

Connecticut Genealogy News

For Those Who Pursue Their Family Heritage

Spring 2015 Vol. 8, No. 1



Measuring America:
The Decennial Censuses
From 1790 to 2000

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Connecticut Genealogy News

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President's Message



I hope that everyone had an enjoyable holiday season. As mentioned previously, we are continuing to digitize the most important pieces of the CSG collection to make available to members electronically. We are also looking at making the CSG website easier to access and navigate.

Please let us know what you like (and dislike) about the website- we need input from you, our members. Also, let us know what kind of information you would like to see made available. We are working to make the CSG website a valuable tool for our members.

Good luck with your research!

Carol R. Whitmer
President

CSG Members Are the Best!

You share your data with others. You build priceless legacies for future generations of your family. You communicate your passion for family history with others. You fight to preserve access to vital records. You promote high standards for genealogical publication. You provide incredible financial support to organizations like CSG. You are the best.

Richard G. Tomlinson
Founding Member

Editorial

This issue features our last article on the "Use of Census Records." Thank you to Nora Galvin of Connecticut Ancestry, Edwin W. Strickland II and Richard Tomlinson for the time and effort you have put in writing them. Richard Tomlinson says in his article on page 8, "Having located the relevant data about an ancestor in the census, the next step is to analyze what it tells us about them." A complete list of the articles we have published on "Use of Census Records" maybe found in his article.

Thanks also go out to Richard Roberts for his article on more resources available at the Connecticut State Library. Our thanks to Noreen Manzella for continuing the profiles on Connecticut's Civil War Medal of Honor heroes and Greg Thompson shines our spotlight on the Connecticut Town of Hamden this time.

We received a letter from a reader who was disappointed in our Spotlight on Wethersfield in the last issue of *Connecticut Genealogy News*. We do realize that so much more could be written on each town; however, our spotlights are just meant to be a brief overview of the history, some notable people and places and how the town can be a resource for genealogists. We do encourage all of our readers to research the towns more thoroughly on their own. Connecticut towns are so full of history and interesting facts and who knows who you might be related to!

Be sure to check out the CSG Calendar of Events and the Central News. CSG's own Carol Whitmer will be speaking at the 2015 NERGC conference in April and Marcia Melnyk will be speaking at the CSG 47th Annual Meeting this year which will be held at Trinity-On-Main in New Britain. Don't miss out. Register today!

Stephanie Hyland
Editor

About the Cover

The cover photo was taken from the publication, *Measuring America: The Decennial Censuses from 1790 to 2000*, published by the U.S. Census Bureau, April 2002 and is available online at: <http://www.census.gov/prod/2002pubs/pol02-ma.pdf>."



Special Schedules of the United States Federal Census

Part V: Social Statistics (1850-1870) and Defective, Delinquent and Dependent Classes (1880)

by Nora Galvin, CG, CSG # 18813

This article is a continuation of the discussion of special schedules, also called non-population schedules, available for Connecticut and elsewhere.

1850-1870

In 1850, 1860 and 1870 the census collected data on the social institutions in communities. In 1850 and 1860 the data was collected at the city or town level. In 1870 the data was reported for counties as a whole, not for individual towns. These schedules can provide a good, general overview of the communities of the period. They give information on educational opportunities, religion and taxes, to name a few categories.

The series of tables below show the statistics collected for the town of Fairfield in 1850. (*Italics* indicate text that was written in by the enumerator.) This particular enumerator, W. R. Bunnell, made several comments that were not strictly called for on the form. For example, he offers the observation that the real estate values were taken from the tax assessor's records, but that individuals reported the value of their own personal estates, and those values were believed to be inaccurate (i.e., under-valued for tax purposes). His comments leave us to wonder if he was afraid of being accused of being responsible for an inaccurate valuation. Comments that he wrote in are shown in *italics* below.

VALUATION OF ESTATE, REAL AND PERSONAL	
<i>The R.E. is ass'd at about 2/3 its value. but the pers. " value is uncertain—there is so much concealment & evasion practiced.</i>	
Real Estate	\$ 956,467—
Personal Estate	\$ 333,506—
Totals	\$1,288,975—
How valued	<i>from assessor's books</i>
True valuation	\$1,933,612—

" "is 50 pc added to Assessed.

ANNUAL TAXES

Name or kind of each	Amount of each	How Paid
State	839.37	Cash
Highways	1,112.42	"
Poor	1,148.58	"
Town Ex[ise?]	1,110.01	"

COLLEGES, ACADEMIES AND SCHOOLS							
No.	Character, rank or kind	No. of	No. of	Amount annually realized from	Raised by taxation.	Receiv'd from public funds	Receiv'd from other sources
13	Com schools[*]	14	560	--	--	1,673.40	560.00
2	Academies	2	68	--	--		1,370.00
2	Fem Prim Sel Sc[**]	2	60	--	--		396.00

[* Community schools?]

[**Female primary select schools?]

LIBRARIES		
No.	Kind	No. of volumes
	<i>none of</i>	
	<i>1,000 vols.</i>	
1	<i>Law</i>	500
1	<i>Theological</i>	350

There were no newspapers or periodicals published in Fairfield in 1850.

RELIGION			
No. of churches	Denomination	No. each will accommodate	Value of Church property.
4	<i>Congregational</i>	1750	36,500
2	<i>Methodist Epis</i>	750	6,500
1	<i>Episcopal</i>	450	4,500
1	<i>Baptist</i>	350	2,500

CRIME: Under the header "Whole number of Criminals convicted within the year," the following words are entered: "See *Bridgeport*." That much hasn't changed in the last 130 years! For the number in prison on 1st June: 3 native and 1 foreign.

The final category of social data was for wages. This section gives us an idea of how much our ancestors might have been bringing home if they were employed and paid by another.

