18186 Joanne I. Peters  
19411 Paul R. Stanton  
09567 Diane E. Swart  
17999 Ronald E. Thomas  
14561 Thomas P. Thomas, Jr.  
18280 Suzanne & Howard Travers  
13262 Sally Vaun  
20180 Leona D. Wilson  
17414 Ann Wuelfing  
17780 Anne S. Yankura  
19765 Jerome M. Zott

# Witchcraft Prosecution: Chasing the Devil in Connecticut

by Richard G. Tomlinson



This definitive history of witchcraft prosecution in Connecticut in the 17th and 18th century covers every known case of formal accusation or suspicion of witchcraft. Includes over forty cases. Also includes a table of the accused, annotated descriptions of the original court documents in the Wyllys Papers Collection and historical profiles of key persons. Hardcover, 6 x 9, 224 pp., illustrated, Picton Press. \$33 plus \$5 S&H. CT Residents please add 6.35% sales tax.

## What People Are Saying About the Book

*Richard G. Tomlinson has just published an immensely useful history/reference work on the history of witchcraft in Connecticut. This is a topic of perennial interest, and all who are interested in this subject will want/need to add this book to their collections.*

Walter W. Woodward, Connecticut State Historian

*A serious history that reads like a novel.*

Marian Pierre-Louis

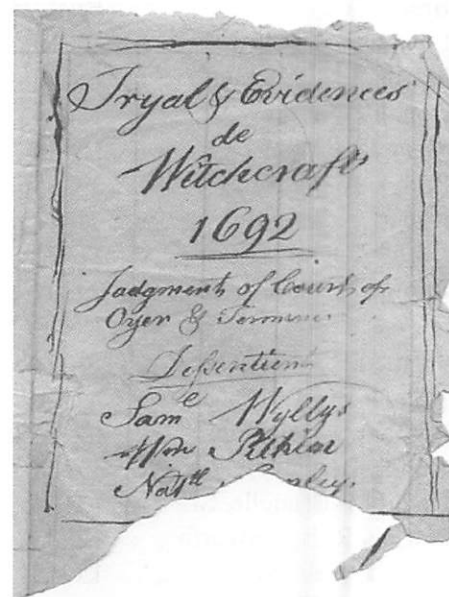
Host, Fieldstone Common, BlogTalk Radio

*This makes terrific reading.*

D. Brenton Simons

Pres. & CEO, New England Historic Genealogical Society

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Wyllys Papers, John Hay Library, Brown University

# Make a bequest to the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, and demonstrate your belief in the importance of family history...



Patricia Jane Waite loved researching her family. She was a member of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists because she believed in its mission to encourage and promote genealogical research and publication, to maintain and elevate genealogical standards, and to provide instructional and educational programs and publications.

Like other members, Patricia probably also enjoyed the camaraderie of other genealogists and the enjoyment of sharing a discovery or making a connection. When she passed away in November of 2008, Patricia left a bequest to CSG so that its work could continue and flourish.

When you make a bequest, you join others like Patricia Waite whose gifts have a long lasting impact. Donations directly support:

- \* Connecticut Genealogy News which features themed articles, educational pieces, book reviews, queries and much more of interest to genealogists
- \* The Connecticut Nutmegger which for more than 40 years has served as the "journal of record" for well-documented genealogies and genealogical research
- \* The CSG Annual Literary Awards that encourage and recognize excellence in the publication of genealogies and genealogical resource works
- \* The CSG Website that provides important news, data and information
- \* The Research Library where members can browse through genealogies, manuscripts and which provides archival storage and preservation of member charts
- \* The Membership Office where dedicated staff serve the Society's members
- \* Seminars, classes and meetings that provide education and the exchange of ideas, genealogical data and research techniques
- \* The on-going effort to ensure access to the records vital to genealogists
- \* Working with other organizations to promote family history as a basic element of our culture

To make your bequest to the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, simply give the following language to your attorney for inclusion in your will or trust.

A specific bequest might read as follows:

"I give the sum of \_\_\_\_ dollars (\$) to the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. in Glastonbury, Connecticut to be used or disposed of for its general charitable purposes."

A residuary bequest might read as follows:

"I give \_\_\_\_\_ percent of the residue of my estate to the Connecticut Society of Genealogists Inc. in Glastonbury, Connecticut to be used or disposed of for its general charitable purposes."

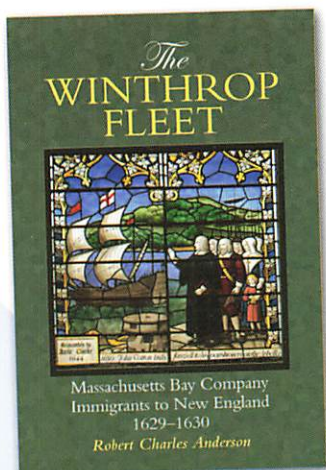
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# New from the Great Migration Study Project

by Robert Charles Anderson, FASG



## The Winthrop Fleet Massachusetts Bay Company Immigrants to New England, 1629–1630

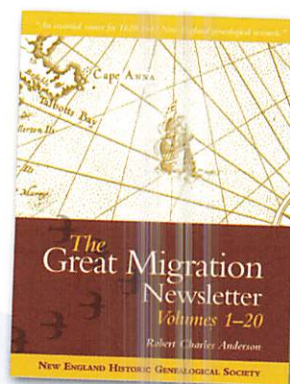
Meet more than 200 immigrants of the Winthrop Fleet through expertly researched genealogical and biographical sketches — updated and expanded from *The Great Migration Begins*. A fifty-page essay discusses immigration during the entire Great Migration period, from 1620 to 1640. 6 x 9 hardcover, 912 pp. \$64.95 (member price \$58.46)

*“... the work of a consummate master of historical and genealogical research.”*

—Roger Thompson, author of *Sex in Middlesex*,  
*Cambridge Cameos*, and *From Deference to Defiance*

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- *The Great Migration Begins, Volumes I–III* now in paperback!
- *The Complete Great Migration Newsletter, Volumes 1–20*
- *The Complete Great Migration Newsletter, Volumes 16–20*



## NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



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# CONNECTICUT GENEALOGY NEWS

A Publication of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.

Fall 2013

Vol.6, No.3

## *In This Issue*

**Using the 1820 Federal Census**

**The "Private Records" Collection at the Connecticut State Library**

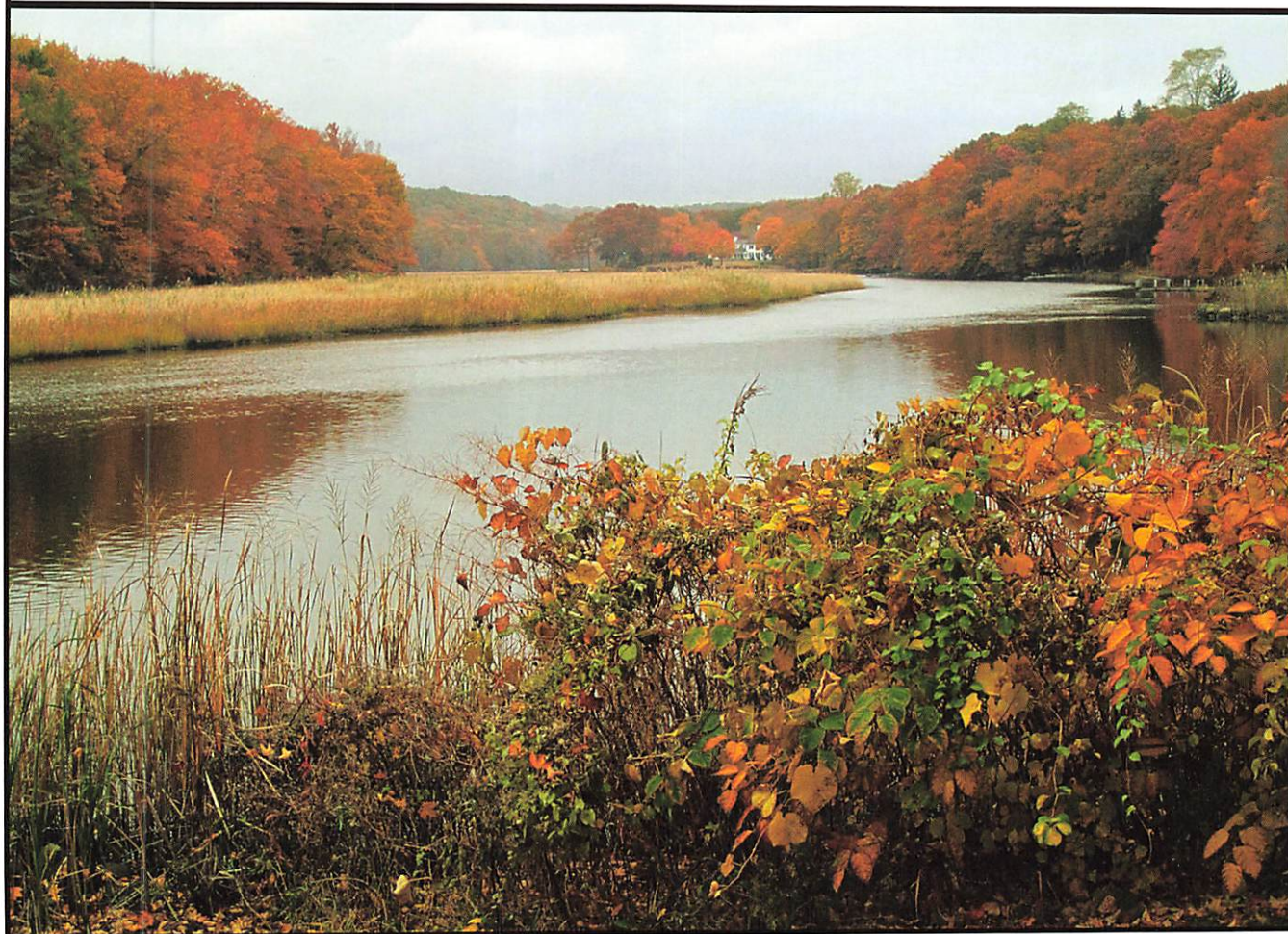
**Analysis and Opinion - A Town Clerk's Perspective on Access**

**The 2013 Family History Seminar Speakers**

**A Connecticut Civil War Medal of Honor Winner**

**Spotlight on Old Lyme**

*Plus Much More ...*





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## *Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. Annual Family History Seminar*

*Saturday ~ 19 October 2013, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Holiday Inn North Haven, NORTH HAVEN, CT*

Registration Begins at 8:00 a.m.  
Vendor/Exhibitor Booths open, Coffee and Danish

“Researching your Ancestors at the Godfrey Memorial Library: Resources Onsite and Online” with Beth Mariotti.

“Treasures Found in the Early Connecticut and Rhode Island Town Meeting Records (Revolutionary War Period)” with Jolene Mullen.

“Researching in the State of Rhode Island with Cherry Fletcher Bamberg.

“How to Navigate in the New LDS Family Search on the Internet and the LDS Libraries” with Helen Schatvet Ullmann.

*~Open to the Public~*

*See p. 13 for details or visit the CSG website at [www.csgetc.org](http://www.csgetc.org) under Events for a Seminar registration form. Registration forms also found on page 27. Register before September 30th for Early Bird pricing.*

# Connecticut Genealogy News

*A Quarterly Publication of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.*

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## President's Message



### WHY GENEALOGY?

**For most members of CSG,** genealogy is a hobby. Typically, we caught the bug early through exposure to some tantalizing tidbit of family history, but the affliction did not emerge full blown until years later... often after retirement. This has led to the common lament: "Oh. If I had only asked Grandma when she was still alive..." Typical

families reserve discussions of family history to occasions like weddings and funerals. Young people are seldom interested. But I think that even in the heart of the most outwardly indifferent there is a desire to know where we came from and how we got here. The family member who keeps the genealogical record will ultimately be a hero in someone's eyes.

**Forty years ago** a small group formed through accidental meetings on Saturday mornings at the Connecticut State Library. We were there to research our family trees and we were eager to share with like-minded others. We had a common problem. Connecticut law made access to birth records very restricted. An energetic George Williams got us organized. The Connecticut Society of Genealogists was founded in the auditorium of the Connecticut Historical Society in April of 1968. Programs were established to promote genealogy and efforts to gain access to vital records for genealogical research were successful. Many things in genealogical research have changed over the years, but the core driver – a hunger to know something about the lives of our forebears – has remained. Today we have much more data thanks to electronic communications, websites, facebook, e-mail, podcasts and DNA, but we will still treasure the stories that put a human face on our ancestors.

**I have never understood** those who relish only the "good" stories about their ancestors. Apparently they are looking for some reflected glory from the accomplishments of their forebears. I relish all the stories – good and bad – that reveal their struggle and their humanity. I was really disappointed when research showed that Lydia Gilbert, who was hanged in Hartford in 1654 for witchcraft, was not my 10<sup>th</sup> great-grandmother, although she remains in my family tree. The Wall Street Journal ran an article in January 2013, entitled; "When a Genealogy Hobby Digs Up Unwanted Secrets." The inference from the article was that researching your family history is a bad idea because "one in five find unsavory ancestors." I believe that the history

of the human race suggests that if you went back far enough it would be five-in-five. Recent DNA studies in the region of the ancient Mongolian empire claim to show that 25% of the people living there have DNA linking them to Genghis Khan.

**Think about it.** Are we more likely to be carrying the DNA of the innocents who were killed or of those holding the other end of the weapon? The biblical assertion that "the meek shall inherit the earth" may be true, but somewhere along the line a pretty robust and aggressive ancestor probably provided them the opportunity to do so ... by ensuring the raw survival of their family line.

**Enjoy your quest** to document and illuminate all the inhabitants of your family tree. Rescue them from obscurity and pass along their stories to future generations. The unfortunate thing is not that some of the stories will not be positive. The unfortunate, and tragic thing, is that these stories might be lost. Get busy. You have a job to do. Your ancestors are counting on you.

~Richard G. Tomlinson, President

## Editorial

In this issue, we will learn how to use the 1820 U.S. Census, look at another resource of the Connecticut State Library and are continuing our series of analysis and opinion. We are pleased to introduce Heritage Humor by new CSG Board Member Justin Piccirillo. We have included all of our regular features and our spotlight shines on Old Lyme in this issue. Thank you to all for their contributions.

The editor and staff of *Connecticut Genealogy News* are saddened by the news of Mel Wolfgang's passing. The founder and owner of Jonathan Sheppard Books was a long-time supporter of CSG and its Annual Family History Seminar. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife at this time.

~Stephanie Hyland, Editor

### About the Cover

"The Lieutenant River at Old Lyme is an historic and picturesque stream that has always exerted great influence on the communities bordering its banks. Since the mid-twentieth century the river has been used largely for recreational purposes, the occasional canoe or small craft carrying fishermen, bird watchers, or perhaps an artist to a scenic vantage point. Yet this river once boasted a wide range of industries that were crucial to the livelihood of Lyme and the settlements of Silltown and Laysville."

Source: *The Lieutenant River* by Susan H. Ely and Elizabeth B. Plimpton, p. 1. Picture from Google Images.



## Using the 1820 Federal Census

by Edwin W. Strickland II, CSG # 3709L

The 1820 Census of the United States reported a population of 9,683,453 people as of "the first Monday in August" (7 August 1820). This was an increase of 33.1% over the census of 1810. It took 1,188 enumerators 13 months to complete at a cost of approximately \$209,000. The census covered 23 states, with Alabama, Mississippi, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana and Maine being new states. Also included were the Michigan, Missouri and Arkansas Territories. The records for the territories of Missouri and Arkansas and for the state of New Jersey have been lost. Also lost are the schedules for some counties in Alabama and in eastern Tennessee. The schedules for some counties in Maine were thought to be lost but were found in the last part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>1</sup>

The 1820 census was the last one in which the enumerator supplied his own material, but the census bureau did provide a printed list of questions and a sample showing the proper format. For the first time, the number of foreign born were counted, along with the number of persons (including slaves) engaged in agriculture, commerce and manufacturing as major occupations.<sup>2</sup> Non-taxed Indians were not enumerated.

Households were not numbered and in most instances they appear to be listed in order of visitation. (Salem, Connecticut seems to be an exception, as heads of families are listed in alphabetical order.)

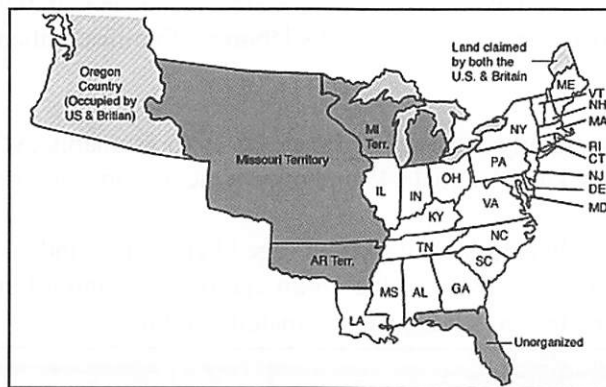
### INFORMATION COLLECTED

Column 1	Name of county, parish, township, town or city.
Column 2	Name of head of household.

Columns 3-8 Free white males: under 10, 10-16, 16-18, 16-26, 26-45, 45 and over.<sup>3</sup>

Columns 9-13 Free white females: under 10, 10-16, 16-26, 26-45, 45 and over.

Column 14 Foreigners not naturalized.



Columns 15-17 Occupation: Agriculture, Commerce, Manufacturing.

Columns 18-25 Slaves: Males under 14, 14-26, 26-45, 45 and over; Females under 14, 14-26, 26-45, 44 and over

Columns 26-33 Free Colored Persons: Males under 14, 14-26, 26-45, 44 and over; Females under 14, 14-26, 26-45, 44 and over

Column 35 All other persons except Indians not taxed.

### SAMPLE HOUSEHOLDS

For discussion, we will examine four households in New Canaan, Connecticut.<sup>4</sup> (census record on next pg.)

**MARY ST. JOHN.** Mary's household consisted of herself (age 45 or over) and one female slave (also age 45 or over). She apparently had no occupation.

**CALEB BENEDICT.** Caleb's household was exceptionally large (27 people), consisting of 4 males under 10, 2 males 10-16, 8 males 16-26 (it can be assumed all were over 18), 1 male 26-44, 1 male 45 and over, 3 females under 10, 3 females 10-16, 1 female 16-26, 3 females

Male	Jemima Butler	1																	
	Hanson, Cordley	1			1	2													
	Elsa St. John	1																	
	Eliphahet St. John			1	1														
	Mary St. John																		1
	David Warren	1			2	1													
	Aaron Abbott	3	1		1	1	1	1	1									3	
	Joel Hoyt	2		1	2	1													3
	Jonathan Benedict	1	1		2	1	1	1	1	1									2
	Caleb Benedict	4	2		8	1	1	3	3	3	1								12
	Nathan Hanford				1	1	1												
Rufus St. John	1		1	1	1	1	1											3	
	16	10	6	38	20	16	35	16	28	27	23	1	41					32	

**1820 Census Sample**

26-44 and one female 45 and over. Twelve people are engaged in manufacturing. It might be suggested that some of the residents are members of this laborer's families, although some of the laborers may be his children.

NATHAN HANFORD. Nathan's family consisted of 1 male 16-26 (presumably over 18), 1 male 26-44, 1 male 45 and over, 1 female 26-44 and 1 female 45 and over. One person was foreign born and not naturalized.

RUFUS ST. JOHN. Rufus' family consisted of himself (aged between 26 and 44), a boy and a girl (both under 10), a male aged 16-18 (also listed in the 16-26 age bracket) and a female aged 16-26. He and the female and the older male were all engaged in manufacturing.

		Recapitulation																							
New Canaan	Page 1	45	35	13	37	27	15	28	27	27	17	22	3	43			2			1					
	2	27	18	8	35	26	22	25	9	30	24	23	60	2	23										
	3	31	21	9	34	25	22	29	21	25	34	20	58	3	28				1	1					
	4	44	19	6	38	20	14	35	16	28	27	23	1	41	32		2		1						
	5	37	18	9	35	13	21	32	16	33	23	23	35	28				1	2	1	1				
	6	36	31	5	25	25	19	37	21	26	22	24	1	45	27						1				
	7	11	6	3	12	9	6	21	9	15	9	7	13	10							5				
Total in New Canaan viz.		231	148	53	216	145	119	227	119	184	166	137	2	274	5	191	1	1	2	4	1	1	2	1	2

**New Canaan Census Summary**

An interesting overview of New Canaan appears on page 288 of the census. The enumerator reports a population of 1698 white residents (my calculation comes out at 1725). There were 2 foreign born residents who were not naturalized. The eight people engaged in commerce all seem to be concentrated in one area, being on the first three pages. There were 274 farmers and 191 manufacturers. There were 4 slaves and 13 free colored persons. The enumerator did not report any other persons resident in New Canaan as of 7 August 1820.

**Endnotes**

<sup>1</sup> Findmypast.ie/articles,viewed 25 July 2013.  
<sup>2</sup> *Measuring America: The Decennial Censuses From 1790 to 2000.* (U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Admin., U.S. Census Bureau), September 2002. Pages 6-7.  
<sup>3</sup> It is to be noted that males between 16 and 18 years of age were enumerated in two columns.  
<sup>4</sup> *Fourth Census of the United States, 1820; Fairfield, CT. Page 285, NARA Roll M33-1; image 218.* (Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.) Viewed at Ancestry.com 25 July 2013.

## The Connecticut State Library's "Connecticut Private Records"

by Richard C. Roberts, CSG # 8680

As part of the ongoing "Resources at the Connecticut State Library" series, past issues have provided overviews of the Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records (see Vol. 4, No. 1), Hale Collection of Connecticut Cemetery Inscriptions (see Vol. 4, No. 2), Probate Estate Papers Index (see Vol. 4, No. 4), Church Records Index (see Vol. 5, No. 4), and Bible and Family Records Index (see Vol. 6, No. 1). But in addition to those better-known genealogical indexes, during the mid-twentieth century State Library staff initiated a number of additional projects intended to improve access to the wealth of information within the State Library's holdings. One of these was the Connecticut Private Records Project.

### "Private Records" Collection

Conceived in the late 1920s, with work done between 1929-1962, "Connecticut Private Records" is somewhat of a misnomer, for in addition to some family registers, letters, and entries from account books, journals, and diaries of "private" individuals, the items indexed/abstracted as part of the project also include records of justices of the peace, ministers, and sextons/undertakers.

As with the State Library's other genealogical indexes, the Connecticut Private Records Index, as originally conceived, was to have two parts: "cards" (slips) in drawers and "lists" -- sometimes as short as two or three typed pages; in other cases well over 100 pages--following the format of the Barbour Collection's bound volumes. Both the slips and lists provide a citation to the page within the original source from which the information was obtained.



In reality, however, the Connecticut Private Records Index remained a relatively unknown and obscure resource, in part because it was "hidden." Instead of having a distinct, dedicated range of drawers in the State Library's Index Corridor, some slips were interfiled with the Barbour Collection and others with the Church Records Index. Further, although some of the lists were bound (in blue) and shelved above the Barbour Collection, others were cataloged as individual items and housed in the Stacks. Still others were housed in boxes as part of State Archives Record Group (RG) 072. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, as the Library began a retrospective conversion from a card to online catalog and changed from Dewey to Library of

Congress classification, those Private Records "lists" that had been in the stacks were transferred to the Index Corridor. Still, the resource remained underutilized and many "lists" remained in the Archives with no usable copies available for easy access in the Index Corridor.

### "Private Records" Online

As the Library began planning for the addition of Digital Collections to its web page, it was quickly recognized that making the Private Records "sheets" available online would not only make this little-known resource more accessible, but could help genealogists and historians living anywhere gain an appreciation for the wide scope of the State Library's manuscript resources. In 2008 and 2009, History and Genealogy Unit librarians began an inventory of the lists in the Index Corridor and in RG 072. In 2011, the lists were scanned as pdf files and processed to allow for full text searching. Then, beginning in July 2011, the pdfs -- along with metadata -- were up-loaded into the Library's "Personal & Family Vital Records" digital collection, online at <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/landingpage/collection/p15019coll15>. There, the lists may be accessed using "Browse," "Search," or "Advanced Search" tools.

### "Private Records" List

The listing that follows provides an overview of the items that make up "Connecticut Private Records," including the title assigned at the time indexing was done, a description of the original source material, the current location of the source material if known, the date the index listing was prepared, a description of the index, the location of the "hard copy" index, and the url of the digital version of the index. You may enter the urls into your web browser to go directly to the index "lists" that interest you. Then, your options include the ability to print all or part of the list or to download a pdf of the list to your computer.

Most of the original or Photostat copies of the account books, diaries, journals, etc., which the Connecticut Private Records Index abstracts are in the State Archives, but have not been digitized. Should you wish to access the original Archival materials, see the *Rules and Procedures for Researchers Using Archival Records, Original Newspapers and Secured Collections Materials* at <http://www.cslib.org/arcrules.htm>. For further information, call the History and Genealogy Unit, (860) 757-6581.

The following pages consist of a partial listing of the "Connecticut Private Records," due to space limitations. The list will be continued in Vol. 6 No. 4 (Winter 2013) of *Connecticut Genealogy News*.

## A LISTING OF THE "CONNECTICUT PRIVATE RECORDS"

**A List of Teachers and Scholars in the Congregational Sunday School, Newington, Conn., May 17, 1840, Prepared by Dea. Origen Wells, Superintendent, 1839-1843**

**Original source:** A List of Teachers and Scholars in the Congregational Sunday School, Newington....Typescript created from an original record kept by Deacon Origen Wells, Superintendent

**Current location of source:** State Archives, RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 N471s

**Index created:** 1936

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of teachers and students of the Newington, Connecticut Congregational Sunday School as of May 17, 1840

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/366/rec/1>

**Account Book of Jeremiah Seymour, Wethersfield (Newington Parish), 1790-1878**

**Original source:** Account book kept by Jeremiah Seymour of Newington parish in Wethersfield, Connecticut and other Seymour family members, covering the years 1790-1878

**Current location of source:** Unknown

**Index created:** April, 1934

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of miscellaneous Seymour family records

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/371/rec/2>

**Account Book, 1799-1845, of Francis Case of Granby**

**Original source:** Account Book of Simeon Case of Granby, Connecticut, 1799-1819. Later entries were made by Francis Case of Granby, Connecticut and other unknown Case family members

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 G76c

**Index created:** April, 1934

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of Case family births and deaths, 1739-1887

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/232/rec/3>

**Account book, 1821-1828, of Thompson & Dibble, Granby**

**Original source:** Dibble, James. Account Book September 1802-January 1828. Account book kept by George Thompson, September 1802-August 1803, and James Dibble, August 1803-January 1828, of Granby, Connecticut

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 fG76d

**Index created:** April 1934

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of marriages conducted in Connecticut and Massachusetts by James Dibble, Justice of the Peace, from 1821-1828

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/267/rec/4>

**Brown diary, Woodstock, 1777-1900**

**Original source:** Diary apparently kept by Andrew Brown of Woodstock and his descendents

**Current location of source:** Unknown. A partial transcript was created, probably by William C. Brown, sometime in the 1920s. One Photostat of the transcript of "The Brown Diary" is State Archives, 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 24. Another copy is shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index created:** March 1929

**Location of index:** See entry for Vital Records from Brown Diary, Woodstock, 1777-1900, below

**Transcript online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/872/rec/5>

**Canton, Connecticut, Sexton's Returns**

**Original source:** Record of burials in the Southwest Cemetery Canton, Connecticut in October and November 1915. Most of these burials were re-interments of bodies from the St. John's Cemetery

**Current location of source:** Unknown

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of burial entries

**Location of index:** Bound with other indexes with the spine title "Connecticut Private Records, Durham and Guilford Deaths; Canton Conn. Sexton's Returns; Guilford, Conn., Thomas Fitch's book;" cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 2; and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/26/rec/6>

**Connecticut Deaths, 1860, in Connecticut Newspaper Clipping**

**Original source:** Death notices published in the February 25, 1860 issue of the *Columbian Register* newspaper, published in New Haven, Connecticut

**Current location of source:** Unknown. Although the State Library holds other original and microfilmed issues of the *Columbian Weekly Register*, it does not hold the February 25, 1860 issue.

**Index created:** January 1936



**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of deaths  
**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/358/rec/7>

**Daboll's Almanac, 1802-1881**

**Original source:** Entries added by an unknown author in copies of the 1802, 1807, 1808, and seemingly 1874, 1875, and 1881 issues of the *New England Almanac*

**Location of source:** CSL Special Collections, Almanac Collection, box containing pre-1822 *New England & Farmer's Friend Almanac*

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical surname arranged listing of births, deaths, burials

**Location of index:** Bound with additional "Connecticut Private Records" indexes with the spine title "Indexes to Some Connecticut Private Records," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 1, and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/32/rec/8>

**Deaths, Pomfret & Thompson, Pomfret Mfg. Co.**

**Original source:** Pomfret, Conn. Vital Records, 1814-1851. Photostat copy of original records of the Pomfret Manufacturing Company.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 P76v m

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of death entries

**Location of index:** Bound with additional "Connecticut Private Records" indexes with the spine title "Indexes to Some Connecticut Private Records," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 1, and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/224/rec/9>

**Diary in an Account Book in Possession of Mrs. A. C. Green, Granby, 1874-1887**

**Original source:** Account Book for the period 1874-1887 in the possession of Mrs. A.C. Green of Granby who brought it to the State Library on June 30, 1928

**Current location of source:** Unknown

**Index created:** 1929

**Description of index:** An alphabetically arranged listing of Granby, Connecticut birth and deaths

**Location of Index:** Shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/47/rec/10>

**Diary of Oren Lee, Granby, 1809-1841**

**Original source:** Diary & Journal of Oren Lee ...

Blacksmith, North Granby, Connecticut, 1802-1841. Diary/ journal entries by Oren Lee, blacksmith, of Berlin and Granby, Connecticut

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 fG76 NL

**Index created:** April, 1934

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of births, marriages, deaths, and local events

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/297/rec/12>

**Diary, Rev. John Robinson, 1702-1729**

**Original source:** Robinson, John. Record Book, 1700-1737. Photostat copy of the record book in the Lebanon Town Clerk's office of Rev. John Robinson of Duxborough [Duxbury], Massachusetts and Lebanon, Connecticut

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 920 R565

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of marriages, deaths, and other events

**Location of index:** Bound with additional "Connecticut Private Records" indexes with the spine title "Indexes to Some Connecticut Private Records," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 1, and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/463/rec/13>

**Durham Deaths, 1746-1908**

**Original source:** Record of Deaths in Durham, Connecticut, 1800-1909. Manuscript record of deaths and miscellaneous papers created by an unknown compiler

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 D93re

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of deaths for Durham, Connecticut, ca. 1746-1908

**Location of index:** Bound with other indexes with the spine title "Connecticut Private Records, Durham and Guilford Deaths; Canton Conn. Sexton's Returns; Guilford, Conn., Thomas Fitch's book," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 2 and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/442/rec/14>

**Durham Deaths, 1791-1805**

**Original source:** Durham, Connecticut. Record of Deaths, 1791-1805. Record of deaths, 1791-1805, in Durham, Connecticut, created by an unknown compiler

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000,

Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 D93re (kept with Record of Deaths, 1800-1909, above).

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of deaths for Durham, Connecticut, 1791-1805

**Location of index:** Bound with other indexes with the spine title "Connecticut Private Records, Durham and Guilford Deaths; Canton Conn. Sexton's Returns; Guilford, Conn., Thomas Fitch's book," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 2 and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/39/rec/15>

#### **East Hartford, Rev. Samuel Woodbridge Records, 1723-1805**

**Original source:** Vital Records 1723-1745 Kept by Rev. Samuel Woodbridge, East Hartford, Connecticut. Transcribed by W. Herbert Wood. Baptisms, admissions to full communion, marriages, confessions, and owners of the covenant of the East Hartford First Congregational Church, along with additional Woodbridge family vital records from 1753-1805 created by unknown family members

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 Ea 751c v

**Index created:** 1946

**Location of index:** Shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in H&G Index Corridor

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/198/rec/16>

#### **Family Register by Lydia Smith, 1756-1821**

**Original source:** Family register created and drawn by Lydia Brown Smith, wife of Moses Smith of Goshen, Connecticut in February 1821

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 074:054, Special Genealogical Files, Box 10, Smith Family. A Photostat is in Smith Family folder 1 in the Special Genealogical Files cabinet in the H&G Reading Room. See also Smith Family, Connecticut Bible and Family Records, Volume 26, pp. 707-709

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of births, marriages, and deaths of the Moses Smith family

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23. Another copy is bound with additional "Connecticut Private Records" indexes with the spine title "Indexes to Some Connecticut Private Records," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 1, and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/467/rec/17>

#### **Greenwich, Conn. Marriages, 1785-1791, by Dr. Amos Mead, Justice of Peace, Greenwich, Conn.**

**Original source:** A copy made by Susan H. Mead, a descendant of Dr. Amos Mead, of a record of marriages performed by Dr. Mead as Justice of the Peace, Greenwich, Connecticut, during 1785-1791

**Current location of source:** Unknown

**Index created:** 1936

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of marriages

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/272/rec/18>

#### **Guilford Deaths, 1735-1783**

**Original source:** Robinson Note Book Containing Record of Deaths in Guilford, Conn. 1735-1783.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 qG94d r

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of Guilford, Connecticut deaths, 1735-1783

**Location of index:** Bound with other indexes with the spine title "Connecticut Private Records, Durham and Guilford Deaths; Canton Conn. Sexton's Returns; Guilford, Conn., Thomas Fitch's book," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 2 and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/73/rec/19>

#### **Guilford, Thomas Fitch's Book, 1815-1874**

**Original source:** Vital Records of Guilford, Connecticut, 1816-1842, 1865, 1874. Marked: Thos. Fitch's book.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 G94vi

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of Guilford births, marriages, and deaths. Note gaps in coverage.

**Location of index:** Bound with other indexes with the spine title "Connecticut Private Records, Durham and Guilford Deaths; Canton Conn. Sexton's Returns; Guilford, Conn., Thomas Fitch's book," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 2 and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/144/rec/20>

#### **Hartford, Talcott Memorandum Book**

**Original source:** Talcott, John. Memorandum Book of Colonel John Talcott. Photostat copy of the memorandum book of Colonel John Talcott of Hartford, Connecticut, covering the years 1697-1786

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 920 T1392

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of birth, marriage, and death entries, primarily of the Wadsworth family.

**Location of index:** Bound with additional "Connecticut Private Records" indexes with the spine title "Indexes to Some Connecticut Private Records," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 1, and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/12/rec/21>

#### **Hebron Baptisms, Marriages, Deaths, 1752-1876 ("Warner Memoranda")**

**Original source:** Hebron, Conn. Baptisms - Marriages - Deaths, 1752-1786. 1886 compilation by Will J. Warner, loaned to the State Library for Photostating in 1926 by William J. Warner of Hebron.

**Current location of source:** Unknown. Photostat is in State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 97462 H35vw

**Index created:** March, 1931

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of baptisms, 1752-1831; marriages 1752-1876; deaths 1761-1856; and a few historical facts of the Town of Hebron, Connecticut

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 24

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/717/rec/22>

#### **Humphrey Davis Pension Record**

**Original source:** Affidavit made in 1891 in support of widow's pension, application number 473,226. Humphrey Davis served with Company A, 22nd Connecticut Volunteer Infantry Regiment, September 20, 1862-July 7, 1863

**Current location of source:** Unknown

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing detailing the marriage of Humphrey Davis to Beulah Woodworth, along with names and ages of their children.

**Location of index:** Bound with additional "Connecticut Private Records" indexes with the spine title "Indexes to Some Connecticut Private Records," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 1, and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/5/rec/23>

#### **John Call Note Book, 1762-1808**

**Original source:** Either the original or a copy of the John Call note book.

**Current location of source:** Unknown

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of birth, marriage, and death records of the John and Lucy [Chaffee]

Call family of Woodstock, Connecticut and Colrain, Massachusetts, covering the years 1739-1808.

**Location of index:** Bound with additional "Connecticut Private Records" indexes with the spine title "Indexes to Some Connecticut Private Records," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 1, and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/2/rec/24>

#### **Letters, 1798-1816, of Gideon Hale, Jr., Glastonbury**

**Original source:** Letters written by Gideon Hale, Jr., of Glastonbury, Connecticut to his brother Reuben Hale and other relatives

**Current location of source:** Unknown

**Index created:** April, 1934

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of family events and vital records covering the years 1798-1816

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/262/rec/25>

#### **Lyme, Connecticut (Hamburg) Marriage Certificates, 1834-1853**

**Original source:** Marriage Certificates from Town Clerk's Office at Hamburg, 1834-1853. Original documents and a typescript index discovered at the Lyme, Connecticut Town Hall

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 L89ma

**Index created:** January, 1936

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of marriages, 1834-1853

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/313/rec/26>

#### **Marriages in Record of Cases, 1791-1812, Kept by Justus Johnson, J. P., Southbury**

**Original source:** Record of Cases, 1791-1812 of Justus Johnson, Justice of the Peace

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 062:130, Town and Borough Governments, Southbury, Box 1, [restricted due to mold]

**Index created:** April 1934

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of marriages conducted in Southbury, Connecticut

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/378/rec/27>

### **Methodist Almanac, 1827**

**Original source:** An eight page manuscript by an unknown author, found inserted between pages 30 and 31 of the 1827 issue of the *Methodist Almanac*, listing deaths from 1823-1835.

**Location of source:** CSL Special Collections, Almanac Collection, box containing "MacDonald-Middlebrook"

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** An alphabetical listing of deaths; at least some of the entries appear to pertain to Colchester, Connecticut.

**Location of index:** Bound with additional "Connecticut Private Records" indexes with the spine title "Indexes to Some Connecticut Private Records," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 1, and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/51/rec/28>

### **Middlebrook's Almanac, 1835-1836**

**Original source:** Entries added by an unknown author in copies of the 1835 and 1836 issues of Middlebrook's Almanac.

**Current location of source:** Unknown

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of names and events that apparently took place near New Haven, Connecticut.

**Location of index:** Bound with additional "Connecticut Private Records" indexes with the spine title "Indexes to Some Connecticut Private Records," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 1, and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/109/rec/29>

### **Milford Deaths, 1849-1869**

**Original source:** Deaths in Milford, Connecticut 1849 - 1869 taken from "Prindle's Almanac". This record was presented to the State Library November 7, 1927 by Mrs. Andrew Baldwin, 392 Edgewood Avenue, New Haven.

**Current location of source:** Unknown

**Index created:** 1962

**Description of index:** Index of Milford, Connecticut deaths covering the years 1849-1869

**Location of index:** Uncataloged index shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/256/rec/30>

### **New Fairfield Marriages, 1746-1791**

**Original source:** Hubbell, Ephraim. New Fairfield, Connecticut Record of Marriages, 1746-1791. Photostatic copy, made from the original manuscript kept by Ephraim

Hubbell, Jr., J.P., New Fairfield, Connecticut, which was loaned to Connecticut State Library on March 13, 1945 by the New Haven Colony Historical Society, via Mr. W. Herbert Wood, Curator.

**Current location of source:** Photostat in State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 N427m

**Index created:** 1962

**Description of index:** Alphabetical list of marriages, 1741-1791

**Location of index:** Uncataloged index shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/212/rec/31>

### **New Haven Co. Deaths & Marriages, 1824-1883**

**Original source:** Private Records, New Haven County, Conn., 1824-1883. A manuscript created by an unnamed compiler, although evidence suggests that it may have been created, at least in part, by Miranda Bristol Welch, daughter of Jehiel and Martha (Beecher) Bristol and wife of John Welch.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.61 N42p

**Index created:** Not stated

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of marriage and death entries for New Haven County, Connecticut covering the years 1824-1883.

**Location of index:** Cataloged as 974.62 N45dea and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/541/rec/32>

*Continued in Vol. 6 No.4 (Winter 2013)*



#### **About the Author**

Richard C. Roberts is the former Head of the Connecticut State Library's History and Genealogy Unit. He serves on the Board of Governors of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. and is a member of the New Hampshire Society of Genealogists, the New England Historic Genealogical Society, and the Association for Gravestone Studies. He is currently the president of the Descendants of the Founders of Ancient Windsor and is one of the Tri-Chairs for the 2015 New England Regional Genealogical Conference to be held 15-19 April 2015 in Providence, Rhode Island.

## Where Do We Go From Here?

*(Access to Public Records from a Town Clerk's Perspective)*

By Joe Camposeo, CSG # 20296

Nearly forty years have passed since the creation of "Sunshine Laws" and the openness of government records through "freedom of information." In the years that followed, we have also seen many changes in the use of technology as well as the laws affecting access to public records. During the past several months, we have seen news-worthy events creating an impact on one's right to access public information.

In this article, I plan to summarize the current status of public access as it pertains to genealogists and record keepers. We will then look at what can be expected in the future relative to trends, technology and the laws affecting family search. Finally, we will identify some ways for us to navigate the future and what must be done to get there.

### Where Are We Today?

One thing is certain; most of the "Sunshine Laws" created forty years ago are all about paper and not about technology. This factor alone is affecting us in many ways. Unfortunately, some current laws are a reflection of paper and not of technology. Isn't it curious that some of the data you can access online cannot be obtained from its repository? How and why is this happening?

We also see many inconsistencies regarding access to vital records. Some states have open records while others are more restrictive. In Connecticut some Town Clerk offices have specified hours for genealogy search, while most others do not.

There is also an absence of standards relative to the content and preservation of vital records. Why must SSNs continue to be personally identifiable information on some public records? Why are there not more laws that mandate back-up requirements such as microfilming?

Perhaps one answer is that changes in laws or policies tend to be done reactively rather than proactively. Should we interact more with our legislators and administrators to facilitate this need for change?

### What Can We Expect to Happen in the Future?

It is important to note that whatever exists today, be it law, policy or even best practice, will change in some way. Our job as genealogists and recorders is to anticipate what must be done and take the initiative. Here are some thoughts on what might happen in the future:

- \*The ever expanding use of technology will continue to influence and enhance genealogical search and information.
- \*Results will be easier to obtain.
- \*More web resources, including interactive ones, will be more readily available.
- \*Public agencies and repositories will slowly continue to embrace access to genealogical information.
- \*Third parties will continue to store and make available vital records data online and in hard copy form.
- \*Some third parties as well as public agencies and repositories, will create search portals for vital records' indexes.
- \*Funding for preservation and technological enhancement will grow slowly, if at all.