WAGES					
Av. monthly wages to a farmhand with board	Average to a day-laborer with board	Average to a day-laborer without board	Average day wages to a carpenter without board	Weekly wages to a female domestic with board	Price of board to laboring-men per week.
\$11.	\$.75	\$1.	\$1.50	\$1.25	\$2.50

1880

The social statistics gathered in 1880 reveal a preoccupation with the imperfect specimens of the human family. The questions and criteria are somewhat horrifying to the modern eye. The schedule which was used to record these data was called "Schedule 1 to 7 for Defective, Deficient and Dependent Classes." It is vastly different from the earlier Social Statistics schedules in its scope and focus, and it actually names the people who fall into a number of categories which separate the "defective, deficient and dependent" from the rest of the population. The major categories (with sample questions in parentheses) were: Idiots (Size of head. (Large, small or natural).); Deaf-Mutes (self-supporting?); Blind (type and cause of blindness); Homeless Children (see Table F below); Insane (see Table G below); Inhabitants in Prison; Pauper and Indigent Inhabitants in Institutions, Poor-Houses or Asylums or boarded at public expense in private houses (date of admission). The pages for most categories ask if the person also fits into other categories. For example, the page for "Idiots" also asks if the person is insane, blind, deaf, epileptic or paralyzed. People enumerated on these pages are

listed by name, with the page and line number of their appearance on the population schedule, so we can assign them to specific households on the census.

These are the instructions given to the enumerator on how to classify “idiots” (transcribed as written with bolding and italics). It seems inconceivable today that a census employee would be asked to make such assignments and distinctions.

The object of this supplemental schedule is to furnish material not only for a complete enumeration of the idiots, but for an account of their condition. It is important that every inquiry respecting each case be answered as fully as possible. Enumerators will therefore, *after making the proper entries upon the population schedule (No. 1)*, transfer the name (with Schedule page and number) of every idiot found, from Schedule No. 1 to this Special Schedule, and proceed to ask the *additional questions* indicated in the headings of the several columns.

The word “idiot” has a special meaning which it is essential for every enumerator to know. An idiot is a person the development of whose mental faculties was arrested *in infancy or childhood before coming to maturity*. It is sometimes difficult to distinguish between the stupidity which results from idiocy and that which is due to the loss or deterioration of mental power in consequence of insanity. The latter is not true idiocy, but dementia or imbecility. The enumeration desired for the Census is of *true idiots only*. Demented persons should be classed with the insane.

Enumerators may obtain valuable hints as to the number of idiots, and their residences, from physicians who practice medicine in their respective districts.

Table F. Homeless Children in Newtown, Connecticut in 1880.

Number of page.	Number of line.	Name	Residence when home.		Is this child's father deceased?	Is this child's mother deceased?	Has this child been abandoned by his (or her) parents?	Has this child's parents surrendered control over him (or her) to the institution?	Was this child born in the institution?	If not so born, state year when admitted.	Is the child illegitimate?	Is this child separated from his or her (living) mother?	Has he or she ever been arrested? If yes, for what alleged offense?	Has he or she ever been convicted or sentenced?	Has the origin of this child been respectable?	Has he (or she) been rescued from criminal surroundings?	Is this child blind?	[Illegible]	[Illegible]
			City	County (if in same State), or State (if in some other State).															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10	50	Platt, Frederick W.	Newtown	Fairfield	No	No	No	No			Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No			
11	1	" Daniel	"	"	No	No	No	No			Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No			
11	2	" Anna	"	"	No	No	No	No			Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No			
11	3	" George	"	"	No	No	No	No			Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No			
11	4	" Julia	"	"	No	No	No	No			Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No			

"The above are children of Orlando Platt a soldier in the late war that was unable to support his family on account of Heart Affection. Has been The whole family has been supported by Poor Master of town as reported by me. Since The Census was taken he has received pension and back pay, with which he bought a small farm and now with the aid of the older children they are supporting themselves and should now be stricken from the list of the homeless. [signed] Lawson B. Lake, Enumerator 115th 1st Dist Conn"

Table F. "Homeless Children" from Defective, Deficient and Dependent Schedule, 1880 U.S. Census, Newtown, Connecticut. Comments in italics were written by the enumerator and are transcribed just as seen on the original page.

One can learn a number of things about Orlando Platt from the entries on this page: he fought in the Civil War, some sort of physical problem resulting from his service lasted nearly 15 years, this physical problem caused him difficulty in making a living. The statement that he received a pension opens a door to further research at the National Archives.

Table G.

Number taken from Schedule No. 1.		Name	Residence when home.		If now an inmate of an institution, is this person a pay-patient?	Form of Disease (see note B.)	History of attack			Restraint and seclusion (See note D.)	
Number of page.	Number of line.		City	County (if in same State), or State (if in some other State).			Duration of present attack (not including previous attacks).	Total number of attacks (including the present one).	Age at which first attack occurred.	Does this person usually of often require to be kept in a cell or other apartment under lock and key, either by day or at night?	Does this person require to be usually or often restrained by any mechanical appliance, such as a strap, straight-jacket, &c? and if yes, state the character of the appliance used.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	31	Stark, Betsy	Fairfield	Fairfield	No	Melancholia		one	30	No	
25	24	Eddy Mary Jane	Fairfield	Fairfield	No	General form	15 years	one	20	No	
8	67	White Catherine	Fairfield	Fairfield		Mania	50 years	one	20	No	No
18	1	Daley Ellen	Fairfield	Fairfield	No	Mania	5 years	one	21	Yes	No
20	45	Daley David Harkins	Fairfield	Fairfield	No	Mania	3 years	1	37	Yes	
27	43	George D.	Fairfield	Fairfield	Yes	Mania	3 years	1	25	No	
35	31	Banks Mary D.	Fairfield	Fairfield			3 years	1	63	No	

Table continued on page 7.