### Where Do We Go From Here?

In light of what is and what we can expect, we must find the right path in order to implement what must be done. Whether it is genealogy or not, all too often we seek to change what is rather than create what should be!

That goal in and of itself is a tall order. I believe we should begin by working together. Here are three ways that reasonable change can be achieved:

1. Identify laws and policies which need to be more current relevant to technology and to administrative policy regarding access.

2. Identify other barriers to access and create suggested legislation or policy change to remedy the situation.
3. Identify ways where public resources can be moved forward to meet the growing demand for genealogical information.

In reality, these seem to be simple observations to what one may call a complex goal. The purpose, however, is to break down these tasks into simple steps. I believe we can achieve these goals by working together and promoting “*what must be*” and not “*what is.*”

**About the Author**

Joseph V. Camposeo, has been the Manchester, Connecticut town clerk since 1996. He is an active member and past president of the Connecticut Town Clerks Association, is a current member of the National Association of County Recorders (NACRC) executive board, and is a certified municipal clerk (CMC). The son of Italian immigrants who sought opportunity in Manchester, he earned his B.A. from Ballarmino University.

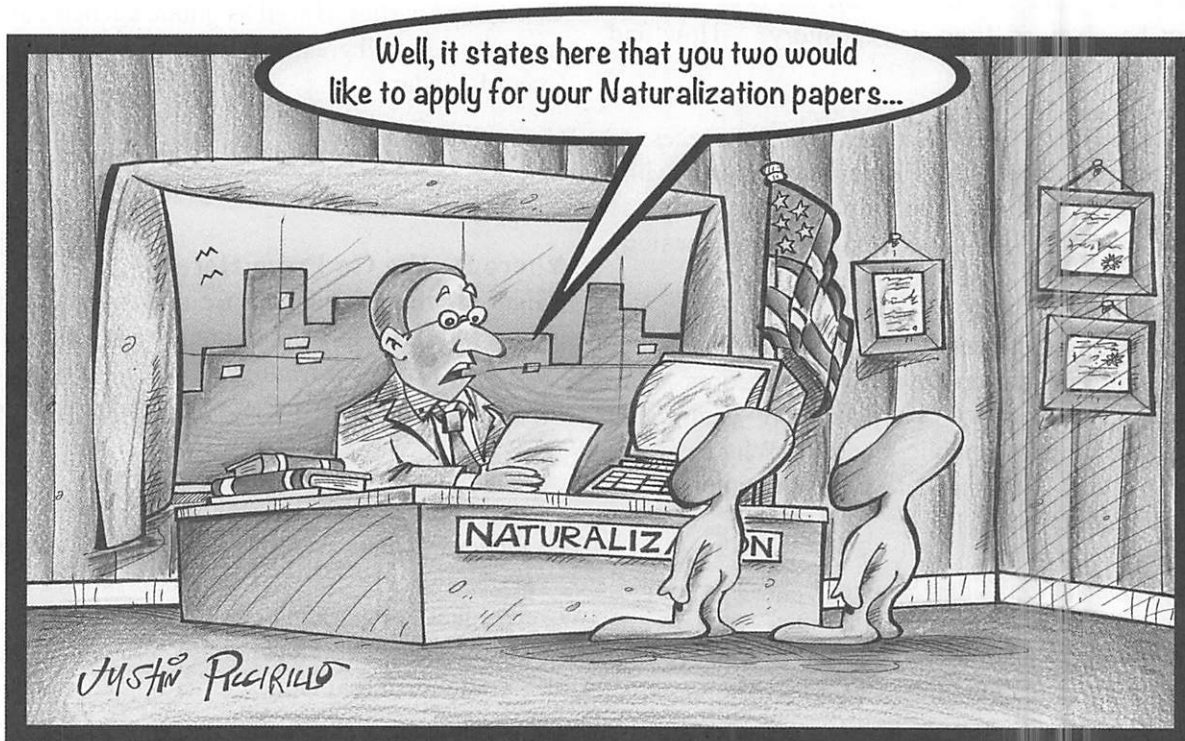
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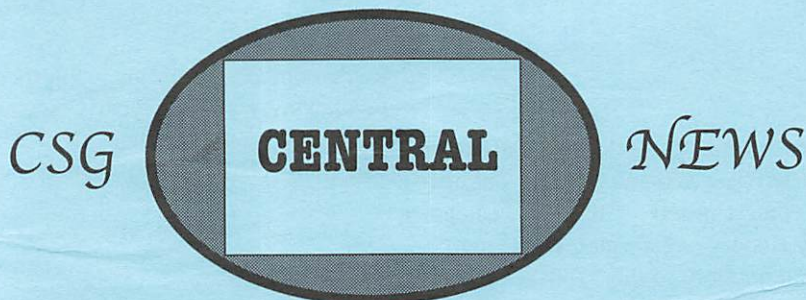
**SHOULD CONNECTICUT  
APOLOGIZE FOR  
HANGING WITCHES?**

Descendants of persons executed for witchcraft in Colonial Connecticut have petitioned the Governor of Connecticut to express official regret. Does the State of Connecticut owe an apology to the descendants of those who were hanged?

A panel discussion of the issue by CSG President, Richard Tomlinson; Connecticut State Historian, Walt Woodward; and Lisa Johnson, Executive Director of the Stanley-Whitman House, will be presented at the Connecticut Historical Society, One Elizabeth St., Hartford, CT 06105 on Friday, Oct. 4, 2013 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Admission \$15 (\$10 for CHS members). *For more information, call (860) 236-5621 x289 or email jennifer\_steadman@chs.org.*

**Heritage Humor by Justin Piccirillo**





## Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.

### SAVE THIS SECTION

*Please mark your calendar or save this page in a handy place with your other active calendars and datebooks.*

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 2013-2014

**SAVE THE DATES** ~ All CSG Events are open to the public, and many are free of charge. These opportunities not only provide helpful knowledge and insights into various aspects of genealogy, but the comraderie found in each gathering is always a plus. Our attendees always take away more than what they expect when they sign up. Please pre-register with the CSG Office, so we can plan appropriately and notify you of any last-minute changes or emergency announcements. All events may also be found on the CSG website. [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org). Members are reminded to invite their friends and watch this space and/or the CSG website for updated information.

#### 2013

#### 19 October - ANNUAL FAMILY HISTORY SEMINAR Topics & Speakers:

"Researching in the State of Rhode Island with Cherry Fletcher Bamberg.

"How to Navigate in the New LDS Family Search on the Internet and the LDS Libraries" with Helen Schatvet Ullmann.

"Treasures Found in the Early Connecticut and Rhode Island Town Meeting Records (Revolutionary War Period)" with Jolene Mullen.

"Researching your Ancestors at the Godfrey Memorial Library: A Good Place to Work on Your Immigrant Ancestors" with Beth Mariotti.

**Place:** Holiday Inn North Haven, 201 Washington Ave., North Haven, CT 06473.

**Pre-registration required by noon on 11 October 2013.**

**Cost:** \$45 if registration is postmarked by 30 September 2013, \$55 thereafter. Deadline to register: Noon on 15 October 2013. See pg. 24 for write-ups on speakers and pg. 27 for registration form.

#### 16 November - "Milford Area Families"

**Speaker:** Gregory Thompson with Town Historian, Richard Platt and his wife Jane.

**Place:** Milford Public Library, 57 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT 06460. **Time:** 1:30 p.m. **Cost:** FREE

#### 2014

**In case of inclement weather, please watch Channel 3/WFSB's Early Warning Network for cancellations.**

#### 18 January - "How I Solved My Brickwall Problems" BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Attendees will tell how they solved their own brick walls.

**Place:** CSG Library, 175 Maple St., East Hartford, CT

**Time:** 1:30 p.m.

**Cost:** FREE

**26 January - OPEN HOUSE** at CSG, 175 Maple St., East Hartford, CT 06118. **Time:** 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

#### 15 February - "Techniques for Interpreting Old Handwriting" RESCHEDULED FROM FEBRUARY 2013

**Speaker:** Edwin W. Strickland II

**Place:** CSG Library, 175 Maple St., East Hartford, CT

**Time:** 1:30 p.m.

**Cost:** FREE

**23 February - OPEN HOUSE** at CSG, 175 Maple St., East Hartford, CT 06118. **Time:** 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

#### 15 March - "Resources at the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society in Danielson, CT."

**Speaker:** Marilyn Labbe, Executive Director

**Place:** TBA

**Time:** 1:30 p.m. **Cost:** FREE

#### 12 April - "Resources at the Hartford Public Library"

**Speaker:** Jennifer Sharp, digital specialist & archivist or Bill Faudy, former director of The Old State House.

**Place:** Hartford Public Library, 500 Main St., Hartford, CT 06103. (There are "pay to park" lots in the vicinity, but we are working on getting more free parking in the library lot. Watch the CSG website and this page for updates on that).

**Time:** 1:30 p.m.

**Cost:** FREE

### CSG NEWS

The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Literary Awards Contest is officially open and receiving entries. There is a \$20 entry fee for publications submitted to the contest in any of the three categories: Genealogy, Family History or Genealogical Resource. There is no fee to submit an entry to the "Tell Your Family Story" Essay contest. See pages 16-18 for entry forms & rules. Photocopies of the form are welcome. Please pass along to your friends. Please contact the CSG office with any questions you may have.

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It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Mel Wolfgang, the founder and owner of Jonathan Sheppard Books. He will be missed. A more complete announcement may be found under Latest News on the CSG website: [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org).

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CSG Members may submit up to three queries per issue of *Connecticut Genealogy News*. Contact the CSG Office for more details at 860-569-0002 or [csginc@csginc.org](mailto:csginc@csginc.org). No queries were submitted for this issue.

~~~~~

Visit the CSG website at [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org) for a list of new and used genealogical books for sale. Books may be purchased directly from the website; however it is advisable to call or email first to check availability, as in most cases there is only one copy.

The Connecticut Cities and Towns database is also available. It is a work in progress, but more information is added daily. Registered users of the CSG website may add data (subject to verification).

CSG Members may access Fold3.com at no extra cost through the CSG website. After signing in, click the link which is the last line of the second entry on your welcome page.

For questions on any feature of the website or for help registering, please contact the CSG office.

~~~~~

The CSG member transaction code is the 4-digit number after the member number on your membership card. This number is only used to help maintain the security of the website and changes each year. Members use it to register on the website initially and then it is updated by the CSG office staff annually thereafter. Please note that registered

users/members should maintain their own website account by clicking where it says My Account if there are address/email address changes, etc. The website is not linked in any way to the CSG member database.

~~~~~

Back issues of *The Connecticut Nutmegger* are available for sale at the CSG Library.

|                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Volumes 1 & 2 (combined)* - | \$6      |
| Volume (4 issues) -         | \$4      |
| Single Issue -              | \$3 each |

Plus CT State sales tax where applicable and shipping and handling.

\*These two volumes are only available in the combined format. Volumes 3-9 are only available as complete volumes (\$4 each). Volume 10 and 11 are only available as Issues 1 & 2 (combined) and Issues 3 & 4 (combined). These combined issues are sold for \$3 each. All subsequent volumes are sold as individual issues, 1-4 at \$3 each or all 4 for \$4.

Genealogical/Historical Societies, libraries, or other such organizations wishing to own a complete set may ask for one at no charge, except for shipping, or must provide their own transportation.

Quantities are limited and subject to availability.

Back issues of *Connecticut Genealogy News* are also available for \$3 each plus tax and S&H. Again, quantities are limited and subject to availability.

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### Volunteer Opportunities at CSG

One of our on-going projects is to put our Ancestry Service on our website. To do this we have to enter our Indexes into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. This can be done from the comfort of your own home (Microsoft Excel needed) and there is no need to live locally or you can come into the CSG Office to work on it.

For more information on this or other projects, please contact the CSG Office from 9:30 to 4 p.m., Monday - Friday at 860-569-0002 or email at [csginc@csginc.org](mailto:csginc@csginc.org).



Entry Form For

**LITERARY AWARDS CONTEST MAY 2014**  
**TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL LITERARY AWARDS CONTEST**

Sponsored by

**CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, Inc.**

Library/Office Address: 175 Maple Street, East Hartford, CT 06118

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033

Telephone Number: (860) 569-0002

Fax Number: (860) 569-0339

Email Address: [csginc@csginc.org](mailto:csginc@csginc.org)**Please Print or Type**

Title of Publication		
Category (Circle one):	<input type="checkbox"/> GENEALOGY <input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY HISTORY <input type="checkbox"/> RESOURCE PUBLICATION (Note: CSG reserves the right to reclassify Category)	
Author's/Authors' Name(s)		Year of Publication
Address(es) (including PO Box(es) if applicable)		Date Submitted
Town/City, State, Zip+4		Purchase Price
Telephone Number(s)	E-mail Address(es)	CSG Member Number(s) (if applicable)
Name(s) of Person(s) Submitting This Entry [if different from Author(s)]		
Address(es) (including PO Box(es) if applicable)		Town/City, State, Zip+4
Telephone Number(s)	E-mail Address(es)	CSG Member Number(s) (if applicable)
Publisher		
Address(es) (including PO Box(es) if applicable)		Town/City, State, Zip+4
Telephone Number(s)	E-mail Address(es)	Contact Person

**Photocopies of this Entry Form are welcomed. SEE REVERSE FOR ENTRY RULES.**

## LITERARY AWARDS CONTEST MAY 2014

### CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, Inc.

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Fax Number: (860) 569-0339

Email Address: [csginc@csginc.org](mailto:csginc@csginc.org)

### TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL LITERARY AWARDS CONTEST

**The Grand Prize of \$1000 is awarded to the overall best publication!**

**Two First Prizes of \$500 each may be awarded for the best in each of the remaining two categories!**

#### Entry Rules for Categories of "Genealogy," "Family History," and "Resource Publication"

- 1.) Entry Categories are:
  - a.) **Genealogy** (begins with someone in the past and moves forward in time through all of his/her descendants).
  - b.) **Family History** (begins with someone living today or recently and moves backward in time, usually in a direct line).
  - c.) **Genealogical Resource** (might include cemetery abstracts, compilations, court records, etc.)
- 2.) Entries must have been published after 2008 and have some relevance to Connecticut and/or New England.
- 3.) An Entry fee of \$20 and **TWO** copies of the publication (one copy will be added to the CSG Library and the other donated to the Connecticut State Library (the author may request one copy to be returned instead) must be submitted with each Entry Form.
- 4.) **Entries must be received in CSG's Office by February 15, 2014.**
- 5.) Entry is open to anyone except CSG staff and the current/sitting CSG Board of Governors and their immediate families. Membership in CSG is NOT required to enter.
- 6.) Submit completed Entry Form to CSG at the mailing address above.
- 7.) Photocopies of the Entry Form are welcomed.

Entries will be evaluated on a variety of criteria including, but not limited to, the quality of: relevance of title, format (logical, readable, interesting arrangement); sentence structure; grammar; and presentation (spelling counts and typographical errors are noted). All entries should include title page, table of contents, index (Name & Place), and page numbers. Where applicable, evaluation will also be based on: numbering system (was it easy to follow); quality of references; bibliography; and narrative. Books should be bound (both hardcover and softcover are accepted). Presentation is considered.

CDs are acceptable entries; **however, all entries must have a fully searchable and easy-to-follow names index with page numbers.** A searchable place index is also encouraged. All entries will be retained in our library and available for research. The second copy, unless specifically requested back by the entrant, will be offered to the CT State Library. Content on CD entries must be in a commonly used format. Pdf is preferred.

Winning entries will be formally announced at CSG's Annual Meeting in May; winners will be notified by April 1, 2014.

**SEE REVERSE FOR ENTRY FORM**

Entry Form for

**LITERARY AWARDS CONTEST MAY 2014**

**“TELL YOUR FAMILY STORY” ESSAY CONTEST**

Twenty-Seventh Annual Literary Awards Contest Sponsored by

**THE CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, INC.**

Library/Office Address: 175 Maple Street, East Hartford, CT 06118

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033

Telephone Number: (860) 569-0002

Fax Number: (860) 569-0339

Email Address: [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org)

**Please Print or Type** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date Submitted:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title of Essay:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Written by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you a CSG Member?** \_\_\_\_\_ **If yes, CSG Member Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Town/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Where/How did you learn of this Contest?** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Copyright and Ownership conditions:** Selected essays may be published in *The Connecticut Nutmegger*. Authors agree by their submission to grant CSG perpetual non-exclusive right to edit and publish. This includes the right to publish on the Internet, store on electronic media and to republish and/or extract for future CSG use. Authors retain the copyrights to their specific works and can republish or reuse their material without limitation.

**Author Acceptance:** I have read and accept the copyright and ownership conditions.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**We encourage you to photocopy this Entry Form and pass it on.  
SEE REVERSE FOR ENTRY RULES**

## LITERARY AWARDS CONTEST MAY 2014

### CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, Inc.

Library/Office Address: 175 Maple Street, East Hartford, CT 06118

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033

Telephone Number: (860) 569-0002

Fax Number: (860) 569-0339

Email Address: [csginc@csginc.org](mailto:csginc@csginc.org)

### FOURTH ANNUAL "TELL ME YOUR FAMILY STORY" ESSAY CONTEST

**OPEN TO ALL\***

**THE WINNER WILL RECEIVE \$250!**

#### ENTRY RULES

- 1.) \*Entry is **open to anyone** except for CSG staff and current/sitting CSG Board of Governors or immediate family thereof. Membership in CSG is NOT required.
- 2.) Essay must have some relevance to New England (including at least one of the six states which are: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont).
- 3.) Essays must be well written, not more than ten pages, double-spaced and typed. Supporting documentation should be included if available but will not be counted as part of the essay's text.
- 4.) **TWO** copies of the essay (which will not be returned) must be submitted with each Entry Form. If submitting copies of supporting documentation, please include for **both** copies.
- 5.) **Entries must be received in CSG's Office by February 15, 2014.**
- 6.) Submit completed Entry Form to CSG at the mailing address above. Entries may be hand delivered. We cannot accept emailed entries.
- 7.) Photocopies of the Entry Form are welcomed.
- 8.) Currently there is no entry fee!

Essays may include family stories; oral histories; excerpts from an ancestor's journal/diary; transcriptions of Bible records or cemetery markers; family histories/traditions and socio-economic background surrounding/affecting an ancestor. Each essay needs to include how it pertains to the author. Genealogical summaries should be easy to follow. Essay writers are encouraged to use their imagination when deciding on topics. Please bear in mind that essays must have some relevance to New England (see #2 above).

Essays will be evaluated on a variety of criteria, including but not limited to: the relevance of the title page; page numbers (very important); format (logical, readable, interesting narrative or arrangement); New England content (this is of paramount importance); spelling (this counts); sentence structure; grammar and presentation. All entries will be permanently retained in the CSG Library and will be available to anyone who visits. The winner and selected entries may be published in *The Connecticut Nutmegger*. Authors are asked to sign the Copyright and Ownership Conditions on the entry form.

Winning entries will be formally announced at CSG's Annual Meeting in May, winners will be notified by April 1, 2014.

**SEE REVERSE FOR ENTRY FORM**

# PROFILES OF CONNECTICUT'S CIVIL WAR HEROES

by Noreen Manzella, CSG # 15578



## **2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Charles Henry Tracy Company A, 37<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry**

Charles H. Tracy was born 3 October 1833 in Jewett City, Connecticut to Albert and Harriet (Birch) Tracy. His siblings were Mary (1828-unk.), Elizabeth (1831-1839), Lydia (1837-1839), William C. (1839-unk), Susan M. (1840-unk.), Thomas (1842-unk.), Fanny S. (1848-unk.). His paternal ancestry can be traced to Lt. Thomas Tracy, who emigrated from England to Salem, Massachusetts. Thomas Tracy moved to Saybrook, Connecticut, and finally to Norwich. Charles Tracy's grandfather, Freeman Tracy served in the Connecticut militia in the War of 1812. Charles worked as a machinist in the cotton mills and had moved to Chicopee, Massachusetts by the start of the Civil War.

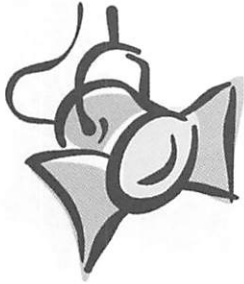
On 27 December 1853, Charles H. Tracy married Mary Elizabeth Corbin in Upton, Massachusetts. Shortly after their marriage, they moved to Chicopee where they lived for many years. Son Oliver Edward Tracy and daughter Nellie Tracy were the children of this couple. Nellie did not marry and lived with her parents until their respective deaths. Oliver married and had two children: Ralph and Marion. After the war, Tracy again worked for the cotton mills. For a short time, he also worked for the United States arsenal in Springfield, Massachusetts. Subsequent to that, he moved to Charlestown and worked as a night watchman at the custom house in Boston until 1906 when he retired due to poor health. Tracy was active in the GAR, serving as adjutant and commander of the Otis Chapman Post 103 in Chicopee. While living in Charlestown, he transferred his GAR membership to the Abraham Lincoln Post 11. In addition, Tracy belonged to the St. John's Lodge, I.O.O.P of Chicopee, and served as a president of the Thirty-seventh Massachusetts Regiment Association. Charles H. Tracy died 13 September 1911 at his home in Somerville, Massachusetts after some years of poor health. He was buried in his GAR uniform in the Civil War section of the Fairview Cemetery in Chicopee.

Charles H. Tracy enlisted 6 August 1862 in Company A, Thirty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers. He was promoted to sergeant on 2 September 1862. Tracy left his own accounts of his brave actions during his service. In the first account he relates while serving in 1864 at Spotsylvania, his unit, the 6<sup>th</sup> Corps, acted in support of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps in the charge against the Confederate division of Edward Johnson. After Lieutenant Wellman was severely wounded, Tracy received orders to remove the lieutenant to the rear. Tracy succeeded in helping Wellman to a hospital while under constant and heavy fire. He then returned to his unit, again under the same heavy fire. While Tracy was being congratulated for his actions, another lieutenant was shot while speaking to him and again, Tracy assisted in removing him to the hospital.

A year later, during the Battle of Petersburg in 1865, Tracy exhibited the bravery that earned him the Medal of Honor. At this time, Tracy was a sergeant of the Third Brigade and second in command of a particular assault. His unit, the pioneers, had been ordered to remove all the obstacles in front of the enemy's artillery, which were heavily guarded by two lines of spikes on top of a some type of wall (chevaux de frise) and two defensive lines of felled trees with sharpened branches acting as spikes (abatis). Tracy thought it would have been impossible to take out the artillery with these defensive obstructions in place.

Tracy directed the removal of the obstacles. The Thirty-seventh Massachusetts was credited with being first over the works. After being shot several times while directing his men, he took a bullet that shattered his right knee joint. Despite this serious wound, he continued to direct his men, ultimately seeing that the obstructions were removed. His success at his mission allowed for the successful rout of the enemy and the disruption of the railroad and telegraph lines. These actions resulted in promotion to 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant for Tracy. His wound to his knee later resulted in the amputation of his right leg above his knee. Lieutenant Charles H. Tracy was honorably discharged 4 July 1865. His service was just short of three years.

*Continued on page 25*



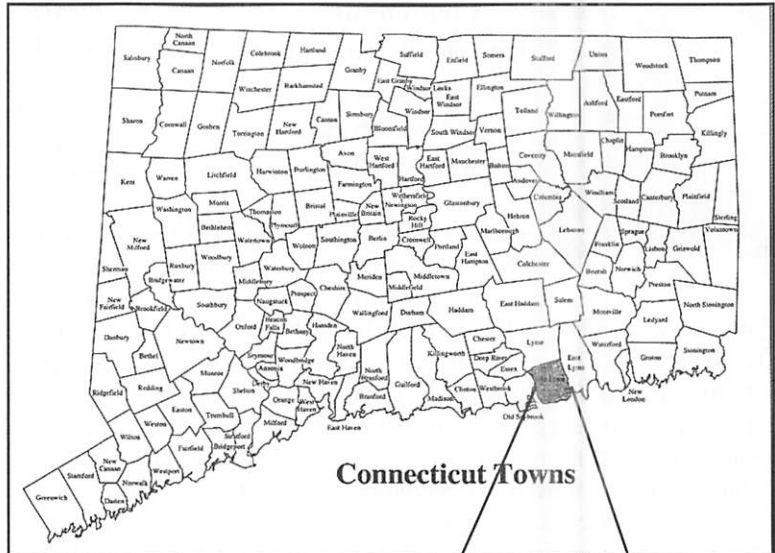
# Spotlight on Connecticut Towns & Cities



## Spotlight on Old Lyme

by Russell A. DeGrafft, CSG # 19174

Remember, "you have to know the past to understand the present." ---Carl Sagan



### Historic and Geographic Profile

The place name Lyme derives from Lyme Regis, England, a small port on the coast of Dorset from where it is believed early settlers migrated in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Old Lyme is a small community with fierce independence, a strong sense of volunteerism, and a special local pride for its uniqueness, as well as a longstanding commitment to the arts.



The main street of the town, known as Lyme Street, has been a historic district for many years and boasts beautifully manicured estates that date back to the colonial period of our country.

Old Lyme contains several villages including Black Hall, Laysville, Lyme, Soundview, and South Lyme, which boasts not only beautiful sandy beaches, but bucolic vistas and cosmopolitan environs. The last census enumeration listed Old Lyme as having a total permanent population of 7,603; however, several thousand vacationers occupy seaside residences each year.

Old Lyme occupies about 27 square miles of shoreline, tidal marsh, inland wetlands and forested hills. The South Lyme section of the community is particularly noted for its beach areas.



### Genealogical Repositories in Old Lyme

The knowledgeable staff of the Old Lyme Town Hall are ready to share a wealth of information with a researcher during their office hours. Advance appointments are not mandatory, but are helpful. The office of the town clerk, under the capable guidance of Eileen Coffee, CCTC, can be reached by calling 860-434-1605 ext. 221. Hours are Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



The official town seal, pictured right, was designed by Lyme Academy student Catherine Christiano in 2000.



**The Old Lyme Public Library**, located at 2 Library Lane, was established as a free public library in 1897. The new building construction was funded in part by a generous gift of Charles Ludington. Originally organized and operated by the Ladies Library Association, their funds were merged with the Phoebe Griffin Noyes Trust to create the present day library. Even if you are doing genealogical research from another state or have a question about a historic building or Old Lyme town history, feel free to contact the library. If you plan to go to the library, you can call ahead for an appointment. The Old Lyme Room provides public access to the materials that document the social history of Old Lyme. Call ahead to learn their hours of operation. They may be reached at 860-434-1684 and ask for Linda Alexander, Head of Information.

**The Old Lyme Historical Society**, under the able direction of chairperson Allison Mitchell, has found itself a home in the Genealogy Room of the Old Lyme-Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library. Its ever-expanding association is dedicated to the collection, preservation and interpretation of the rich history of Old Lyme. The Old Lyme town historian, Dr. John Pfeiffer, is a ready source of significant facts. He may be reached at the Old Lyme Town Hall at 860-434-1605. The historical society has a website at: [www.oldlymehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.oldlymehistoricalsociety.org).

### Other People and Places of Interests for Genealogical Enthusiasts

A few of the notable people, past and present, who make Old Lyme an interesting place include Jim Calhoun, recently retired head coach of the University of Connecticut men's basketball team; Herb Chambers, the owner and CEO of a major auto dealership; Elsie Ferguson, an actress; Ella Grasso, first female to be elected governor in Connecticut and in the United States; Sally Jessy Raphael, a TV talk show host; and Luanne Rice, a novelist. Albert Einstein had a summer home on the Old Lyme shore and could often be seen canoeing on the Lieutenant River. These are only a few of those whose history makes this community an interesting place to visit and do genealogical research.

**Watch Rock**, maintained by the Old Lyme Land Trust, is a beautifully maintained walking trail along the shoreline. Watch Rock has been inhabited for 4,500 years. The Bliss site, in nearby Old Lyme Estates, was dug extensively in 1981 by a local archaeologist. The artifacts found there dated from 2700 B.C. to 2400 B.C. Earlier, in 1975, the adjacent Griffin site was dug and artifacts even more ancient were found. Watch Rock was an important spot. From this vantage point, the Native Americans could look north, south, and also west toward Old Saybrook. Hostile tribes could not approach unseen. The locals weren't the only ones watching. Oral tradition has it that the Colonials up on Meetinghouse Hill, now Johnnycake Hill, could also watch the local Native Americans.

**The Duck River Cemetery** contains a wealth of genealogical information. Also known as the Old Lyme Cemetery, it is the communal burying ground for the town. A tidal stream known as the Duck River and a salt marsh bisect the burying ground. The earliest surviving grave marker dates from 1676.



One of the more sought out graves is that of Ezra Lee, the American Colonial soldier best known for commanding the *Turtle* submarine. Born in Lyme in 1749 and owning a home and farming acreage in Old Lyme, he was selected by his brother-in-law as one of the several volunteers to learn to operate the *Turtle* which was invented by Old Saybrook native David Bushnell. After authorization to attack the British flagship *HMS Eagle* by General George Washington, Lee was congratulated by Washington and General Israel Putnam and moved into the secret service/special forces. Lee's

tombstone is the only one that mentions “in service to General George Washington” of all those who fought in the American Revolution.

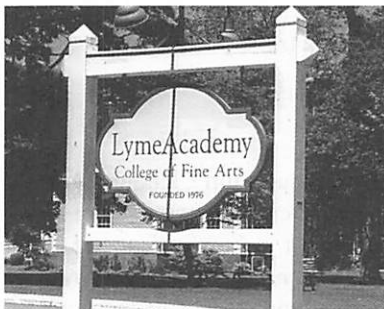
Also interred at the Duck River Cemetery are Roger Tory Peterson, the famous naturalist, ornithologist, artist and educator; Thomas R. Ball, a WWI veteran, architect and Connecticut Congressman; the aforementioned Elsie Ferguson; Peter Karter, recycling pioneer and nuclear engineer, and Robert and Bessie Vanoh, an American Impressionist painter and his sculptor wife.

**The Boxwood Mansion**, a large brick building, almost directly across from the Old Lyme Congregational Church, was built in 1842. It later became a boarding school for girls, a hotel, a boarding house for painters, and finally in 1985 was divided up into condominiums. Old Lyme residents still shake their heads in wonder about a murder committed in that mansion: *The Unsolved Pickle Murder of Boxwood Mansion*.

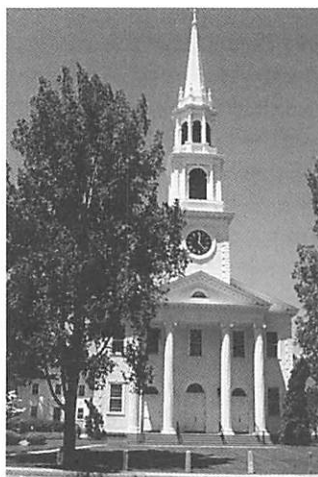


*One chilly Christmas Eve in 1943, the caretaker of the Richard Sill Griswold House was the victim of a very unusual crime. The man was shot, stabbed and hit of the head with a jar of pickled beets! His girlfriend was arrested as as suspect, but was never charged. No other suspects were found. Authorities were baffled by the nature of this crime. Why Christmas Eve? Why pickled beets? Could there have been more than one killer? Today the murder still remains unsolved.*

**Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts** was founded in 1976 by Elizabeth Gordon Chandler as a private academy for the teaching of sculpture, figure drawing, illustration and painting dedicated to the fine arts. The original beautifully crafted building began as the John Sill House and was designed by Samuel Belcher in 1817. The carpenters who worked on this building were actually boat builders.



Amongst private art colleges, the Lyme Academy is known for its contemporary focus on the history and tradition of representational art, centered on the study of nature and the figure. The college facilitates a focus on the fine arts that is distinctive from any art colleges and schools in the country.



**The Old Lyme Congregational Church** is a much painted and photographed church, designed by architect Samuel Belcher, who also designed the Sill and Noyes houses on Lyme Street. After fire once again destroyed the structure in 1907, an exact duplicate was built with the help of artists at the Old Lyme Art Colony. The church is noted as a favorite subject of the the Colony’s painters and has been given the distinction as the most beautiful and most frequently painted landmark in town. Often you can find artists setting up their easels on the adjacent town green in order to catch the church on canvas. The original church structure known as the First Meeting House was established and constructed in 1665 at the top of what is now Johnnycake Hill and received its initial spiritual guidance from the first pastor, Moses Noyes, a name still prominently found in this community.

**The Peck’s Tavern House**, located where Sill Lane branches off from U.S. Route 1 in Old Lyme, may have been built as early as 1680. The house served as an inn and tavern from the mid-eighteenth into the nineteenth century. Although it is no longer operational, its quaint charm and educational architectural style are still of interest to observers.



Any genealogist will find this community packed with wonderful places to visit. The many historical establishments throughout the community are significantly rendered in the visitor’s guides, but in addition to those, don’t miss the other well-maintained historical houses.