Has this person ever been an inmate of any hospital or asylum for the insane? If yes, name the said hospital or asylum	What has been the total length of time spent by him (or her) living life in such asylum?	Date of Discharge (year only).	Is this person also an epileptic?	Is this person suicidal?	Is this person homicidal?
13	14	15	16	17	18
No	9 years				
Hartford, Connecticut	1 9/12	1866			
Middletown	1 year	1871			
Middletown, Con.	4 years				
Middletown	6/12				
Middletown	9 years				
No	66 years				

Table G. List of “Insane” persons from the Schedule for Defective, Deficient and Dependent Classes, 1880 U.S. Census, Newtown, Connecticut.

Availability of the Non-population Schedules:

The original manuscripts of these schedules, filled out by the assistant marshal for each town, are bound in books, one for each year and each schedule, in the Connecticut State Archives. (The pages for the 1870 Social Statistics Schedule, one for each county, are found at the back of the book containing the 1860 Social Statistics Schedules.) The books can be examined by patrons of the State Library who have a State Library card. Some of them (Mortality, Agriculture and Industry and Manufacture) have been microfilmed and the microfilms can be viewed at the State Library History and Genealogy room. If the microfilm is legible, researchers must use it instead of consulting the original book. In addition, microfilms of the Mortality schedule are held at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City and can be borrowed through local Family History Centers. There is an index to the 1870 Connecticut Mortality Schedule at ancestry.com and on microfilm at the FHL. In addition there is a database called “U.S. Federal Census Mortality Schedules, 1850-1880” at ancestry.com. It does not include the Connecticut returns. A search using the term “Connecticut” in the birthplace field, with no other fields filled in, brings up 4,758 individuals. These are people who were born in Connecticut, but died in another state and were included in the mortality schedule for their death location in any of the 4 census years. The Agriculture and the Industry and Manufacture Schedule microfilms do not appear in the FHL online catalog. The Social Statistics schedule has not been microfilmed.

Conclusions:

Genealogical research of people living in Connecticut in the 19th century can be aided and enhanced by using the non-population schedules of the U.S. Census. At the very least these schedules will provide information about the community in which a research subject lived. In many cases, however, the records contain specific information about individuals and may provide facts about lifestyle and work that will help researchers complete the picture of their ancestors.

REFERENCES

Hinkley, Kathleen W. *Your Guide to the Federal Census*. Cincinnati: Betterway Books, 2002.

Getting the Most from the U.S. Census

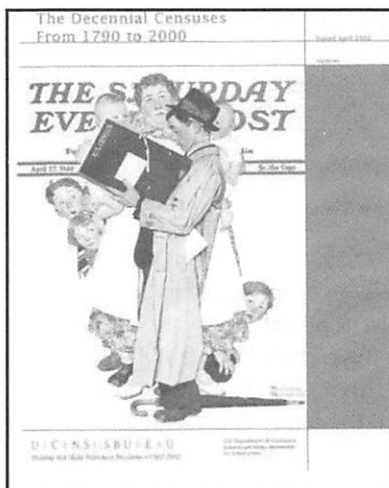
by Richard G. Tomlinson, CSG #55L

Measuring America: The Decennial Censuses from 1790 to 2000

One of the most powerful tools available to genealogists is the population census data gathered by the United States government. The data from the decennial censuses is available online in many databases. The expense of subscribing to commercial databases has limited access to this data; but there has been a growing trend for libraries to subscribe and to make free access available for their patrons. Therefore, anyone with an interest in genealogy or family history can now search through the census data in pursuit of their ancestors.

Having located the relevant data about an ancestor in the census, the next step is to analyze what it tells us about them. For this, it is useful to know what the government was trying to learn from each census and what instructions were given to the census takers. These instructions changed for almost every census. A valuable publication which aids in obtaining this information is *Measuring America: The Decennial Censuses from 1790 to 2000*. It was published by the U.S. Census Bureau in April 2002 and is available online at: <http://www.census.gov/prod/2002pubs/pol02-ma.pdf>.

By reading the “Instructions to Marshals and Assistants” or “Instructions to Enumerators”, we can begin to more intelligently interpret what the census says and what it fails to say about our ancestor. Here are some examples:



1820 - Occupation

The discrimination between persons engaged in agriculture, commerce, and manufactures, will not be without its difficulties. No inconsiderable portion of the population will probably be found, the individuals of which being asked to which of those classes they belong, will answer, to all three. Yet, it is obviously not the intention of the legislature that any one individual should be included in more than one of them ...

1850 Slave/Master Enumeration

The slaves of each owner are to be numbered separately, beginning at No 1, and a separate description of each is to be given. The person in whose family, or on whose plantation, the slave is found to be employed, is to be considered the owner—the principal object being to get the number of slaves, and not that of masters or owners.

1870 Indians

“Indians not taxed” are not to be enumerated on schedule 1. Indians out of their tribal relations, and exercising the rights of citizens under state or Territorial laws, will be included. In all cases, write “Ind.” in the column for Color. Although no provision is made for the enumeration of “Indians not taxed,” it is highly desirable, for statistical purposes, that the number of such persons not living upon reservations should be known.

1880 Enumerator Supplied Answers

... only where information required by law is refused that the penalties for noncompliance need be adverted to. The enumerator will then quietly, but firmly, point out the consequences of persistency in refusal. It will be instructive to note that at the census of 1870 the agents of the census in only two or three instances throughout the whole United States found it necessary to resort to the courts for the enforcement of the obligation to give information as required by the census act. It is further to be noted that the enumerator is not required to accept answers which he knows, or has reason to believe, are false. He has a right to a true statement on every matter respecting which he is bound to inquire; and he is not concluded by a false statement. Should any person persist in making statements which are obviously erroneous, the enumerator should enter upon the schedule the facts as nearly as he can ascertain them by his own observation or by inquiry of credible persons.

1910 – Place of Birth

Do not rely upon the language spoken to determine birthplace. This is especially true of Germans, for over one-third of the Austrians and nearly three-fourths of the Swiss, speak German. In the case of persons speaking German, therefore, inquire carefully whether the birthplace was Germany, Switzerland, Austria, or elsewhere.

1910 – Unemployed

What is meant by “out of work”? The purpose of inquiries is to ascertain the amount of enforced unemployment—the extent to which persons want work and cannot find it. Do not, therefore, include with those “out of work” those who are on a strike, those who are voluntarily idle, those who are incapacitated for any work, or those who are on sick leave or on a vacation. School-teachers, artists, and music teachers are often unemployed during a portion of the year, but should not be considered as “out of work,” in the sense in which the term is used for the purposes of the census.

“Using the Census” Articles in Connecticut Genealogy News

Because census records are so important for family history and genealogy, CSG has published a series of articles on each of the decennial population surveys and on some of the non-population surveys. These are available in past issues of *Connecticut Genealogy News* found at the CSG website at www.csginc.org.

<u>Census</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Magazine Issue</u>
1790	Edwin W. Strickland III	Spring 2014, v.7, No. 1, p.3.
1800	Nora Galvin	Winter 2013, v. 6, n.4, p. 3-4.
1810	Nora Galvin	Winter 2013, v. 6, n.4, p. 3-4.
1820	Edwin W. Strickland III	Fall 2013, v.6, n.3, p.3-4.
1830	Nora Galvin	Summer 2013, v. 6, n.2, p. 3-4.
1840	Edwin W. Strickland III	Spring 2013, v.6, n. 1, p.3-4.
1850	Nora Galvin	Winter 2012, v. 5, n.4, p. 3-5.
1860	Edwin W. Strickland III	Fall 2012, v.5, n. 3, p.3-6.
1870	Nora Galvin	Summer 2012, v. 5, n.2, p. 3-5.
1880	Edwin W. Strickland III	Spring 2012, v.5, n.1, p.9-10.
1890	Richard G. Tomlinson	Spring 2012, v.5, n.1, p.8.
1900	Nora Galvin	Winter 2011, v. 4, n.4, p. 3-5.
1910	Edwin W. Strickland III	Fall 2011, v.4, n.3, p.3-5.
1920	Nora Galvin	Summer 2011, v. 4, n.2, p. 3-5.
1930	Edwin W. Strickland III	Spring 2011, v.4, n.1, p.3-5
1940	Jean Nudd	Spring 2012, v.5, n.1, p.17-18.

The population censuses are not the only ones taken by the U.S. government. *Connecticut Genealogy News* has also published articles on using some of the lesser known, non-population censuses. From 1850 to 1880 there were four “Special Schedules” for those censuses: Mortality, Manufacturer/Industry, Agriculture and Social Statistics. In addition there was a “Veterans’ Schedule” in 1890.

<u>Census</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Magazine Issue</u>
Slave, Veterans, Seaman	Nora Galvin	Summer 2014, v.7, No. 2, p.3-6.
Mortality	Nora Galvin	Fall 2014, v.7, No. 3, p.3-5.
Manufacturing/Industry	Nora Galvin	Winter 2014, v.7, No. 4, p.3-4.

Resources at the Connecticut State Library: The "Connecticut Archives"

by Richard C. Roberts, CSG # 8680

Most genealogists researching their Connecticut ancestors are familiar with the vital records, land records, probate records, etc. created in local jurisdictions and with the centralized compilations of those records such as the Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records; the Church Records Index, and the Probate Estate Papers Index housed at the Connecticut State Library. However, the State Library also holds a wealth of information created by the government of the colony and state. These state records include virtually every type of primary source material useful to genealogical and historical research -- vital records, probate records, divorce records, bankruptcy records, militia records and muster rolls, relating to everyday people whose everyday lives resulted in the creation of a public record.

For those with early Connecticut ancestors, a good place to find this important primary documentation is in the records of Connecticut's government prior to the adoption of the Constitution of 1818. Those records are part of State Archives Record Group 001 and include record books -- now known as the "Early General Records" -- and papers and correspondence, now known as the "Connecticut Archives". The Spring 2014 issue of *Connecticut Genealogy News* covered the "Early General Records," the record books into which the proceedings of the General Court/General Assembly, Particular Court, Governor and Council, etc. were entered. This article picks up from that one and discusses the papers and correspondence of the colony and early state government known as the "Connecticut Archives".

PRESERVATION AND ARRANGEMENT



As early as 1741, the General Assembly was concerned with the preservation of its earliest records and directed the Secretary of the Colony "to sort, date and file in proper order, all the ancient papers that now lye in disorder and unfilled in his office." Again, in May 1771, the General

Assembly directed Gov. Jonathan Trumbull to "collect all the publick letters and papers which hereafter in any way affect the interest of this Colony and have

the same bound together, that they may be preserved." However, it was not until 1841 that Sylvester Judd (1789-1860) of Massachusetts, perhaps best known to genealogists as the author of *The History of Hadley, Massachusetts* and *Thomas Judd and His Descendants*, was hired to organize and index the early papers and correspondence of the General Assembly, the Governor and Council, and other colony or state officials colonial and state papers to the year 1820. Judd arranged the documents -- now known as the Connecticut Archives First Series -- into 27 broad subject areas; within them, most documents are arranged chronologically. They generally cover the 17th and 18th Centuries, ending about 1790. The "First Series" remained in the custody of the Secretary of the State until the first State Librarian was appointed in 1854. It was moved to the present State Library/Supreme Court Building after its completion in 1910.