**The John McCurdy House** is located across from the First Congregational Church on the South Green. It was built around 1700 by Adam Tinker. In 1753 it was purchased by the Scotch-Irish ship merchant who was considered by some a patriot during the American Revolution. It is interesting to note that George Washington spent a night in 1776 as he journeyed from Boston to New York, and two years later Lafayette was also a guest of the McCurdy family.

**The house of Captain Samuel Mather**, also located on Lyme Street, is an impressive gambrel-roofed structure built around 1790. The width of the house's clapboard siding is graduated, increasing with every vertical level up to the building's cornice. Captain Mather was a wealthy merchant involved with trade with the West Indies. The house is now the parsonage for the Congregational Church.



**The Daniel Chadwick House** on Lyme Street was built in 1830 in the Greek Revival style. It includes a widow's or captain's walk. It was the home of a notable sea captain involved in trade with London. The bays and porches on either side of the house are later additions. Chadwick's son, also named Daniel, was a notable lawyer.

**The Florence Griswold House**, also located on Lyme Street, became notable after Miss Florence used it to board emerging artists around 1900. Built in 1817 by Samuel Belcher, the house was owned by the Griswold family from 1840 to 1937. These boarding artists made Old Lyme a thriving art community, which still continues. Today the house is an active museum so the public can be provided a glimpse into the past of Miss Florence and her guests. Don't miss the exciting furnishings of yesteryear, those fascinating oil paintings on the home's door panels or the newly constructed picture gallery built through the generosity of the Hartford Steam Boiler Company.



### Sources:

- Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia
- The Day*, daily newspaper
- LymeLine.com
- Old Lyme Historical Society
- The Daily Prep, Coastal New England Living
- A Kid's Walking Tour of Old Lyme's Historic District

### About the Author:

Russell A. DeGrafft has been an active member of CSG, Inc. for many years. His book reviews and "Spotlights on

Connecticut Towns & Cities" have appeared in many issues of *Connecticut Genealogy News*. He actively participates in the Massachusetts and Rhode Island genealogical societies and is a contributing member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, the East Lyme Historical Society, the Descendants of Textile Workers of America and the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium. These involvements have provided him with the opportunity to research family history for well over 25 years. A former educator, he spent many years in various educational fields where his love of history and academia were evident.

## Meet the Speakers of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. 2013 Family History Seminar



Cherry Fletcher Bamberg, FASG is the editor of *Rhode Island Roots*, the quarterly journal of the Rhode Island Genealogical Society, co-editor of *Gleanings from Rhode Island Town Records*, the annual 152-page bonus issue of *Rhode Island Roots* and consulting editor (one of many) to *NEHG Register*. She has published several books, including *The Diary of Captain Samuel Tillinghast, 1757-1766* (2000); and *Elder John Gorton and Six Principle Baptist Church of East Greenwich, Rhode Island* (2001). She is the co-editor of *More Early Records of Warwick, Rhode Island* (2001) and editor of *Daniel Stedman's Journal 1826-1859* (2003); *South Kingstown, Rhode Island Historical Cemeteries* (2004); *Diaries of J. Irving Maxson, 1898-1923* (2009); and *Newport, Rhode Island Colonial Burial Grounds* (2009). She wrote the introduction to *Regimental Book, Rhode Island Regiment for 1781 &c.* (2011). She has written scores of articles on Rhode Island families and research and is a volunteer for Rhode Island Historic Cemeteries Database. She is a speaker at meetings of the Rhode Island Genealogical Society, FGS, NERGC, and Newport Historical Society. She is the Rhode Island researcher for the Danish version of *Who Do You Think You Are?* She was selected for the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium's 2006 Donna Holt Siemiakoski Genealogy Volunteer of the Year Award.

Growing up in Newport, Rhode Island with a father who loved history and genealogy, it would have been hard to resist the charm of Rhode Island's past. I saw it in the buildings visible from the school bus windows as a child. It was part of dinner-table conversation every night. My genealogical career, however, only began in the 1990s when a relative found early nineteenth-century family letters high on a shelf, and I tried to figure out who the writer was. That sort of detective work proved irresistible. My passion has been for

Rhode Island families, a markedly quirky bunch, with an evolving interest in the many slaves held in Rhode Island and their descendants.

Sharing that passion involves not only research, writing, and editing, but helping other people learn how to approach the riches of material available for research on Rhode Island ancestors. It's important to learn enough about Rhode Island history to understand why the records are kept as they are, but this talk will focus on practical advice for the out-of-state genealogist planning a research trip. We'll learn how to prepare, where and when to go, the order in which to visit repositories, and what to expect on arrival. Particular emphasis will be placed on town halls, Rhode Island State Archives, Rhode Island Historical Society, Rhode Island Supreme Court Judicial Archives, and Newport Historical Society. You will learn why cemetery and maritime records are particularly important in Rhode Island research and how to use them.



Helen Schatvet Ullmann, Certified Genealogist (CG) and Fellow of the Society of Genealogists (FASG) is the associate editor of the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*. She is also the editor of

*Western Massachusetts Families in 1790*, a project of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, and assistant director at an LDS Family History Center. She has published articles in various genealogical journals including *The Connecticut Nutmegger* and *Connecticut Genealogy News* and has published several books including *Naugatuck, Connecticut Congregational Church Records, 1781-1901* (1987); *Descendants of Peter Mills of Windsor, Connecticut: formerly named Pieter Wouterse vander Meulen* (1998); *A Mills and Kendall Family History: American Ancestry and Descendants of Herbert Lee Mills and Bessie Delano Kendall* (2002); *Hartford County, Connecticut, County Court Minutes Vol. 3 & 4 - 1663-1687, 1697* (2005); *Some Descendants of John Sibley of Salem, Massachusetts*

(2006); *The Pierponts of Roxbury, Massachusetts* (2007); *Colony of Connecticut, Minutes of the Court of Assistants, 1669-1711* (2009) and *Descendants of John Mills of Stamford* (2010). Many of her publications have won prizes in the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. annual Literary Award Contest. She has been a speaker at a variety of genealogical conferences and societies including the CSG Family History Seminar.

For her talk at the 2013 CSG Family History Seminar, she plans to help us become more familiar with FamilySearch.org, showing examples of the kind of information that can be found there. She'll look at the basic search function to get into databases at the Family History Library catalog, the FamilySearch Wiki and at Family Tree.



Jolene Mullen is a member of the Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council and the Association of Professional Genealogists. She is active as a volunteer genealogist in several lineage societies and is frequently asked

to speak to public libraries and lineage groups on genealogical research.

Her book, *Connecticut's Town Meeting Records during the American Revolution* was published in 2011 and won the Connecticut Society of Genealogists,

Inc. 2012 Literary Awards Contest prize for Best Genealogical Resource. She is currently working on Rhode Island town meeting records during the revolution and a prosopography of a Washington County, New York cemetery.

Jolene and her husband, Dr. Peter Mullen, live in New Milford and enjoy kayaking and working in their gardens.



Beth Trivaudey Mariotti is the Executive Director of Godfrey Memorial Library in Middletown, CT. Ms. Mariotti holds a Masters degree in Social Work from Smith College. After a two decade career in social work, Ms. Mariotti utilized her intense interest in family history to become a professional genealogist.

Ms. Mariotti's genealogy research work has been highlighted in features in the *New Haven Register* and on News Channel 8's CT Style. Ms. Mariotti has presented numerous training sessions for family history researchers, including sessions at NERGC, R.J. Julia Booksellers in Madison Connecticut and a variety of public libraries.

Beth will present a discussion about using the resources of the Godfrey Memorial Library for genealogy.

*Connecticut Civil War Medal of Honor Winner Profile*  
continued from page 19

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Charles Henry Tracy's Medal of Honor, awarded on 19 November 1897, states:

*"At the risk of his own life, at Spotsylvania, 12 May 1864, assisted in carrying to a place of safety a wounded and helpless officer. On 2 April 1865, advanced with the pioneers, and, under heavy fire, assisted in removing 2 lines of chevaux-de-frise; was twice wounded but advanced to the third line, where he was again severely wounded, losing a leg."*

**Sources:**

Charles H. Tracy. "U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles." Ancestry.com: www.ancestry.com accessed 2

July 2013. Compiled by Historical Data Systems.

Charles H. Tracy." *Find A Grave*. (<http://www.findagrave.com>: accessed 15 July 2013.)

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Sgt. Charles H. Tracy. *Waymarking.com* ([http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMGHA4\\_Sgt\\_Charles\\_H\\_Tracy\\_Chicopee\\_MA](http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMGHA4_Sgt_Charles_H_Tracy_Chicopee_MA): accessed 28 July 2013).

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## Book Reviews

by Russell A. DeGrafft, CSG # 19174

*The Name IS the Game, Onomatology and the Genealogist* by Lloyd de Witt Bockstruck (alias Niederbockstruck, FNGS). Published for Clearfield Company by the Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, MD, 2013. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, LCCN: 2013930436, ISBN 978-0-8063-5627-3, 85 pages. Order directly from the publisher. Cost is \$16.95 plus S&H.

This small and conveniently written book will present an additional slant for the genealogical reader who has "hit their brick wall." It is divided into five chapters and it engages immediately. In Chapter 1, the author relates numerous accounts that developed his early fascination with names. Chapter 2 discusses forenames and how they can be clues to research. The author also offers helpful hints, such as the seventh son was often called "doctor" because it was felt that he had an intuitive knowledge of the use of herbs. By the time the reader has finished Chapter 5, he will be aware that a name change may be the actual cause of an ancestor's disappearance. This additional tool may provide that missing link to the frustrated researcher. The author is the former genealogy librarian of the Dallas (Texas) Public Library. This easy-to-read book clearly outlines its simplified ideas and averts the possibility of the continued frustration of naming practices throughout the centuries. The book concludes with an excellent selected bibliography of legal changes of names. The author was kind enough to offer a state indicator to each of his book listings.

*The Settlers of the Beekman Patent, Dutchess County, New York, An Historical and Genealogical Study of all the 18<sup>th</sup> Century Settlers in the Patent, Vol. 11, Rood to Sly*, by Frank J. Doherty. Self-published, 6 x 9 1/2, hardcover, LCCN 90-82282, ISBN Volume 11 978-0-9828991-2-0, Set #978-0-9626443-0-6, 2013, 1036 pages. Book is subject to availability. Contact the New England Historic and Genealogical Society, Boston, MA or the author at "Settlers of the Beekman Patent," Frank J. Doherty, 181 Freedom Plains Road, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569 for the current price and ordering information.

This massive book, the eleventh in a series, is an extremely well documented piece of research, engaging 57 of the residents of the Beekman Patent and with 25,000 entries in its index. It has been considered a worthy source as its past and present information is placed by the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) on their website, [www.AmericanEnglandAncestors.org](http://www.AmericanEnglandAncestors.org). The author, working alone, has tackled this massive project that will continue with the next volume being issued within a possible two year span. If for some reason he is unable to complete the project, NEHGS has agreed to continue it. Researchers who recognize their ancestors in these documented pages or have ties to New York State will want this book in their collections. There is a table of contents which clearly delineates the families included in the volume. The preface guides the reader and portrays the author's present and future direction of the project. The index makes spotting those areas of interest much simpler. The section devoted to additions and corrections is a definite asset to those updating and editing their materials. An extremely valuable reference.

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“Researching in the State of Rhode Island” with Cherry Fletcher Bamberg.

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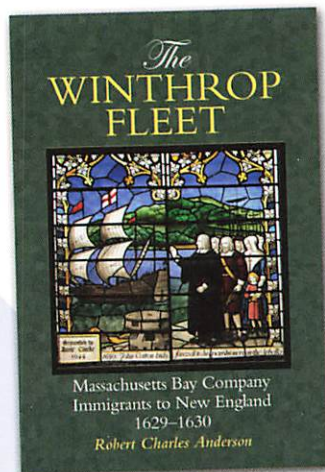
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by Robert Charles Anderson, FASG



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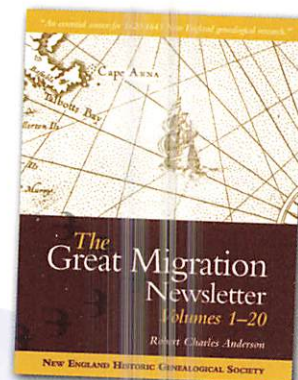
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# CONNECTICUT GENEALOGY NEWS

A Publication of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.

Winter 2013

Vol.6, No.4

## *In This Issue*

Using the  
1800 & 1810  
Censuses

People  
in Genealogy

More of the  
"Private Records"  
Collection at the  
CT State Library

Profiles of CT  
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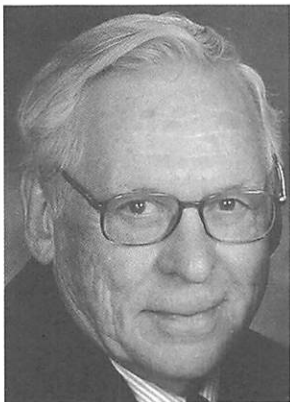
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## President's Message



### Stories from the Past

"Grandpa, tell us a story about when you were a boy?" The question from my grandson and granddaughter came out of the blue and really caught me by surprise. I guess I was startled because we often think that young people don't care about the past.

I thought for a minute and said: "Let me tell you about when I caught my first big fish. I was

about four or five and my father took me fishing. We went to a little park near our summer cottage. Dad sat on the grass behind me and I sat on a low stone wall at the water's edge. For a while, I caught a few small sunfish. Suddenly, the little fish scattered and a large bass swooped in and grabbed my bait. It struck so hard that I was pulled off the wall and landed flat on my bottom on the sandy beach below the wall with my legs straight out in front of me. I still held tight to the rod and looked back at my father ... getting ready to cry. He said: So far the fish has done all the pulling. Why don't you pull?

I heaved with both hands and the bass flew out of the water and over my head, landing next to Dad. He put the fish on a stringer and we marched back to the cottage. I proudly passed close to every picnic table along the way so that people could admire my trophy. Dad nailed the fish's head to the garage door where it stayed on display ... probably for far too long."

The children genuinely enjoyed the story. That incident reminded me of three things. First, it is important to share family stories. Wouldn't it be wonderful if our grandparents, great-grandparents or beyond had written down and preserved some little stories from their lives. What a treasure that would be. So write down those little stories and save them. Someone in the future will be delighted. You don't have to publish a full book of your family's history (although it would be great if you did), but don't let those stories be lost. Don't fall victim to the genealogist's lament ... Oh, if I had only asked grandma when she was alive.

Secondly, it reminded me that kids love stories. Many students claim that they don't like history. I think that they don't like history as dates, battles and dry statistics. When they find out that history is really about stories ... they love it.

Thirdly, don't be one of those families that only talks about family history at weddings and funerals. The younger members may not appear to care, but they are listening.

### Become an Author

There is another step available to you between privately

saving your family stories and publishing a book. CSG publications always are open to submissions. The *Connecticut Nutmegger* is our traditional journal of record for well-documented genealogical research and articles. *Connecticut Genealogy News* is the appropriate vehicle for more informal articles. We are open to experimentation and fresh, new material. We cover the gambit from deep penetration into the resources available from archives like those at the Connecticut State Library to lighter fare like Justin Piccirillo's "Heritage Humor." If you have an idea for a submission, but aren't certain if it fits with CSG's mission, send it in ... give us a try.

-Richard Tomlinson, President

## Editorial

In this issue we are launching a new series called "People in Genealogy." We interviewed CSG assistant treasurer and long-time board member Diane LeMay and also discovered that the Simsbury Free Library, where she works as the genealogy librarian, has a wealth of genealogical information. We are continuing our series on use of census records, and profiles of Connecticut Civil War Medal of Honor winners. We're shining our spotlight in this issue on the town of Washington. Thank you to Nora Galvin, Noreen Manzella and Richard Tomlinson for those contributions. We are once again privileged to be able to include "Heritage Humor" by Justin Piccirillo and we have included the second half of the Connecticut State Library's "Connecticut Private Records." Thanks again to Richard Roberts for providing us with highlights of the resources at the Connecticut State Library. Also, thank you to all who donate to CSG. We couldn't continue to provide you with quality genealogical information without your support.

Connecticut Genealogy News is looking for people who would like to write spotlights on their Connecticut towns. Please contact the CSG Office for more information.

-Stephanie Hyland, Editor

### About the Cover

The monumental gravestone of Betsey and Abijah Tomlinson stands in the New Preston Village Cemetery in Washington, Conn. Abijah came from Derby, Conn. in 1800, attracted by the marble vein that runs through the town. The Tomlinson and allied families dominated the industry in Washington and Abijah was called the "dean of marble." Philo Tomlinson invented an improved method of cutting the stone. Local quarries soon closed as transportation made better, imported marble available, but the water-powered saw mills continued to operate until the 1850s. The obelisk of the Tomlinson monument is made of Italian marble and only the base is composed of local marble. Photo taken by Richard Tomlinson.



## Using the 1800 & 1810 Federal Census

by Nora Galvin, CSG # 18813

These censuses are being treated together because the questions are identical. As the second and third enumerations of the population of the United States, these censuses are fairly simple but they are a major improvement over the first census because they divide the white population into five age categories, helping researchers to understand the composition of the household. There is no sociological information such as occupation categories, only ages and gender.



States and Territories of the United States of America  
April 1810 to October 27 1810

Figure 1 States and Territories of the U.S. in 1810<sup>1</sup>

### What areas of the country were included?

Just after the first census in 1790, which included only the states formed from the thirteen original colonies, several states were admitted to the Union. Vermont joined in 1791, Kentucky in 1792 and Tennessee in 1796. Those three states were counted in the 1800 census. In addition, the creation of the District of Columbia as the nation's capital was approved in July, 1790, and the District was enumerated beginning in 1800.<sup>2</sup>

The full list of returns available from the 1800 census includes Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, District of Maine (part of Massachusetts until 1820), Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Territory Northwest of the River Ohio (today's Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin) and Vermont. Returns are lost for Virginia, New Jersey, Kentucky, Tennessee and Georgia.

Use Of Census Records

In the next decade Ohio joined in 1803 bringing the total number of states in 1810 to seventeen. At that time the Northwest territory was divided into the territories of Indiana, Michigan and Illinois (which included Wisconsin). These areas were also counted, but no returns are extant.

In addition, the Orleans Territory, which became part of the state of Louisiana in 1812,<sup>3</sup> was included in this census. The list of states and territories whose returns are available includes Connecticut, Delaware, Kentucky, Louisiana, District of Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont and Virginia.<sup>4</sup> Returns are missing from District of Columbia, Georgia, Mississippi Territory, New Jersey, Ohio and Tennessee.<sup>5</sup>

categories under 10, 10 thru 15, 16 thru 25, 26 thru 44, 4 and over

- Free white females in the same age categories
- All other free persons (no age categories)

-Slaves (no age categories)

**Format**

The results of these censuses were written on blank sheets that had no printed headers. The assistant marshals often added lines to create columns for the various age categories, which is helpful to us, but wrote the headers only on the first page. Using blank census forms provided by Web sites such as Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.org are essential to understanding the columns. In addition, it can be helpful to browse to the first pages of a state's returns to look for notes. Delaware, for example, includes 3 pages of explanations at the beginning of the 1800 return

Figure 2 Example page from the 1810 United States Census<sup>7</sup>

**Statistics**

Census Day in 1800 was 04 August, the first Monday of the month, and the assistant marshals were allowed nine months to complete their count. Tabulation showed a population of 5.3 million, 20% of which were slaves. In 1810 Census day was also the first Monday of August, the sixth. Enumerators had an additional month to complete their task. The population had grown 41% in the previous decade to 7.2 million, again with 20% of the population enslaved.

The population center of the United States in both years was in Maryland, just west of Baltimore.

**What questions were asked?**

- Location: State or territory, county and township
- People: Name of head of household
- Count: - Free white males in the following age

because, due to the binding method, "some of the pages of the respective towns and other places do not follow in sequence."<sup>6</sup>

**Endnotes**

- 1 [http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/28/United\\_States\\_1810-04-1810-10.png](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/28/United_States_1810-04-1810-10.png)
- 2 List of available censuses from Ancestry.com.