In 1907 documents not processed by Judd when he arranged the 122 volumes of the First Series in 1845 were found while a storage room of the State Capitol attic was being cleaned out and were "rescued" by State Librarian George Goddard. These documents were arranged by Library staff into what has become known as the Connecticut Archives Second Series. The Second Series covers most of the same topics as the First Series but continues to about 1820. In 1915 documents from about 1719-1789 relating to military affairs were transferred from the office of the Secretary of the State to the State Library, resulting in the creation of a Third Series of Militia and Revolutionary War records.

Within each series, most of what were originally loose documents such as petitions and communications, drafts of bills, acts, and resolves, and other papers have been bound in large folio volumes, numbered, and indexed.

The series include (but are not limited to):

- Civil Officers, Series I, 1669-1756.*
- Civil Officers, Series II, 1673-1820.
- Colonial Wars, Series I, 1675-1775.*
- Colonial Wars, Series II, 1689-1806.*
- Ecclesiastical Affairs, Series I, 1658-1789.*
- Ecclesiastical Affairs, Series II, 1666-1820.
- Estates of Deceased Persons, 1640-1820.
- Estates of Incompetent Persons, 1711-1820.
- Estates of Minors, 1715-1820.
- Indians, Series I, 1647-1789.*
- Indians, Series II, 1666-1820.
- Insolvent Debtors, Series I, 1762-1787.
- Insolvent Debtors, Series II, 1750-1820.
- Lotteries & Divorces, Series I, 1755-1789.*
- Lotteries & Divorces, Series II, 1718-1820.*

- Militia, Series I, 1678-1757.*
- Militia, Series II, 1747-1786.*
- Militia, Series III, 1728-1820.*
- Revolutionary War, Series I, 1763-1789.*
- Revolutionary War, Series II, 1756-1856.*
- Revolutionary War, Series III, 1765-1820.*
- Susquehanna Settlers, Series I, 1755-1796.*
- Susquehanna Settlers, Series II, 1771-1797.
- Towns and Lands, Series I, 1629-1789.
- Towns and Lands, Series II, 1649-1820.
- War of 1812, 1812-1819.*

In all, there are 303 volumes, 66 boxes, and 55 index volumes. Although the original records are in the State Archives, microfilms are considered the "use" copy. For further information, call the History and Genealogy Unit, (860) 757-6581.

MICROFILMS



Series marked with an asterisk (*) in the listing above were filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah and can be used at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City or at your local Family History Center. Film numbers are shown in the "Film Notes" for each title in the LDS Family History Catalog, <https://familysearch.org/catalog-search>.

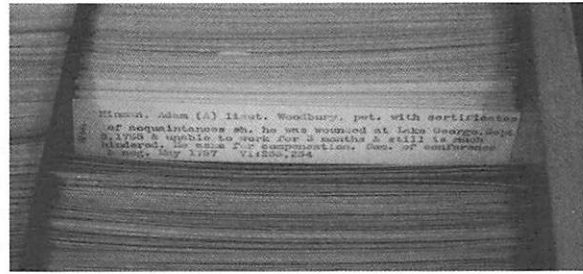
The easiest access is through an "Author" search on "Judd, Sylvester" and then selecting the appropriate "Connecticut Archives" series. The remaining series were filmed by other vendors and so are not available at the Family History Library or through Family History Centers.

All films are available for use at the State Library and are included in the Library's online catalog. Go to <http://www.ctstatelibrary.org/> and click on "catalog". The most effective search strategy is to do a "Keyword" (not title) search on "Connecticut Archives" plus the name of the subseries, for example, "Connecticut Archives Civil Officers." The films do not circulate directly to patrons and therefore are marked as "Library Use Only" in the catalog. However, you may request them through the Interlibrary Loan procedure at your local library and use them at that requesting library.

INDEXES

Bound indexes cover each broad topic, for example, Connecticut Archives: Indians, Series I. The index

entries include names, places, and subjects and include every individual's name that appears anywhere within any document and provide references to volume numbers,



document numbers, and page numbers. Links from the cataloging record give you the option to view, download, or print the index volumes. Note that depending on your computer and Internet service provider, it may take a very long time for the pdf to appear on your screen or to download. The documents themselves are not available online.

In addition, just as the State Library's genealogical indexes (Barbour Collection, Hale Collection, etc.) have bound index volumes and slip indexes, there are slip indexes that are accessible to those who hold a State Library "Archives Pass." See <http://libguides.ctstatelibrary.org/hg/using-archival-records>.

A SAMPLING OF WHAT THE "CONNECTICUT ARCHIVES" OFFERS

The examples that follow provide a sampling of the types of items and wealth of information about the whereabouts, activities, families, and associates of our early Connecticut ancestors that may be found within the "Connecticut Archives".

Civil Officers, Series I (1669-1756) and II (1673-1820)

These papers contain material pertaining to the election, appointment, or certification of governors, deputy governors, assistants, judges, etc. They are a valuable resource for determining the years individuals served in various positions such as county justice, judge of probate etc., or whether they are simply mentioned as being a freeman. For example:

Roger Wolcott was appointed chief judge of the Superior Court in 1741.

Connecticut Archives: Civil Officers Series I, vol. II, doc. 425.

But there are also a few surprises, for example:

Ann Winthrop acted as attorney for John Winthrop. Connecticut Archives: Civil Officers, Series I, vol. III, docs. 63k, L, m.

There is also information pertaining to less prominent people, such as:

Jacob Fuller's petition "concerning care of an idiot".
Connecticut Archives: Civil Officers, Series I, vol. III, doc. 63m.