- 3 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Territory\\_of\\_Orleans](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Territory_of_Orleans)
- 4 List of available censuses from Ancestry.com.
- 5 Dollarhide, William, *The Census Book*, Bountiful, Utah: Heritage Quest, 2000. This source provides more details about lost census returns.
- 6 1800 U.S. Census, Kent County, Delaware, Duck Creek Hundred (browsed); Ancestry.com.
- 7 1810 U.S. Census, Windham County, Connecticut, Voluntown, p. 518-519; Ancestry.com, accessed 26 Sept. 2013, citing Family History Library Microfilm 0,281,231.

## People in Genealogy

### *An Interview with Diane LeMay, CSG # 7571*

*Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of interviews of persons who are currently active in genealogy and family history.*

#### **An Interview with Diane LeMay**



Diane is a Life Member of CSG, a member of the Board of Governors, currently serves as the Assistant Treasurer and maintains the CSG Facebook webpage, which she created in January 2011. Diane began working in the public library during high school, got her bachelors and masters degrees in library science and made it her profession. She retired in 2009 after thirty-six years as a Library Media Specialist in the Connecticut

Technical High School System, and nearly a decade of part-time work at the Connecticut State Library and St. Joseph's College library. She married her husband Jerry in 1983 and resided in East Hartford, Connecticut, moving to East Windsor in 2001 where she currently resides.

#### ***How did you get interested in genealogy?***

Due to my curiosity, I have been digging up my Irish, French-Canadian and "Yankee" roots since 1979 and loving it. I am the youngest of four children. My parents' first child, their only son, was born prematurely in 1944 and died within 8 hours. My brother was rarely mentioned so I grew curious about him, his given name and his place of burial. From there I began researching my Boston Irish heritage. When I discovered a LeMay in my maternal French-Canadian lines I got hooked. I needed to find out whether my fiancé and I were related. This research introduced me to Probate Records, my first will and my first trip to Salt Lake City, Utah. It took me many years of part-time research after our marriage to find we are 8<sup>th</sup> cousins, once removed.

When I began, I had no idea where to research, except for the Genealogy column in Yankee Magazine. A friend recommended joining CSG. After attending a couple programs of CSG, I found it very helpful to connect with other researchers, and joined right away. Through the years I have continued to learn something new through experiences and knowledge of other members, the programs, publications, conferences, most recently about the existence

of burial permits and how to photograph gravestones with the help of a mirror.

I continually share and preserve my research at the same time. Due to my longevity in genealogy I have been dubbed the "Go To Person" when questions arise on my family, or on Jerry's. Jerry and I arranged three LeMay family reunions, and last year to my delight the LeMay nephews and nieces took over that responsibility.

In 2008 I decided I would prepare and distribute ten copies of a spiral bound booklet to my close family members on my paternal side entitled *Family History of John McDermott from Ireland to America*. This simple booklet includes a 36-page pedigree, an index, six documents and six copies of photos. Computers and family tree software have made it much easier to compile and share my family history. Before I lose another cousin, I want to complete a booklet of my maternal lines to share, as well.

#### ***Tell us about your recent activities in Genealogy.***

Recently I've taken on the role of part-time Genealogy Librarian at the Simsbury CT Genealogical and Historical Library located in the Simsbury Free Library. I've always loved the Reference part of the library profession. This role fits perfectly with my family history background. My ability to translate Spanish and French documents and to decipher most handwriting comes in very handy.

#### ***What is the Simsbury Free Library?***

The Simsbury Free Library (SFL) was founded in 1874 and has occupied its beautiful Colonial Revival building since 1890. SFL was begun by a group of citizens and funded



by a generous grant from New York financier, Amos R. Eno, a Simsbury native. In 1970 the Town of Simsbury assumed responsibility for the public library, and in 1986 the town's library reopened in a new municipal building. A non-profit private institution, the SFL is sustained by

its endowment, grants, donations, memberships and user fees. In 1991 it was added to the Connecticut Register of Historic Places. Today the SFL is home to the Simsbury Genealogical and Historical Research Library, the Ensign Bickford Corporate Archives as well as the William P. Eno Memorial Center. W. P. Eno, the youngest son of Amos, is the internationally recognized "Father of Traffic Regulation and Transportation Engineering."

***As a Genealogy Librarian what is your role there?***

Generally I perform all library and genealogy-related tasks, assisting patrons from all over the U.S. with their searches, whether in person, by telephone or email, giving research advice, connecting them with sources, cataloging and processing new materials, preparing handouts, such as the annotated list of holdings in the Archive's Special Collection, a list of useful and free genealogy-related websites, etc. I have prepared and presented programs on beginning genealogy, federal census records, sources in print, such as city directories, and online sources.

One important thing I have had to do is learn about Simsbury's history and its many original and important families, Case, Ellsworth, Eno, Griswold, Higley, Moore, Pettibone, Phelps, Toy and too many more to mention.

***What have you liked most about working at the Simsbury Free Library?***

It is very nice to see how important historic homes, local history, and family genealogy are to Simsbury residents. The absolute best part of my job is when patrons return, show me new "finds" after researching on their own and admit that they have become addicted to genealogy.

***What sources are located in the Simsbury Free Library?***

In the short period of time I've worked there, I've encountered numerous patrons with "brick walls." When assisting these patrons, I have probably used every resource we have, the Hale Collection, family genealogies, town, county and state histories, Barbour Collection (on microfilm by surname), atlases, the DAR records collection, Ancestry.com (library edition), Findagrave.com, ICONN.org, CHS.org, Archive.org, CSLib.org, town of Simsbury and other city websites, Simsbury Probate records and even the Ensign-Bickford Collection in our Archives.

***Tell us about the most challenging question you've been asked.***

Each query is both unique and challenging because every patron has a different level of expertise. I want to answer each and every one. I don't like unanswered questions. Family pedigree questions tend to be less challenging, unless the patron has already run out of places to look.

The toughest one was asked soon after I was hired. A lady asked for records, demographics and housing of Tariffville's Frank Wilkinson Manufacturing Company, 1890-99. I researched online, checked historical maps, called the Connecticut Historical Society and corresponded with her further. I unearthed more information on the company for her when SFL had a guest speaker on Tariffville and its history a few weeks later.

***What piece of advice do you give beginners in genealogy?***

Besides the obvious advice to begin citing sources on Day 1 of their research, I have another tip that I have found extremely important. Beginners need to seek out every cemetery office. There are many folks buried who never got their names on a gravestone. My Irish great-grandfather's stone as three names, however there are ten family members buried in the plot. I never could have known this without checking the cemetery office records.

***You have events coming up. Tell us about them.***

In addition to my monthly talks every 4<sup>th</sup> Sat, I give one-on-one sessions every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday. There are many educational and cultural programs, such as art shows, holiday and community events, movies and a Book Club. Check our events listing at [www.simsburyfreelibrary.org](http://www.simsburyfreelibrary.org).

***If anyone wants to begin their genealogy or get advice on what to research, what can they do?***

SFL is open to the public every Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Yearly memberships are available. Non-members are asked to pay a user fee of \$5.00 per visit.

Folks can email me at [SimsburyFreeLibrary@gmail.com](mailto:SimsburyFreeLibrary@gmail.com), call 860-408-1336, or check our website or Facebook page.



## The Connecticut State Library's "Connecticut Private Records"

*by Richard C. Roberts, CSG # 8680*

An introduction to the Connecticut State Library's "Connecticut Private Records" and the first part of a listing of the Private Records appeared in *Connecticut Genealogy News*, Volume 6, No. 3 (Fall 2013). The listing is concluded here.

### **Norfolk, Conn., Account Book of Heman Swift**

**Original source:** Account Book of Heman Swift, Norfolk, Connecticut. Manuscript account book.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 N76sw

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of Swift family births, 1769-1816, and deaths, 1828-1865

**Location of index:** Bound with additional "Connecticut Private Records" indexes with the spine title "Indexes to Some Connecticut Private Records," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 1, and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/165/rec/33>

### **Northampton Gazette, Newspaper Clippings, 1830**

**Original source:** Marriage and death notices clipped from 1830 issues of the *Northampton Gazette* newspaper.

**Current location of source:** The issues used and current location of the original newspaper clippings are unknown.

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of marriages and deaths.

**Location of index:** Bound with additional "Connecticut Private Records" indexes with the spine title "Indexes to Some Connecticut Private Records," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 1, and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/147/rec/34>

### **Notes Taken from the Diary of Elisha Niles, Colchester & East Hampton, 1764-1850**

**Original source:** [Notes Taken From the Diary of Elisha Niles, Colchester and East Hampton, by Clara Louise Weed.] Transcript of the diary of Elisha Niles made by Clara Louise Weed in 1933 and presented to the State Library in 1937.

**Current location of source:** Transcript in State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 920 N592. The current location of the original diary is unknown.

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of births, baptisms, marriages, deaths, admissions, and dismissions from the society, and lists of scholars.

**Location of index:** Shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/625/rec/11>

### **Philemon Payne's Account Book**

**Original source:** Payne, Philemon. [Account book, 1793-1839?]. Account book kept by Philemon Payne of Prospect, Connecticut, covering the years 1766-1864. Includes farm & personal accounts, weather, & vital records.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 N94pa

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of births, marriages, and deaths, primarily of the Payne and Sanford families.

**Location of index:** Bound with additional "Connecticut Private Records" indexes with the spine title "Indexes to Some Connecticut Private Records," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 1, and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/176/rec/35>

### **Prindle's Almanac, 1828-1860**

**Original source:** Entries added by an unknown author in copies of the 1828, 1838, 1840, and 1860 issues of *Prindle's Almanac*.

**Current location of source:** CSL Special Collections, Almanac Collection, box containing *Prindle's Almanac*.

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of names mentioned and other references

**Location of index:** Bound with additional "Connecticut Private Records" indexes with the spine title "Indexes to Some Connecticut Private Records," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 1, and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/216/rec/36>

### **Ralph Hurlbutt, J. P., New London Co., 1807-1837**

**Original source:** Hurlbutt, Ralph. Ralph Hurlbutt's Records as Justice of the Peace, New London County, Connecticut, 1807-1837. Photostat copy of records of Ralph Hurlbutt, a Methodist minister and Justice of the

Peace in New London County, Connecticut.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.61 N44hu; microfilm copy available in Newspaper Room, E99 .H87 1935 Mfilm

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of marriages

**Location of index:** Bound with additional "Connecticut Private Records" indexes with the spine title "Indexes to Some Connecticut Private Records," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 1, and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/85/rec/37>

### **Record of Avery Family in Wallingford, Connecticut, Births, Marriages, and Deaths, 1720-1899**

**Original source:** A record kept by Billious Avery, loaned to the Connecticut State Library for Photostatting.

**Current location of source:** Unknown

**Index created:** 1954

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of Avery family births, marriages, and deaths in Wallingford, Connecticut.

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 24. Another copy is cataloged as 929.2 Av 361av and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/554/rec/38>

### **Record of Deaths, New Haven, 1793-1859**

**Original source:** Death information from cemetery stones in the Old Burying Ground, New Haven, Connecticut covering 1793-1859. Most information was apparently recorded an unknown person in 1844, with records of a later date entered by another unknown individual.

**Current location of source:** Unknown

**Index created:** March, 1929

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of individuals

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 24

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/172/rec/39>

### **Record of Deaths, North Coventry, 1826-1869**

**Original source:** Record of Deaths in North Coventry, Connecticut, 1826-1870.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 001, Classified Manuscript Collection, Main Vault 974.62 C83 Nr

**Index created:** 1929

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of deaths in North Coventry, Connecticut

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 24. Another copy is shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/127/rec/40>

### **Record of Deaths, Watrous Family, 1818-1838**

**Original source:** Family record of the Watrous family of Ledyard, Connecticut

**Current location of source:** Unknown

**Index created:** March, 1931

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of Watrous family deaths, 1818-1838

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 24

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/459/rec/41>

### **Record of Two Hundred Nineteen Burials in St. Matthew's Cemetery, East Plymouth, Conn., Junius Preston, Sexton, 1846-1886**

**Original source:** Plymouth, Conn. St. Mathew's Cemetery. v. 1, Sextons records, 1822-1852; v. 2, Sextons records, 1846-1891. Copies of records kept by Junius Preston, sexton, St. Matthew's Cemetery, East Plymouth.

**Location of source:** Unknown. Copy is in State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 P74s v.1 and v.2

**Index created:** 1935

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of deaths and burials

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/454/rec/42>

### **Records Kept by Lester K. Gaines, Undertaker, Hartland & East Hartland, 1846-1867**

**Original source:** Account of Lester K. Gaines as Undertaker in Hartland, Conn., from 1846 to 1867.... Typescript provided by David N. Gaines of an account of coffins made by his father, Lester K. Gaines, undertaker of Hartland and East Hartland, Connecticut during the years 1846-1852 and 1864-1867.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, 974.62 H26g

**Index created:** 1935

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index

**Location of index:** Connecticut State Library, State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/454/rec/42>

### **Records of Andrew Griswold, J.P., Lyme, 1784-1810**

**Original source:** Marriage records of New London County, 1784-1812, Kept by Andrew Griswold, Justice of the Peace.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 001, Classified Manuscript Collection, Main Vault 974.62 L89gr

**Index created:** 1929

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of marriages performed by Andrew Griswold, Justice of the Peace, of Lyme, Connecticut.

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 24. Another copy is shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/162/rec/44>

### **Records of George R. Warner, Sexton, Bloomfield, 1875-1909**

**Original source:** Original burial permits issued during the years 1875-1909 to George R. Warner, sexton of St. Andrew's burying ground in Bloomfield, Connecticut.

**Current location of source:** Unknown

**Index created:** July 21, 1930

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of deaths and burials

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/287/rec/45>

### **Records of Henry W. Allen Collection, East Windsor, 1771-1808**

**Original source:** Family record of Joshua and Abigail Allen family of East Windsor, Connecticut based on a manuscript paper found in the Henry W. Allen Collection.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 074:054, Special Genealogical Files, Box 1, Joshua and Abigail Allen family record

**Index created:** 1930

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of the Joshua and Abigail Allen family record

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/228/rec/46>

### **Records of Martin Phillips, Sexton, Mansfield, 1819-1866**

**Original source:** Phillips, Martin. Account, 1836-1854; Day Book 1860-1866; Account of Persons Buried. Martin Phillips was for many years the sexton of the burying ground of the First Ecclesiastical Society of Mansfield.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000,

Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 phi, Martin Phillips account book, 1836-1854; also RG 000, Classified Archives, 974.62 ph, Martin Phillips notebook, Photostat

**Index created:** May, 1930

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of marriages, 1836-1854; deaths and burials, 1819-1851 and 1861-1864

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/489/rec/47>

### **Records of Nehemiah Waterman, J. P., New London County, 1712-1801**

**Original source:** Two Note Books of Nehemiah Waterman of Bozrah, Connecticut, 1757-1802, 1781-1799. Photostat copies of two manuscript note books of Nehemiah Waterman, Justice of the Peace of Bozrah, Connecticut, and entries found in a day book kept by his son Nehemiah Waterman, Jr.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 B719w

**Index created:** No date indicated.

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of births, marriages, deaths, and burials in New London County, primarily the towns of Bozrah, Franklin and Norwich.

**Current location of index:** Cataloged as GR 974.61 N44w and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/346/rec/48>

### **Records of Zalman [i.e. Zalmon] Storrs, Mansfield, 1817-1818**

**Original source:** Mansfield, Connecticut Record of Marriages, 1817-1820, Performed by & Recorded by Zalmon Storrs, Justice of the Peace.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, 974.62 M35s

**Index created:** 1930

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of marriages

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/300/rec/49>

### **Rev. T. Davies Record, 1761-1766, Litchfield County**

**Original source:** A biographical sketch of the Rev. Thomas Davies, A.M., missionary of the Society for propagating the gospel in foreign parts, in several of the towns of Litchfield County, Conn., from the year 1761 to the year 1766. By a minister of the county" by Solomon G. Hitchcock (1814-1877). Printed in 1843.

**Current location of source:** CSL Special Collections, BX 5995 .D35 H5 1843

**Index created:** Not stated

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of Litchfield County, Connecticut baptisms, dismissions, and marriages

**Location of index:** Uncataloged index shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/61/rec/50>

### **Saybrook, John Bull Account Book**

**Original source:** Bull, John. Account Book, 1814-1831; Vital Records, 1815-1830. Original account book, a gift from Mr. Charles I. Smith of Norwich, Connecticut, September 27, 1945.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.6 B872

**Index created:** Not stated; probably ca. 1945

**Description of index:** Index of Saybrook, Connecticut area deaths circa 1814-1831

**Location of index:** Uncataloged index shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/100/rec/51>

### **Sextons Records, 1733-1927, of Goshen Cemetery in Lebanon, Connecticut**

**Original source:** Lebanon, Conn. Goshen Cemetery. Index to Headstones as Recorded by the Sexton, 1733-1927. A copy of the records of the sexton of the Goshen Cemetery, Lebanon, Connecticut covering the years 1733-1927

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 fL49Dli

**Index created:** 1934

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of birth and death information

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 24

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/642/rec/52>

### **The Churchman's Almanac, 1836-1837**

**Original source:** Copies of the 1836 and 1837 issues of *The Churchman's Almanac*

**Location of source:** Unknown

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of births, marriages, deaths, burials and names mentioned in entries added by an unknown author referring to events that took place in or near Lorain and Medina Counties, Ohio.

**Location of index:** Bound with additional "Connecticut Private Records" indexes with the spine title "Indexes to

Some Connecticut Private Records," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 1, and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/9/rec/53>

### **Thomas Burgis Letters**

**Original source:** Burgis, Thomas. Letters Written by Thomas Burgis at Guilford, Conn., to his Daughter... Letters written in 1769 and 1771 by Thomas Burgis to his daughter Lucy and son-in-law Jonathan Kirby of Middletown, Connecticut, along with a memorandum written in the late 19th century providing genealogical data relating to the Thomas Burgis family, covering the years 1709-1868.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 920 B915

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of births, marriages, deaths and names mentioned in the letters and memorandum including deaths of children during an epidemic in Guilford, Connecticut in 1769.

**Location of index:** Bound with additional "Connecticut Private Records" indexes with the spine title "Indexes to Some Connecticut Private Records," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 1, and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/20/rec/54>

### **Torrington, Record of Deaths in Torrington, 1777-1884**

**Original source:** Torrington, Conn. Records of Deaths in Torrington, 1777-1884. A record of Torrington deaths compiled by several individuals apparently associated with, or using records of, the Torrington Congregational Church.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 000, Classified Archives, Main Vault 974.62 T63 Tr

**Index created:** 1962

**Description of index:** Alphabetical index of deaths in the Torrington section of Torrington, ca. 1777-1884

**Location of index:** Shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/745/rec/55>

### **Vital Records from Brown Diary, Woodstock, 1777-1900**

**Original source:** Diary apparently kept by Andrew Brown of Woodstock and his descendents.

**Current location of source:** Unknown. A partial transcript was created, probably by William C. Brown, sometime in the 1920s. See Brown diary, Woodstock, 1777-1900, above.

**Index created:** March 1929

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of births, marriages, deaths and local events in Woodstock, Connecticut from 1777 to 1900

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 24. Another copy is shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/1003/rec/56>

### **Vital Records from Rev. Samuel F. Jarvis Manuscript, Christ Church, Middletown, 1836-1839**

**Original source:** A few records and miscellaneous papers kept by Rev. Samuel Farmar Jarvis, Rector of Christ Church, (later Holy Trinity Church) Middletown, Connecticut covering the years 1836-1839.

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 070:003, Church Records, Box 3

**Index created:** July, 1929

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing by surname of baptisms, marriages, and deaths.

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23. Another copy is bound and is cataloged as 974.62 M582et j and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in H&G Index Corridor

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/353/rec/57>

### **White Family Records, Hebron**

**Original source:** Family record of James and Rachel [Chapwell] White of Hebron, Connecticut, covering the years 1752-1814, purchased by the Connecticut State Library from A. R. Bailey.

**Location of source:** State Archives RG 074:054, Special Genealogical Files, Box 9

**Index created:** 1946

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of births and marriages

**Location of index:** Given the title "Hebron A. R. Bailey Purchase" and bound with additional "Connecticut Private Records" indexes with the spine title "Indexes to Some Connecticut Private Records," cataloged as GR 974.6 In2i vol. 1, and shelved with "Connecticut Private Records" index volumes in the H&G Index Corridor.

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/15/rec/58>

### **Windham and Woodstock Notes from Morse's Account of Justice Cases, 1784-1801**

**Original source:** Manuscript volume of Justice of the Peace court cases

**Current location of source:** State Archives RG 003, Judicial Department, Justice of the Peace Courts, Box 584

**Index created:** 1936

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of deaths and visitations by Jedidiah Morse, Justice of the Peace, recorded from 1779-1817

**Location of index:** Connecticut State Library, State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records from Private Sources, Box 23

**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/388/rec/59>

### **Woodstock Marriage Intentions, 1811-1819**

**Original source:** A copy of Woodstock records made by Lucius B. Barbour from an unknown source

**Location of source:** Unknown

**Index created:** 1936

**Description of index:** Alphabetical listing of Woodstock, Connecticut marriage intentions, 1811-1819

**Location of index:** State Archives RG 072, Vital Records, Vital Records, from Private Sources, Box 23

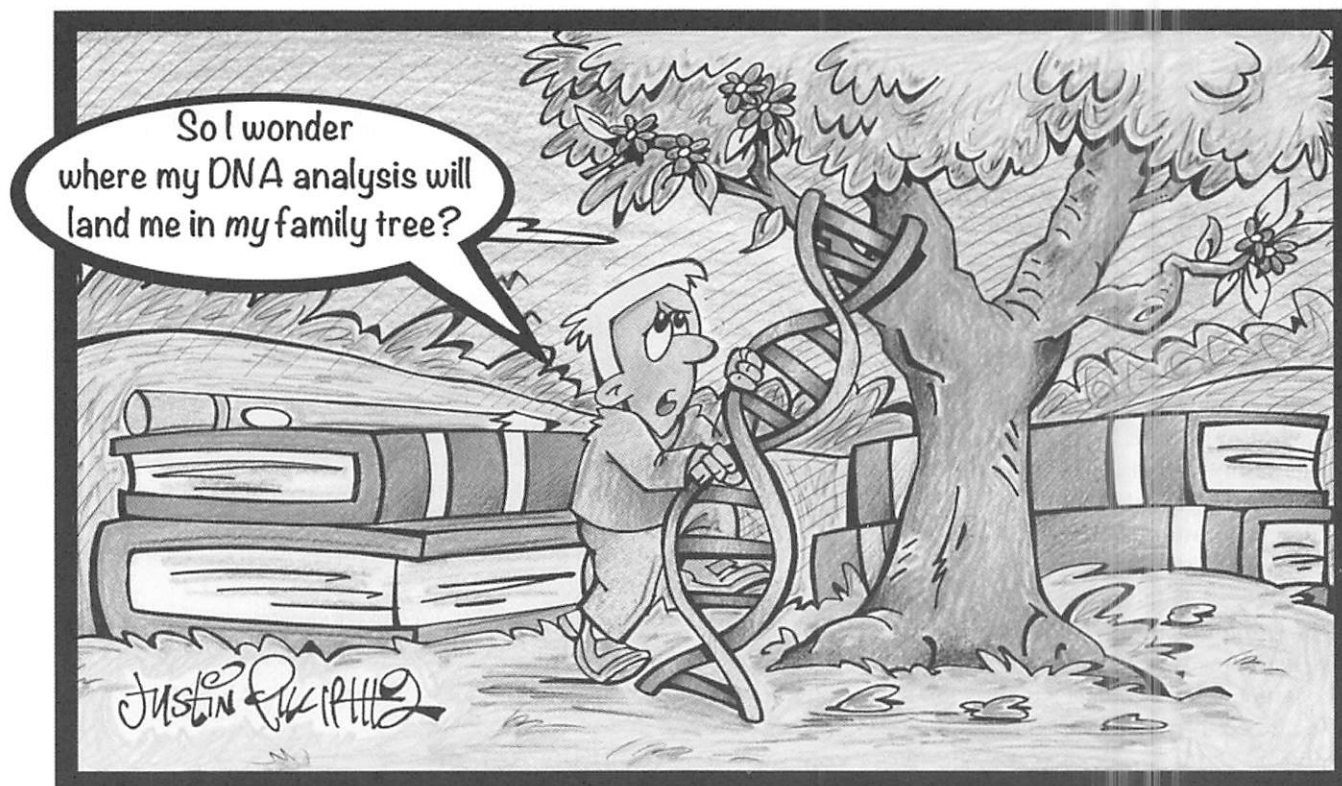
**Index online at:** <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15019coll15/id/382/rec/60>

### **About the Author**



Richard C. Roberts is the former Head of the Connecticut State Library's History and Genealogy Unit. He serves on the Board of Governors of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc., and is a member of the New Hampshire Society of Genealogists, the New England Historic Genealogical Society, and the Association for Gravestone Studies. He is currently the president of the Descendants of the Founders of Ancient Windsor and is one of the Tri-Chairs for the 2015 New England Regional Genealogical Conference to be held 15-19 April 2015 in Providence, Rhode Island.

## Heritage Humor by Justin Piccirillo



### ***TIMOTHY FORD OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT***

by Charles R. Ford

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The Only Comprehensive Genealogy on the First Five Generations of Timothy Ford  
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See book review: *The Connecticut Nutmegger*  
Vol. 38, No. 2, September 2005, p. 286

Order from: The Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc, P.O. Box 435,  
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CSG

CENTRAL

NEWS

## Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.

\*\*\* SAVE THIS SECTION \*\*\*

Please mark your calendar or save this page in a handy place with your other active calendars and datebooks.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 2013-2014

**SAVE THE DATES** ~ All CSG Events are open to the public, and many are free of charge. These opportunities not only provide helpful knowledge and insights into various aspects of genealogy, but the comraderie found in each gathering is always a plus. Our attendees always take away more than what they expect when they sign up. Please pre-register with the CSG Office, so we can plan appropriately and notify you of any last-minute changes or emergency announcements. All events may also be found on the CSG website. [www.csgetc.org](http://www.csgetc.org). Members are reminded to invite their friends and watch this space and/or the CSG website for updated information.

#### 2013

##### 16 November - "Milford Area Families"

**Speaker:** Gregory Thompson with Town Historians, Richard & Jane Platt.

**Place:** Milford Public Library, 57 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT 06460. **Time:** 1:30 p.m. **Cost:** FREE

#### 2014

**In case of inclement weather, please watch Channel 3/ WFSB's Early Warning Network for cancellations.**

##### 18 January - "How I Solved My Brickwall Problems"

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND**

Attendees will tell how they solved their own brick walls.

**Place:** CSG Library, 175 Maple St., East Hartford, CT

**Time:** 1:30 p.m. **Cost:** FREE

**26 January** - OPEN HOUSE at CSG, 175 Maple St., East Hartford, CT 06118. **Time:** 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

##### 15 February - "Techniques for Interpreting Old Handwriting"

RESCHEDULED FROM FEBRUARY 2013

**Speaker:** Edwin W. Strickland II

**Place:** CSG Library, 175 Maple St., East Hartford, CT

**Time:** 1:30 p.m. **Cost:** FREE

**23 February** - OPEN HOUSE at CSG, 175 Maple St., East Hartford, CT 06118. **Time:** 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

##### 15 March - "Resources at the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society in Danielson, CT."

**Speaker:** Marilyn Labbe, Executive Director

**Place:** TBA

**Time:** 1:30 p.m. **Cost:** FREE

**30 March** - OPEN HOUSE at CSG, 175 Maple St., East Hartford, CT 06118. **Time:** 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

##### 12 April - "Resources at the Hartford Public Library"

**Speaker:** Jennifer Sharp, digital specialist & archivist or Bill Faudy, former director of The Old State House.

**Place:** Hartford Public Library, 500 Main St., Hartford, CT 06103. (There are "pay to park" lots in the vicinity, but we are working on getting more free parking in the library lot. Watch the CSG website and this page for updates on that).

**Time:** 1:30 p.m. **Cost:** FREE

\*\*\* SAVE THE DATE \*\*\*

**17 May** - 46<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting. "Don't Call Your Relatives, Let Them Call You" with speaker Marion Pierre-Louis. Watch Connecticut Genealogy News and the CSG website at [www.csgetc.org](http://www.csgetc.org) for more details as they become available.

**On 19 October 2013 at the Annual Family History Seminar, the Connecticut Society of Genealogists' presented Helen Schatvet Ullmann with Honorary Life Membership for her years of support and guidance for our publications.**

**Thank you, Helen**

## News & Notes

At a special membership meeting, announced in the Spring 2013 issue of *Connecticut Genealogy News* scheduled for 21 September 2013 the proposed By-law changes were passed unanimously by all the members present. A copy of the revised By-laws may be found on the CSG Website at [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org) under About Us.

The CSG Annual Appeal is in the mail and members should have received it around mid-October. Please consider donating to the Endowment fund via the Annual Appeal so we can continue to provide you with quality genealogical programs, publications and information. Thank you.

The 2014 Literary Awards Contest is in full swing. Entries must be received at the CSG Office no later than 15 February 2014. Entries received after that date cannot be considered. Contact the CSG Office for an entry form and details on how to enter. You do not have to be a member to enter the contest.

CSG has recently acquired more copies of Charles R. Ford's *Timothy Ford of New Haven*. Here's your chance if you didn't get to purchase a copy when we had them for sale previously. Supplies are limited, so act now. Cost is still \$8 (see ad on p. 12 for more details).

Fairfield, Connecticut will be celebrating its 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2014. For more information, email [fairfield375@gmail.com](mailto:fairfield375@gmail.com).

The Holidays will be here before you know it! Check out the CSG Website online Bookstore to find the right book for the genealogist on your list (you can even treat yourself). All orders placed through the CSG website are processed through PayPal, but no PayPal account is needed.

Also, for a limited time only, CSG has a selection of books for sale from Maia's Books & Misc. You may have seen them at NERGC or other genealogical conferences around the country. The following is a partial list of titles we currently have available and you can purchase them directly through us until December 31st. Call the CSG Office for a complete list of what is available. Please add \$5 postage and handling for the first book plus \$1 for each additional book. CT residents, please add 6.35% sales tax.

Please contact the CSG Office prior to ordering to ensure availability or with any questions you may have at: 860-569-0002 or by email directly at [csginc@csginc.org](mailto:csginc@csginc.org). MasterCard, Visa or Discover also accepted. Gift certificates are also available.

*A History of St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties, New York From the Earliest Period to the Present Time* by Franklin B. Hough - \$59.95

*Zap! The Grandma Gap, Connect Your Family by Connecting them to Their Family History* by Janet Hovorka - \$16.95

*There's a Map on My Lap! All About Maps* by Tish Rabe (children's book featuring the Cat in the Hat in Dr. Seuss style) - \$8.99

*Old Houses of the Ancient Town of Norwich [Connecticut] 1660-1800* by Mary E. Perkins - \$50.00

*The History of Connecticut from the First Settlement of the Colony to the Adoption of the Present Constitution*, 2 vol. set by G.H. Hollister - \$80.00

*History of Bristol, Rhode Island, the Story of the Mount Hope Lands* by Wilfred H. Munro - \$39.00

*Emigrants to Pennsylvania 1641-1819, a Consolidation of Ship Passenger Lists from the Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* edited by Michael Tepper - \$33.00

*Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire* by Sybil Noyes, Charles Thornton Libby & Walter Goodwin Davis - \$49.95

*Genealogical Notes of New York and New England Families*, 2 vol. set, compiled by S.V. Talcott - \$75.00

*"Fire Cake and Water" The Connecticut Infantry at the Valley Forge Encampment* by Joseph Lee Boyle - \$29.00

*Writing the Family Narrative Workbook* by Lawrence P. Gouldrup, Ph.D. - \$12.95

*Family Secrets, 18th and 19th Century Birth Records Found in the Windham County, Connecticut, County Court Records and Files at the Connecticut State Library Archives*, Hartford by Marcella Pasay - \$17.50

*Sustainable Genealogy, Separating Fact from Fiction in Family Legends* by Richard Hite - \$18.95

*History of the Town of Wolcott from 1731 to 1874* by Rev. Samuel Orcutt - \$46.50

*The First Traders on Wall Street, the Wiechquaeskeck Indians of Southwestern Connecticut in the Seventeenth Century* by John Alexander Buckland - \$28.00

*Time Traveller's Handbook, a Guide to the Past* by Althea Douglas - \$19.99



**CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS**  
presents

**Gregory Thompson**  
with Town Historians, Richard & Jane Platt

**“Milford Area Families”**

**Place: Milford Public Library**  
**57 New Haven Avenue**  
**Milford, CT 06460**

**Time: 1:30 p.m.**

**Cost: FREE**

**~ OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ~**

**Contact the CSG Office with any questions you may have.  
Please pre-register so we can plan appropriately by calling the  
CSG Office at 860-569-0002 or emailing at [csginc@csginc.org](mailto:csginc@csginc.org).**

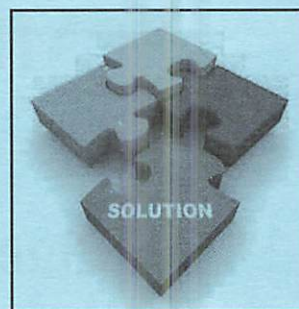


## HAVE YOU SOLVED A BRICKWALL (STONEWALL) PROBLEM IN YOUR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH?

Come to the Connecticut Society of Genealogists' Library  
on 18 January 2014 for  
"How I Solved My Brickwall Problems"  
and share your success!

If you need help solving a brickwall come and learn what  
others have done.

**Location:** CSG Library, 175 Maple St., East Hartford, CT  
**Time:** 1:30 p.m. **Cost:** FREE  
Please pre-register by 3 p.m. on Friday, 17 January so we may plan  
appropriately.



## JOIN US for "TECHNIQUES FOR INTERPRETING OLD HANDWRITING"

with Edwin W. Strickland II  
on 15 February 2014

~ Open to the Public ~

**Location:** CSG Library, 175 Maple Street, East Hartford, CT  
**Time:** 1:30 p.m. - **Cost:** FREE  
Please pre-register by 3 p.m. on Friday, 17 January so we may plan appropriately.

(Rescheduled from February 2013)

# PROFILES OF CONNECTICUT'S CIVIL WAR HEROES

by Noreen Manzella, CSG # 15578



## Sergeant William J. Babcock 2<sup>nd</sup> Rhode Island Volunteer Infantry

William J. Babcock was born to Gideon and Caroline (Carter) Babcock in Griswold, Connecticut on 8 April 1841. Identified siblings include John F. (1823-?), John William (1825-1914), Alexander (1828-1873), Sarah Caroline (1832-1907), Samuel Gideon (1835-1835),

Charles Henry (1836-1875), Abbie Ann (1839-1865), Eunice (1839-?), and Albert A. (1842-1898). Although he was born in Connecticut, William's family lived prior to and after his birth in Rhode Island, primarily in South Kingston. The Babcock family line can be traced back to James Babcock(e) who settled in Rhode Island in early 1600. William's great-grandfather was Deacon Gideon Babcock of the Second Baptist Church in Newport, Rhode Island. Many Babcock descendants were involved in the early history of Newport and Westerly, Rhode Island. Gideon Babcock was a wheelwright and some of his sons followed this trade. Others were fishermen, like William.

William J. Babcock married Phebe Esther Gould. They had the following children: Alexander Gideon (1866-1869), Abby Louisa (1868-1869), William Thomas (1870-1956), Carrie Almira (1875-1907), John Dean (1878-1903), Elmer Ellsworth (1880-1919), Harry Wilton (1883-1912). After the war, Babcock lived in South Kingston, Rhode Island. Census listings continuously record William as a fisherman. On the 1890 Veteran's Schedule, William noted that a bullet pierced a tintype of his wife and cracked his rib. Like many soldiers, he had carried a photo of his loved one. Babcock's family maintains their pride in his medal of honor. A 2008 obituary for a grandson, Ernest L. Babcock, notes that his grandfather was a recipient of the award. William J. Babcock died 29 October 1897 and is buried in Riverside Cemetery in South Kingston, Rhode Island.

William J. Babcock enlisted in Company E, Rhode Island 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry on 5 June 1861. On 13 January 1862 he was promoted to corporal. His enlistment ended in December 1863. Babcock reenlisted in Company B as a veteran in January 1864. He was promoted to Sergeant 14 November

1864. It was during the Third Campaign at Petersburg that William Babcock performed the heroics for which he was awarded the medal of honor. During the action, while under fierce attack from the enemy, the Sixth Corps charged the battlement wildly. Reports included that the Rhode Islanders used Narragansett Indian battle yells. The Union troops broke the Confederate ranks after a brutal struggle. William Babcock is credited with being one of the first to reach the battlement with the company flag and force retreat of the enemy. A total of 9 soldiers were awarded the medal of honor for their actions during this chaotic battle. For his brave actions, Babcock was given the honor of bearing the national colors. William J. Babcock mustered out 13 July 1865 at Hall's Hill, Virginia.

Sergeant William J. Babcock's Medal of Honor reads:

"Planted the flag upon the parapet while the enemy still occupied the line; was the first of his regiment to enter the works."

### Sources:

Babcock, Stephen. *Babcock Genealogy*. (Eaton and Mains: New York, 1909).

"Ernest L. Babcock," *Newport DailyNews.com*, <http://www.newportdailynews.com>: accessed 2 July 2013.

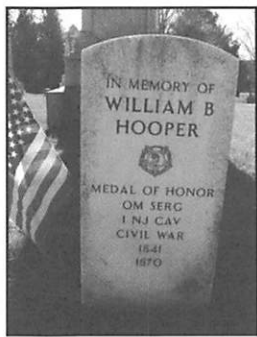
"William J. Babcock," Find-A-Grave, <http://www.findagrave.com>: accessed 28 September 2013.

American Civil War Soldiers. Ancestry.com: [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 28 September 2013. Compiled by Historical Data Systems.

U.S. Federal Census 1890, Veteran's Schedule, Rhode Island, South Kingston. Entry for William J. Babcock. Lines 43 and 44.

U.S. Federal Census, Gideon. Babcock, 1850-1870, *Ancestry.com*, <http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 28 September 2013.

U.S. Federal Census, William J. Babcock, 1850-1880, *Ancestry.com*, <http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 28 September 2013.



### Quartermaster Sergeant William B. Hooper Company M, 1<sup>st</sup> New Jersey Cavalry

William B. Hooper was born 14 August 1840 to John C. and Mary Ann (Reed) Hooper in Willimantic, Connecticut. His siblings were George Sherman (1837-?) and

Helen (1844-1915). Helen married John Randall Root (d.1912). William's father, John and uncle, George, built houses in Willimantic on Hooper's Lane, now known as Wilson Street, near the Windham Manufacturing Company cotton mills. George became a well-known and respected citizen of Willimantic. He developed a method for applying a protective gloss on cotton thread. The father of John and George, Linus Hooper, had moved to Connecticut from his native Massachusetts where the Hooper family had lived for generations. The Hooper line can be traced to James Hooper who emigrated on the *James* in 1635.

William B. Hooper married Margaret Lindsay Long on 9 December 1864. They had no children. William, like his brother George, was a mariner. As early as 1868, George was found in Caldera, Chile. William followed and died an untimely death at age 29 on 16 January 1870. His death was reported in the *Norwich Aurora* newspaper. He is buried in Old Willimantic Cemetery in Willimantic, Connecticut where his parents and sister are buried.

William B. Hooper enlisted in Company M, New Jersey 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry on 24 February 1864. At Chamberlain's Creek Virginia on 31 March, 1865, Hooper, along with Sergeant John Wilson, was able to divert the advance of the enemy troops. Also, at great risk to himself, positioned himself between enemy troops and the horses of his command. This prevented the capture of those horses by the enemy. Engagements that the 1<sup>st</sup> New Jersey participated in while Hooper was active were Trevilian Station, Deep Bottom, Ream's Station, Bellefield Station, Dinwiddie Court House, Hatcher's Run, Five Forks, Amelia Springs, Jetersville, Sailors' Creek, Farmville and Appomattox Court House. The 1<sup>st</sup> New Jersey was present at Lee's surrender. Hooper was promoted to Quartermaster Sergeant on 1 May 1865. He mustered out 24 July 1865.

Quartermaster Sergeant William B. Hooper's Medal of Honor awarded 3 July 1865 reads:

With the assistance of a comrade, headed off the advance of the enemy, shooting two of his color bearers; also posted himself between the enemy and the lead horses of his own command, thus saving the herd from capture.

### Sources:

"1<sup>st</sup> New Jersey Cavalry," *Civil War Index* ([www.civilwarindex.com](http://www.civilwarindex.com): accessed 28 September 2013).

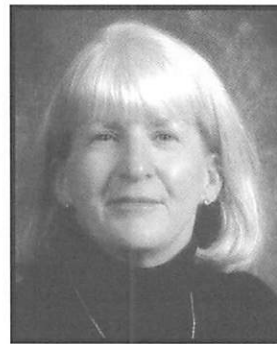
"Pensions and increases of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Civil War, etc.," United States Serial Set Volume 6332, S. Report 1168, Wednesday, January 29, 1913. Entry for Margaret L. Thompson; *GenealogyBank.com* ([www.genealogybank.com](http://www.genealogybank.com): accessed 28 September 2013).

U.S. Federal Census, John Hooper, 1850-1860, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 28 September 2013).

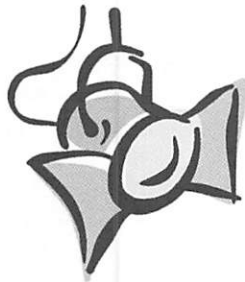
William B. Hooper," Find-A-Grave (<http://www.findagrave.com>: accessed 28 September 2013).

"William B. Hooper," American Civil War Soldiers. *Ancestry.com*: [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 28 September 2013. Compiled by Historical Data Systems.

### About the Author



Noreen is the Secretary on the Executive Board of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. and also serves on the Publication Committee. Over 15 years of searching Noreen's varied ethnic ancestry evolved into experience in research from pre-Revolutionary Pennsylvania to 19th century Little Italy in NYC. Other family research includes 19th century German railroaders and famine Irish quarrymen in NY. Her research has led to expertise in identifying, locating, and establishing contact with 20<sup>th</sup> century descendants of ancestors, a skill she has employed for clients. A 35-year career teaching grammar, research and writing on the secondary level has laid the foundation for Noreen's interest in helping others write their personal memoirs.



# Spotlight on Connecticut Towns & Cities

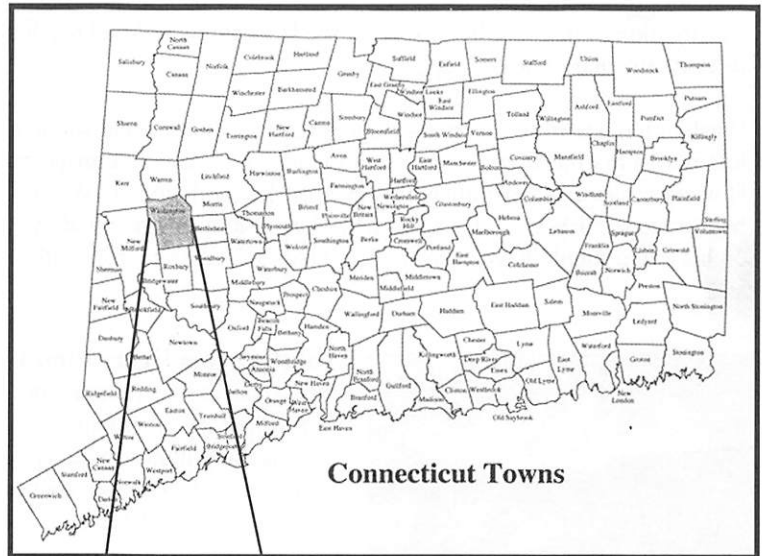


## Spotlight on Washington

by Richard G. Tomlinson, CSG # 55

### Town of Washington

Washington is a picturesque town in Litchfield County in western Connecticut. Lying in the southern foothills of the Berkshire Mountains, the landscape has rolling hills cut by steep river valleys. It has been called one of Connecticut's most scenic towns. Major rivers are the Shepaug, East Aspetuck and Bantam. Lake Waramug is the second largest natural lake in Connecticut. There are five village centers in Washington: Washington Depot, Washington Green, New Preston, Marble- dale and Woodville.



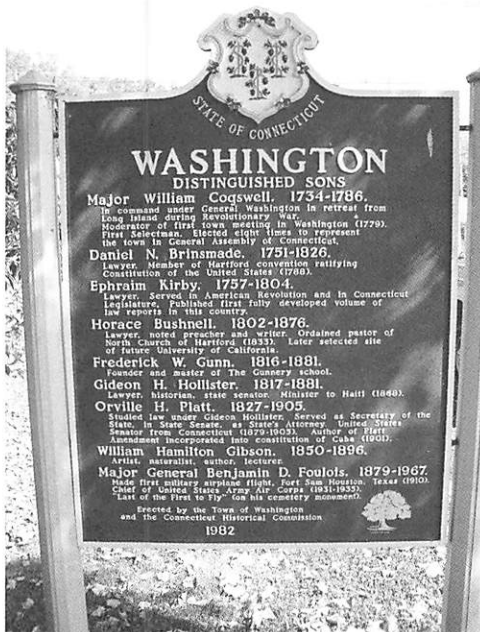
Due to its remote location, the area did not have a homesteader until Joseph Hurlbut arrived in 1734, nearly 100 years after the first colonial towns of Connecticut were established. Hurlbut's home was in the eastern part of what would become the town of Washington. When he settled the area, it was a part of the town of Woodbury and was known as the Parish of Judea. The western section, part of New Milford and Kent and known as the Ecclesiastical Society of New Preston, was established in 1753. In April 1778, the 270 inhabitants of the area of Hampden. But the Connecticut General Assembly the army, General George Washington, and incorporated

Washington

the first colonial towns of Connecticut were established. Hurlbut's home was in the eastern part of what would become the town of Washington. When he settled the area, it was a part of the town of Woodbury and was known as the Parish of Judea. The western section, part of New Milford and Kent and known as the Ecclesiastical Society of New Preston, was established in 1753. In April 1778, the 270 inhabitants of the area of Hampden. But the Connecticut General Assembly the army, General George Washington, and incorporated 1779. This was the first Connecticut town incorporated after the Declaration of Independence. It included land taken from the towns of Woodbury, Litchfield, Kent and New Milford. At the town's first organizational meeting, 11 February 1779, Major William Cogswell, the son of Edward, was elected first selectman. Major Cogswell also owned a famous tavern on the turnpike. In May 1781, General George Washington noted that he dined at Squire Cogswell's tavern.