Colonial Wars, Series I (1675-1775) and II (1666-1820)

These series consist of correspondence, financial accounts, and resolves, and are a prime resource for establishing whether your ancestor served in any of the Colonial Wars. For example, the:

Petition of Adam Hinman of Woodbury showing he was wounded at Lake George, Sept. 8, 1755; unable to work for three months; and still much hindered. He asked for compensation.

Connecticut Archives: Colonial Wars, Series I, vol. VI, docs. 253, 254.

Letter from Israel Chauncey of Stratford to the Governor and Council asking liberty to visit his family, having had news that his wife was very ill and a child dead.

Connecticut Archives: Colonial Wars, Series I, vol. I, doc. 51.

But there is also unexpected information to be found, for example:

A Woodbury petition showing that when French neutrals were assigned to the colony for care, Woodbury received an old man 76 years old and seven of his grandchildren, while the parents were taken to Maryland. The children were put out to families as town poor and made progress in English language and customs. The parents arrived from Maryland after many difficulties and the town gave them use of a house where they attempted to keep the children who, however, were returned to their masters by the authorities. The Town asked either to have the colony pay expenses of support or have one family moved to another town. In January, 1757 the General Assembly granted that one family be sent to Litchfield and one to New Milford.

Connecticut Archives: Colonial Wars, Series I, vol. VI, docs. 179, 180 .

The petition of Jacob "Gerware" showing he was at Litchfield and his children at Woodbury. He asked to be allowed to have his children live with him. He referred to Paul Laundre, his son, who would speak English for him. Oct. 1757

Connecticut Archives: Colonial Wars, Series I, vol. VI, doc. 273.

The petition of Joseph Burt, Mary Burt, and Ann Dowset showing they as French neutrals were ordered on board a vessel bound for Connecticut but were blown off the coast of Antigua, where the families of the petitioners all had smallpox. The wife of Joseph Burt and the husband of Ann Dowset died. The following spring the vessel with survivors sailed for New London, where the authorities burned the feather beds belonging to the petitioners, promising them compensation; they asked for the value of the same.

Connecticut Archives: Colonial Wars, Series I, vol. VII, doc. 308.

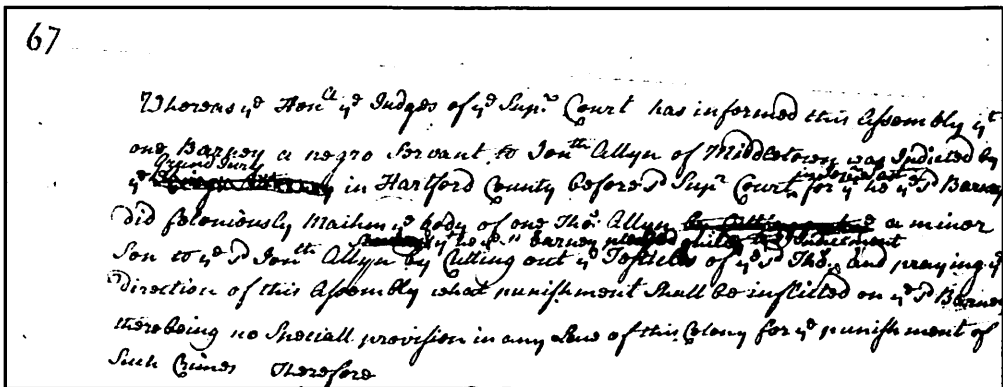
Crimes and Misdemeanors, Series I (1662-1789) and Series II (1671-1820)

These are court papers relating to counterfeiting, burglary, defamation, murder, and other criminal cases. There are some Superior Court and Court of Assistants files as well as papers relating to criminal cases that came before the General Assembly. Some examples:

Samuel Allyn was fined for contemptuous remarks against judges, 1714/15.

Connecticut Archives: Crimes and Misdemeanors, Series I, vol. II, docs. 93A, 94.

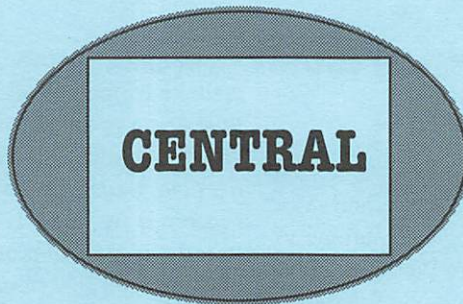
Barney, a "negro", was convicted of maiming a minor son of Jonathan Allyn.



Connecticut Archives: Crimes and Misdemeanors, Series I, vol. IV, doc. 67.

(continued on page 17)

CSG



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.

2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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. Members are reminded to watch this space and/or the CSG website for updated information.

21 March - "Paleography: Reading Old Handwriting"

Speaker: Edwin W. Strickland II

Formerly entitled "Techniques for Interpreting Old Handwriting" Rescheduled from February 2013 & February 2014 where we were forced to cancel due to inclement weather.

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

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

29 March - OPEN HOUSE EVENT

The CSG Library will be open from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. for general research. There will be a group sharing discussion with Ruth Shapleigh-Brown, Director of the Connecticut Gravestone Network, on their coming events and what individuals can do to help preserve existing gravestones.

15-19 April - Due to the NERGC conference. CSG will not hold a separate program in April.

JOIN US In Providence, RI for the 2015 NERGC Conference. Go to www.NERGC.org to register or for more details. Don't miss the CSG sponsored banquet on Saturday, 17 April with Lisa Louise Cooke and The Great Google Earth Game Show and be sure to stop by the Exhibitor Hall to say "hi." CSG will have a booth.