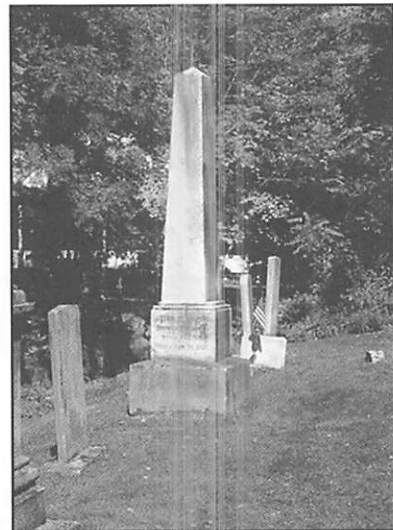
### From Farms to Mills and Quarries

The initial settlers came to farm, but the water power and mineral deposits present soon led to intense development of mills, mines and quarries. In 1746, Edward Cogswell secured the right to mine iron ore and soon established an ironworks on the East Aspetuck River in New Preston. Industry flourished, including quarries and mills based on water power. The East Aspetuck River is less than ten miles long, but drops precipitously from Lake Waramug to the Housatonic River and is ideally suited for driving water wheels. Mills sprang up along the East Aspetuck and Shepaug rivers supporting a diverse, water-powered industry of sawmills, gristmills, fulling mills and general manufacturing.

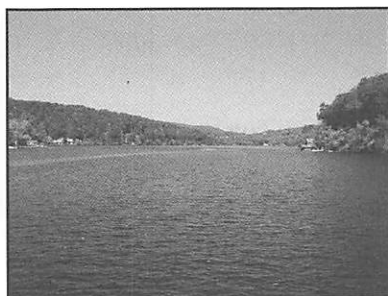


### The Marble Industry

There is a vein of marble that runs along the western borders of Connecticut, Massachusetts and Vermont. Quarries and stone saw mills were developed. Samuel Bassett of Derby, Connecticut, bought land in 1797 and began to quarry marble. He induced Dan Tomlinson of Derby to invest in Washington land. Dan sent his sons Abijah and Philo to establish a saw mill in the Marbledale section of Washington. Abijah became known as the “dean of marble.” The Tomlinson clan built nine stone saw mills on the East Aspetuck River and completely dominated the industry. Marble was shipped down the Housatonic River to Derby which was, in those days, a seaport. From there, it was sent to New York, Boston and other eastern cities for the construction of major buildings. After the Housatonic railroad reached New Milford in 1840, the marble was shipped by rail.



Washington’s marble was not of high quality or durable and so the quarry business lost out to marble from Vermont and even from Italy as transportation increased. However, sawing and polishing this marble continued in Washington until just before the Civil War. In his 1854 will, Abijah himself specified that the monument on his grave should have a pyramid and base of Italian marble with “The residue of New Preston marble...”



### Evolution to a Recreation Destination

The arrival of the railroad in 1840 improved the movement of industrial goods. With further development of national rail networks, Washington lost its competitive advantage and industrial activity declined and died. However in 1872, the Shepaug Railroad introduced passenger service to New York City, only 80 miles away, which produced a major impact.

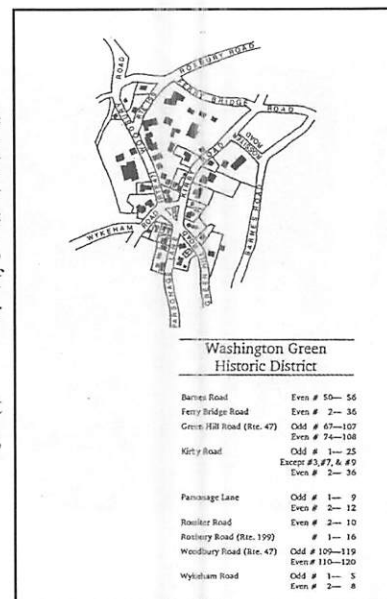
Lake Waramug became a popular vacation retreat for residents of New York City and inns, and summer cottages were built along the shore. When railroad service ended in 1948, the large inns closed or were converted to family residences.

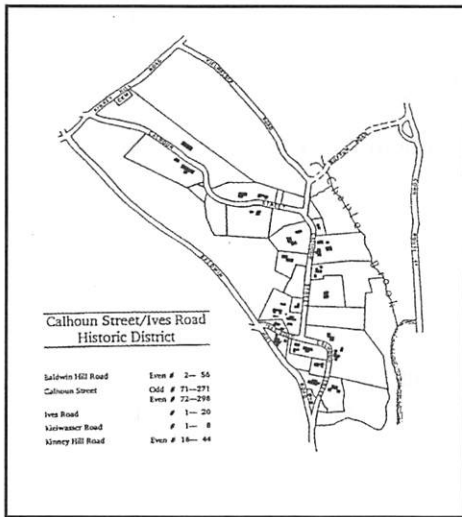
The region fell into decline until it was “rediscovered” in the last few decades. The modest lake cottages were torn down and replaced with more luxurious homes. Historic structures were renovated and high-end retail stores and antique shops flourished. Washington was once again a favorite destination for those wanting to escape the city for a taste of living in a bucolic setting. Numerous celebrities established second homes and retreats in Washington.

### Historic Districts

Due to the steep, rocky terrain, new building sites are difficult to find, limiting the construction of new homes. There is a high degree of interest in historic preservation and new construction mostly follows the existing architecture. These factors have produced a high degree of aesthetic cohesion. Washington has many well-preserved historic homes. There are three municipal historic districts and the New Preston Hill District, which lies three-quarters of a mile east of the village center and includes portions of New Preston Hill Road and Findlay Hill Road, has been designated a National Register Historic District.

**The Washington Green Historic District** includes the area around the First Congregational Church. It includes several buildings by the famous local architect, Ehrick Rossiter (1854-1941).





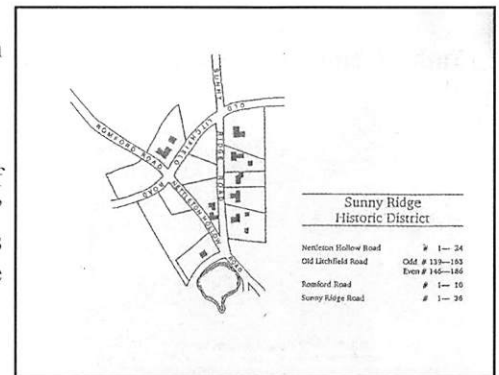
The **Calhoun-Ives Historic District** is Connecticut's only agricultural historic district and includes 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century farm houses along with their fields and out buildings.



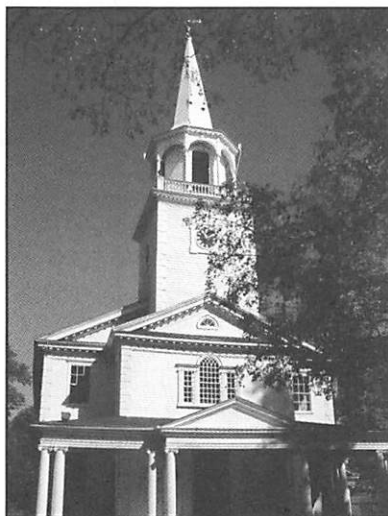
**Calhoun House 1989**

The **Sunny Ridge Historic District** includes several 18<sup>th</sup> century Georgian style homes.

Both the Connecticut Department of Transportation and the Town of Washington have given several roads the designation of "scenic road" discouraging changes that would detract from their scenic qualities. There is a substantial amount of permanently protected open space in the form of state parks, land trusts and land under conservation easement.



## Churches



The first settlers raised a small church building in 1742 and replaced it with a larger one in 1751. In 1800 this structure was burned down by a crazed parishioner and the current First Congregational Church was built. When the New Preston Society formed in 1754, a second Congregational Church was built. Its wooden structures were succeeded by a stone building in 1825. By 1854 there were three Congregational churches and two Episcopal churches in Washington.

Today, the town is served by: the Greater Coalition for Jewish Life, the First Congregational Church on Washington Green, St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Marbledale; and by St. John's Episcopal Church, Salem Covenant Evangelical Church and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Washington Depot. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church (built in 1822) is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Since the First Congregational Church dates back to the founding of the town, it receives many inquiries from genealogists. The old church records have been transferred to the Connecticut State Library in Hartford. The only records kept in the Washington church date to the 1960s. Some historical information is available at the Gunn Memorial Museum and Library.

### Cemeteries

**New Preston Village Cemetery** at Christian Street and Baldwin Hill Road contains 731 burials.

**Baldwin Hill** (also known as the **Averill Cemetery**) at Kinney Hill and Baldwin Hill Road has 93 burials.



**Washington Green Cemetery** is on Parsonage Lane and is near the Gunn Memorial Museum and Library which conducts tours of the cemetery in October. The cemetery contains 260 burials.

**Judea Cemetery** on Judea Cemetery Road has 425 interments.



**Old Judea Burying Ground** has only one grave.



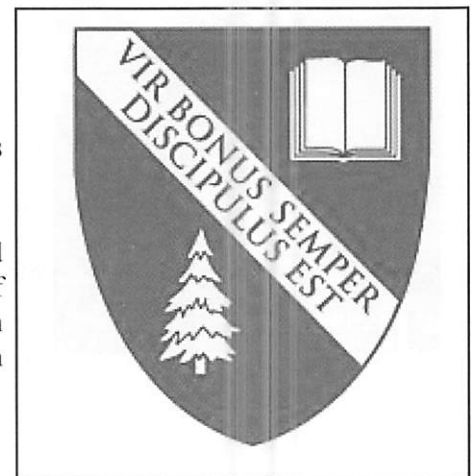
**Davis Hollow** near the original site of St. John's Church at Sabbaday Road near Romford Road has 22 graves.

Burials in these cemeteries can be found in the Hale Collection at the CT State Library and at [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com). There is a publication in the Gunn Memorial Library and Museum entitled, "Inscriptions on the Stones Still Standing in Existing Cemeteries."

### Educational Institutions

It has been said that the principal business of Washington today is education.

The Gunnery is a co-educational boarding and day prep school founded in 1850 by Frederick W. Gunn, teacher, abolitionist and father of recreational camping in America. Today the school has 285 students in grades nine through twelve. In 1894 the Ridge School was founded as an affiliated junior school for younger boys.

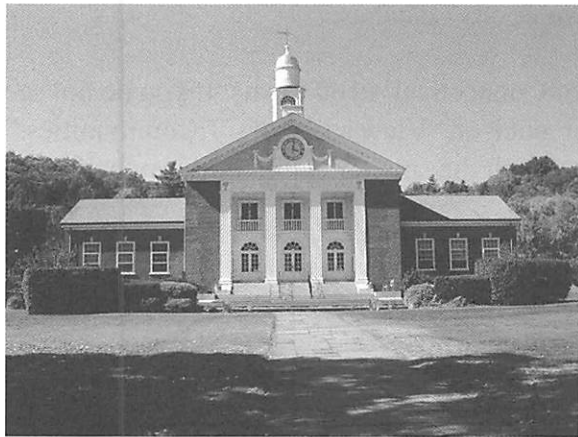




Rumsey Hall School is a co-educational, junior boarding school for kindergarten thru ninth grade. The current enrollment is 333 day and boarding students. The school traces its origins to a prep school founded in Seneca Falls, New York. The school moved to Cornwall, Connecticut, and then, in 1948, occupied the vacant facilities of the Romford School for Boys in Washington.

Devereux-Glenholme School is a coeducational therapeutic boarding school for children nine through eighteen. It provides a highly structured environment for youth challenged by Asperger Syndrome, ADHD, and emotional and learning disabilities.

Other schools include: Washington Montessori School, Shepaug Valley High and Middle School, Washington Primary School and Reach Preschool.



### Vital Records

Town vital records begin in 1779. Barbour collection records cover 1779-1854. Earlier vital records are found in the parent towns. Washington vital records are also found in volume III of the *History of Ancient Woodbury, Connecticut*, William Cothren, Case, Tiffany and Co., Hartford, Conn. This book, originally published in 1850 and revised in 1879, contains the only published history of Washington. (pages 259-272).

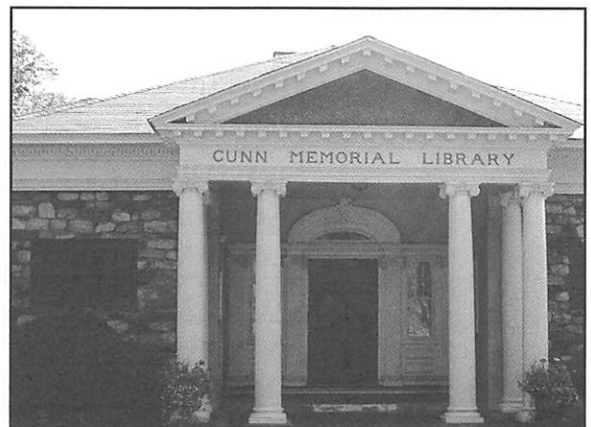
### Newspapers

Washington does not currently have a published newspaper, but the local news is sometimes covered in regional and state

newspapers. Current Washington news is covered online by online newspapers: Topix ([www.topix.com/city/washington-ct](http://www.topix.com/city/washington-ct)) and Voices ([www.voicesnews.com](http://www.voicesnews.com)).

### The Gunn Memorial Library and Museum

The Gunn Memorial Library, Inc. is a non-profit corporation providing free public library services to Washington, Connecticut, and the surrounding communities. It is dedicated to the promotion of literacy, education, and preservation of the Town's history and culture via the Gunn Historical Museum. The Washington Library Association was formed in 1852 and evolved into a reading room. In 1908, the Gunn Memorial Library building was completed and in 1965 museum collections were moved next door to a house that was bequeathed to the library.



The Gunn Museum at 5 Wykeham Road also functions as the town of Washington's historical society. Under curator Stephen Bartkus it is very active in doing original research and in creating dynamic exhibits. The current exhibit is "Coming to America: Washington's Swedish Immigrants." It presents the little-known story of the influx of Swedish immigrants that began in 1870. By 1910 Swedes made up 22% of Washington's population. Bartkus recently created the Friends of the Gunn Museum and its semi-annual publication, *The Wash Conn Chronicles*, (see [www.gunnlibrary.org](http://www.gunnlibrary.org)).

## Where in Connecticut Am I?

The hometown of your ancestor or relative may be difficult to locate. Many villages and community centers in Connecticut are hidden within the 169 officially named towns.

Can you match the village in the first column with the correct town in the second column?

If you have trouble making the connection, you can find the answers by going to the CSG website at [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org). Click on the "Towns and Cities" icon on the home page. You will be taken to a welcome page that explains what is contained in the "town & city" database.

Clicking on "To select a town or city" takes you to a list of Connecticut's 169 towns. If you do not see the name you are looking for and if you are a CSG member, click on "View a List of CT Communities." There you will be able to identify the town and county in which the smaller community can be found.

VILLAGE	TOWN
Addison	Stonington
Ballouville	Branford
Cranbury	East Haven
Draveville	Enfield
Ellithorpe	Glastonbury
Foxon	Griswold
Glasgo	Haddam
Hazardville	Killingly
Indian Neck	Lisbon
Joyceville	Mansfield
Kenyonville	Monroe
Lower Merryall	New Milford
Merrow	North Branford
Newent	Norwalk
Oneco	Norwich
Pomperaug	Oxford
Quaddick	Salisbury
Romford	Sprague
Shailerville	Stafford
Totoket	Sterling
Upper Stepney	Thompson
Versailles	Torrington
Wequetequock	Washington
Yantic	Woodbury
Zoar Bridge	Woodstock

## Queries

CSG members may submit up to three queries per issue of *Connecticut Genealogy News*. More may be submitted if space permits. Contact the CSG Office at 860-569-0002 or email at [csginc@csginc.org](mailto:csginc@csginc.org) for more details.

Catherine E. **BONNEY** b Washington, Conn.; m George **BRAGUE**. Want birth, marriage and death dates and places of the parents of Catherine Bonney.

Benjamin **BONNEY** b 1782; d 12 NOV 1825 at Eaton, N.Y.; m Betsey **PIERCE** Was he the same Benjamin Bonney b 20 FEB 1782 at Cornwall, Conn. and d 29 JAN 1868 at Georgetown, N.Y. age 86 years?

Want all info on George E. **BONNEY** who wrote the hymn "Love Divine" in 1922. The first line is "It was love that took a savior."

Benjamin **BONNEY** m Mary **STONE** 23 OCT 1794; res Williamstown, MA. Want dates and places of birth, marriage and death and burial of Benjamin and Mary.

Want all info on descendants of Thomas **BONNEY** who came from Sandwich, England to Duxbury, MA in *The Hercules* in 1634.

Want parents of Sarah Elizabeth **BONNEY** b 24 JUL 1852; m at Halifax, MA on 20 NOV 1876 Ezra Thomas **COBB** b at Garver, MA, 18 NOV 1849. They had three children: Annie Laura Cobb, Mary Lizzie Cobb and Idella Nelson Cobb.

*Richard W. Bonney, CSG # 571*  
373 High Rock Street  
Needham, MA 02492

Davis or Cephas Davis **YOUNGS** b NT APR 1786; m(1) Hannah **CLARK**; m(2) Olivia **BEACH**. On 1813 tax rolls in Springfield, Essex Co., NJ. By 1820 in Junius, Seneca Co., NY. Died there 17 DEC 1868. Need children of Davis/Cephas Davis & Hannah; need children of Davis/Cephas Davis & Olivia; need Hannah's birth & death dates and all marriage info.

*Diana Loomis King, CSG # 06217*  
15950 Private Drive 4123  
Amazonia, MO 64421

Would like any info on the surnames:  
**PENDER – GORMAN – GRASSER**

Peter **PENDER** (b. Abt. 1833, Ireland, d. 28 Aug 1885, New Haven, CT) married Mary **CONNELLY** (b. Abt. 1821, Ireland, d. 7 Dec 1875, New Haven, CT) on 28 Aug 1850 in Waterbury, New Haven Co., CT. Would like to know any info on them, specifically, on how he died. His death certificate lists Paralysis. I would like to prove/ disprove that this paralysis was due to a horse accident.

John **GORMAN** (b. 1832, Ireland) married Honora **MURPHEY** (b. 1832, Ireland) on 20 October 1850 in Portland, Middlesex Co., CT. John's father was also a John and came to America with his son bef. 1850. Would like info on John's (b.1832) mother.

Johann George **GRASSER** (b. 4 Oct 1830, d. 7 July 1896) married Bridgett **FLYNN** (b. Abt. 1828, d. 11 Aug 1861) on Oct 14 1855 in Glastonbury, Hartford Co., CT. **FLYNN** may be Bridgett's married name. Would like any info on Bridgett, or her parents.

*Justin Piccirillo, CSG #16445*  
208 Debbie Drive  
Meriden, CT 06451  
[Dali49@aol.com](mailto:Dali49@aol.com)

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# Book Reviews

by Justin D. Piccirillo, CSG #16445

and Russell A. DeGraffi, CSG # 19174

*Historic Treasures of New Haven: Celebrating 375 Years of the Elm City* by Laura A. Macaluso. Published by The History Press, 645 Meeting St., Suite 200, Charleston, SC 29403, 2013. 6 x 9, paperback, ISBN 978-1-60949-771-2, 160 pages. Order online from The History Press at [Historypress.net](http://Historypress.net). Cost is \$21.99.

Author Laura A. Macaluso's research captivated me from the moment I opened to the first few pages. The research goes well above and beyond here, as do the breath-taking photos by Jessica Zielonka, and both combine to make 'Historic Treasures of New Haven' a worthy addition to anyone's local history book collection.

'Historic Treasures of New Haven' is a 160 page Elm City historic adventure chock full of names, dates, and stories about the area. Though Macaluso's original plan was to highlight the last 375 years of New Haven's rich history by showcasing various artifacts, this book's slant quickly was realigned to use these objects to commemorate the city's past celebrations. It is wonderful to see a book with such a pinpoint focus. Kudos to Macaluso for reassembling her thoughts to assimilate such a welcome treat for New Haven enthusiasts. (There is even a 1938 'How much do you know about New Haven?' quiz in the back of the book as well.)

This work does have a well-equipped table of contents, a commendable appendix and an abundant reference section; however the lack of an index is disappointing. With such an amazing subject as commemorating 375 years, an index would have been extremely helpful.

There is no mistaking that 'Historic Treasures of New Haven' is a research goldmine. It has everything a researcher, historian or anyone interested in New Haven knowledge can ask for (without the index). This book is for the scholars or researchers, but for casual reading. **JDP**

*Dictionary of Americanized French-Canadian Names, Onomastics and Genealogy* by Marc Picard. Published for Clearfield Company by Genealogical Publishing Company, 3600 Clipper Mill Road, Suite 260, Baltimore, Maryland 21211, 2013. 6 x 9, softcover, ISBN 978-0-8063-5645-7, 169 pages. For current price or to order, contact the publisher at the above address or go to [www.Genealogical.com](http://www.Genealogical.com).

For any scholar of French-American heritage this conveniently organized book would be an essential reference for specific genealogical collections. This reviewer has found this particular book a compact gem and an asset in my own personal family research.

This document is divided into two specific categories: those names that are French in origin (those that were brought to North America from France) and those names that are not French in origin (those that emanate from what is now a French territory). A massive introduction acts as a well-defined road map for the researcher. It is divided into six sections: 1. The origin and development of French-Canadian surnames; 2. French names with no modifications; 3. French names with modifications; 4. Foreign names with modifications (to include English, German, Basque and Breton and other foreign names); 5. The alteration of French-Canadian surnames in English Canada and the U.S.; 6. Summary.

There is a page for signs and abbreviations following this section. The author has chosen to place his complete and valuable references page at the beginning of the book. The references are divided into two categories: I. Onomastics and Toponymy; and II. Genealogy and Demography. The names are listed alphabetically with their origins and derivations in a well-researched and scholarly fashion.

This book is a must have for those researching Americanized French-Canadian names. **RAD**

***Connecticut Miscellany: ESPN, The Age of Reptiles, Cowparade & More* by Wilson H. Faude. Published by The History Press, 645 Meeting St., Suite 200, Charleston, SC 29403, 2013. 6 x 9, Paperback, ISBN 978-1-60949-890.0, 144 pages. Order online from The History Press at [Historypress.net](http://Historypress.net). Cost is \$16.99.**

Titles can say a great deal when pondering a good read, and this title, *Connecticut Miscellany: ESPN, The Age of Reptiles, Cowparade & More* does not disappoint. Just as it forewarns, you are getting a collection of various, even random, Connecticut stories that span to all depths of the state's fascinating history, but, I might add, you are also subjected to some unconventional, somewhat offbeat stories, as well.

Author Wilson H. Faude admits in the book's preface that this book may be thought of as a "Connecticut Bucket List." My first impression after reading this statement was that it seemed a bit presumptuous of the author to make such a claim, but after reading a few chapters, I couldn't agree with him more. This book has all of the ingredients necessary for a fantastic journey throughout the Nutmeg State, either by the book's words or as a roadside companion.

'Connecticut Miscellany' is a smorgasbord of Connecticut stories filled with names, dates, places and facts, not to mention a few whodunits. Each chapter is filled with more Connecticut knowledge and nostalgia that you may care to know about. Did you know that the inventor of those fiberglass cows you may have seen sprinkled throughout urban America is from Connecticut? If Constitution Plaza were built to the ingenious specifications to which it was designed, would Hartford be a bustling metropolis today? Questions such as these are discussed and answered in this book.

My main reservation for this extraordinary book lies within its layout. With such a diverse collection of Connecticut

history, I wonder if this book would have worked a bit better if it weren't so varied from chapter to chapter. Could it have made sense to sort it chronologically or geographically? Probably, but I don't think the appeal of its contents would be as great. I liked that I could turn the page and not be quite sure where the author is planning to take me next. That was part of this book's beauty. You needn't worry about starting on page one and working through this book, page after page. Here is a book one could begin reading at the beginning, in the middle, or from the last chapter forward, and still learn something.

For those who favor a bit more order and categorization in their reading, I have some news for you. This book's table of contents offers only a few short words for each chapter, thus making it a tough call whether to turn to the page or to keep searching for a different one. Some are right on the money, *ESPN: How It Came to Be*, but others such as, *You Have a Two-Headed What?* and *Edible Ornaments*, make you think twice about what you are about to read. There is no index.

It was hard to determine a target audience for this book. Just as I became settled that it should be geared to folks interested in local antiquity, I was reawakened to think that – No, this book could also make a great addition to a high school classroom, supplementing its local history curriculum. Anyway you look at it, this book is an all-ages treat, full of purpose for anyone interested in Connecticut.

I wonder if Wilson H. Faude will give us a second helping of "Connecticut Miscellany" in the form of a sequel any time soon. I am sure he could dig up some more fun, obscure Connecticut trivia, and if he does, I'd like to be the first in line for it. I think he has something really great here to share with the world, or least, with us, his fellow Nutmeggers.

**JDP**



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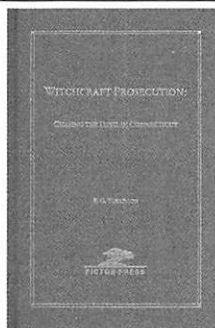
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We are also pleased to receive:

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- \* letters to the editor
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### Witchcraft Prosecution: Chasing the Devil in Connecticut

*by Richard G. Tomlinson*

This definitive history of witchcraft prosecution in Connecticut in the 17th and 18th century covers every known case of formal accusation or suspicion of witchcraft. This includes over forty cases. An "every name" index includes nearly 1,000 entries. There are thirteen illustrations and 406 footnotes. The appendices contain a table of the accused, annotated descriptions of the original court documents in the Wylls Papers collection and historical profiles of key persons. Hardcover, 6 x 9, 224 pp., illustrated, Picton Press.

\$33 plus \$5 S&H (CT residents please add 6.35% sales tax). Please make check payable and mail to: CSG, Inc., P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033.

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Patricia Jane Waite loved researching her family. She was a member of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists because she believed in its mission to encourage and promote genealogical research and publication, to maintain and elevate genealogical standards, and to provide instructional and educational programs and publications.

Like other members, Patricia probably also enjoyed the camaraderie of other genealogists and the enjoyment of sharing a discovery or making a connection. When she passed away in November of 2008, Patricia left a bequest to CSG so that its work could continue and flourish.

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- \* The CSG Annual Literary Awards that encourage and recognize excellence in the publication of genealogies and genealogical resource works
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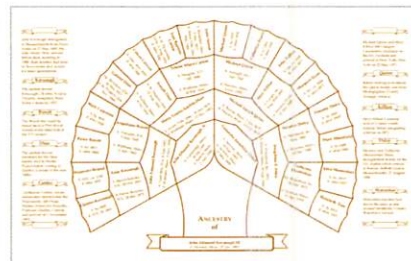
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