16 May - Join us for our 47th Annual Meeting. Marcia I. Melnyk will be speaking on 18th and 19th Century Immigration Research. **Place:** Trinity-On-Main, 69 Main St., New Britain, Ct. **Time:** Come at 9 a.m. to Ask the Experts on various subjects. Business meeting begins at 10 a.m. A Buffet Lunch is at Noon and the speaker begins at 1:30 p.m. **Cost is \$30 per person.** Please pre-register by Friday, 8 May. We can add after that date through Friday, 15 May but we may not subtract from the count. To pre-register by phone, call 860-569-0002. *MasterCard, Visa & Discover Accepted.*

Summer Saturdays - Introduction to Genealogy Classes

July 11th, July 18th, July 25th and August 1st

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

Time and Cost to be announced. See page 16 for flyer.

19 September - "City Directories: A Great Resource for Locating Information On That Ancestor That May Not Be Found Elsewhere"

Speaker: Carol R. Whitmer

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

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

SAVE THE DATE

17 October - Annual Family History Seminar "Journeying Into the World of Our Ancestors"

Speakers:

Edwin W. Strickland II on "Caring for Your Stuff (genealogically related stuff of course)."

Gail B. Richmond on "Researching in New York City."

Marilyn Labbe on "Life in a 19th Century Mill Town: the Culture, Religion, Social Aspects and How the New Influx of Immigrants Changed the Demographics of Those Areas They Settled."

Lynn Maffessoli: "How to Trace Your Immigrant Ancestors."

Place: Four Points Sheraton, 275 Research Pkwy., Meriden, CT.

Time: Registration begins at 8 a.m., first speaker begins at 9 a.m.

Cost: \$45 if registration is received by Sept. 30th. \$55 if received thereafter. Watch for more details coming up.

It is time to renew your membership in CSG for the 2015-2016 year

Once again, we are holding the line and not raising dues. This is increasingly difficult and requires hard decisions and strict cost controls. Prices for printing and supplies continue to increase. Postage increased again this year. We are grateful for your prompt renewals and for your generous donations.

Our goal is always 100% renewal. Please help us by renewing today.

4 Easy Ways to Renew Your Membership

1. Return the dues renewal invoice envelope that should have come in the mail by the end of February with your check made payable to "CSG, Inc."
2. Renew online at the CSG Website at www.csginc.org and click the "Pay Renewal Dues Online" link under the Join Us tab (you must be signed in to do this).

***NEW THIS YEAR - One household member may be renewed online. Choose the option that says "...+ 1 Household Member." If you have more than one, please contact the CSG Office to renew them.**

Note to members: If you have **no** household members to renew, please do NOT choose either of the options that say "...+ 1 Household Member."

3. Call the CSG Office at 860-569-0002 to use a MasterCard, Visa or Discover.
4. Come visit us! We'll renew your membership while you wait.

If you are running out of space for your *CSG Connecticut Nutmegger* and *Connecticut Genealogy News*, you can choose to view your *Nutmegger* and *News* online through the CSG website. You will not only help save the environment, you will help CSG reduce its printing and postage costs.

Basic if in U.S. (with online Nutmegger) - \$34.
Basic if in Canada (with online Nutmegger) - \$38.
Basic if from Overseas (with online Nutmegger) - \$43.
Sustaining if in U.S. (with printed Nutmegger) - \$40.
Sustaining if in Canada (with printed Nutmegger)- \$44.
Sustaining if from Overseas (with printed Nutmegger)-\$49.

Life Memberships are also available at 20 times the Basic fee.

Viewing the Connecticut Genealogy News on the CSG website is open to all membership options above. There is a place to mark on the Dues Renewal Envelope/Invoice to indicate if you would prefer to view the *Connecticut Genealogy News* on the CSG website and not receive it by mail. If you call in your renewal, be sure to tell our staff person your preference or if you use the online renewal system, please include it where it asks for special instructions.

***Household Membership** is available for adults (over 18 years of age) living at the same address as the primary member. The cost is \$5 per person. **"Household" members must complete their own application but this only needs to be done once.**

Household members receive the membership card only. All other member benefits must be shared with the primary member including access to the CSG website.

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

2015-2016 Membership Cards

New membership cards will be mailed the first week of April to ensure that you have it for May 1st.

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. There is no need to live locally, this can be done from the comfort of your own home (Microsoft Excel needed) 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.

The Connecticut Gravestone Network Annual Symposium is scheduled for April 11, 2015. For more information on this event, please contact CGN Executive Director, Ruth Shapleigh-Brown at (860) 643-5652, E-Mail: ctgravelady@cox.net or write to her at the following address:

Connecticut Gravestone Network
135 Wells Street
Manchester, CT 06040-6127

Harlow Family Reunion

For the descendants of Sargeant William Harlow of Plymouth, MA will take place August 28-30, 2015 in Plymouth, MA. For more information, see the family website at: <http://harlowfamily.com>.

**CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS
47th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
AND ANNUAL MEETING**

16 MAY 2015

**TRINITY-ON-MAIN
69 Main Street
New Britain, CT 06051**

- 9:00 a.m. **GENEALOGICAL QUESTIONS?**
Come early and speak with our genealogy experts.
- 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 2014 Annual Meeting by the Secretary, Treasurer's Annual Report, Election of Officers.
- 11:30 a.m. **TWENTY-EIGHTH 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 **BUFFET LUNCHEON**
- 1:30 p.m. **PROGRAM** with speaker Marcia I. Melnyk
"18th & 19th Century Immigration Research: Harnessing the power of the internet to get the attention of your distant relatives."

- OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - COST: \$30 PER PERSON -

CSG 47th Anniversary Celebration & Annual Meeting - 16 May 2015

Registration Form - Cost: \$30 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 _____

Pease let us know if you have special dietary restrictions _____

The Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.

presents

Introduction to Genealogy

- OPEN TO THE PUBLIC -

Summer Saturday Classes beginning July 11th
from 9 a.m. to 11 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

July 11th - Session 1: Introduction to Genealogy: Concepts; Terminology
& Tools

July 18th - Session 2: Researching Census Records: Overview; Availability;
Using Census Records Effectively

July 25th - Session 3: Beyond the Census: Vital Records; Church Records;
Newspapers; Town, County & State Records;
Immigration

Aug 1st - Session 4: Computers and the Internet: Genealogical Resources
Available; Genealogical Searching Strategies;
Genealogy Software

Aug 8th - Session 5: OPTIONAL - The Connecticut State Library
Guided Tour of the State Library (onsite at CSL)

Please Pre-register by: July 8, 2015 so we may plan appropriately

To register, contact the CSG Office at 860-569-0002 or at csginc@csginc.org

Make checks payable and mail to:

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

(MasterCard, Visa & Discover accepted)

(continued from page 12)

Dudley Drake and Abigail Holcomb were sentenced for incest, 1778.

Connecticut Archives: Crimes and Misdemeanors, Series I, vol. VI, docs. 83, 84.

Nicholas Sension was tried for sodomy, in 1677.

Connecticut Archives: Crimes and Misdemeanors, Series I, vol. I, docs. 85-102.

York, servant of Samuel Bliss of Norwich, was tried for taking swine, 1727.

Connecticut Archives: Crimes and Misdemeanors, Series I, vol. III, docs. 88-91.

There are even papers relating to some divorces cases. For example:

Hannah, a "Negro" petitioned for divorce from Cyrus on the grounds of adultery, 1726.

Connecticut Archives: Crimes and Misdemeanors, Series I, vol. III, doc. 327.

Hugh Mackie of Wethersfield declared that his wife Alice beat, kicked and scratched him without provocation, deserted him, was intimate with a man named

her clothes, and accused her of witchcraft. Testimony of her neighbors confirmed that he accused his wife of witchcraft, but on examination she was found to be normal.

Connecticut Archives: Crimes and Misdemeanors, Series I, vol. III, doc.211.

Estates of Deceased Persons, Estates of Incompetent Persons, and Estates of Minors

Although most early probate matters were originally handled by the Particular Court and later by the Court of Assistants and probate courts, some cases found their way to the General Court/General Assembly. They may be found within these series of the *Connecticut Archives*:

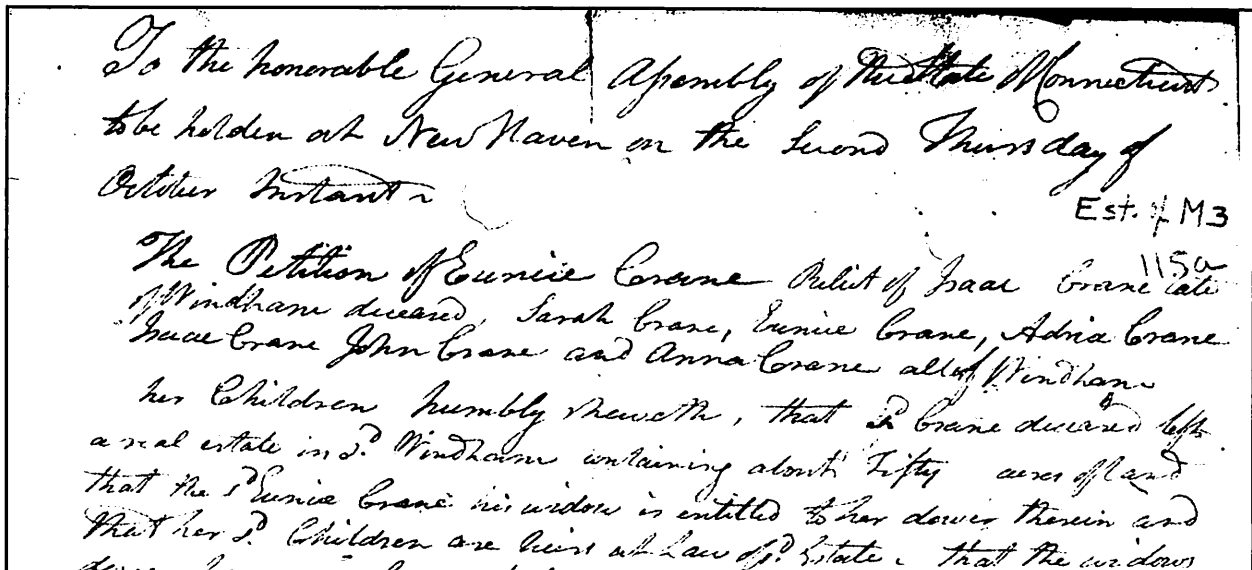
Connecticut Archives: Estates of Deceased Persons, 1640-1820.

Connecticut Archives: Estates of Incompetent Persons, 1711-1820.

Connecticut Archives: Estates of Minors, 1715-1820.

As an example, Eunice Crane of Windham "relict" (widow) of Isaac Crane and other heirs of Isaac submitted a petition showing that the deceased left real estate in Windham and several minor heirs and asked for liberty to sell this real estate.

Connecticut Archives: Estates of Minors, doc. 115a [Adria Crane].



Hamilton; and Samuel Tallcott provided information that Alice Mackie confessed to him her intimacy with John Oneal on two separate occasions.

Connecticut Archives: Crimes and Misdemeanors, Series I, vol. III, docs. 217, 218a

The divorce case of Zachary and Sarah Dibble of Stamford included Sarah's declaration that he had treated her inhumanely, beaten her and taken away

Indians, Series I (1649-1789) and II (1666-1820)

These series include letters, petitions, acts, resolves, deeds, treaties, land disputes, etc. relating to Native Americans.

Examples include:

The petition of the overseers of the Pequot Indians at Groton showing that disputes over land had arisen

between the proprietors of said town and the Pequot Indians and praying that an agreement might be reached.

Connecticut Archives: Indians, Series II, vol. 2, docs. 30, 31.

The petition of Robert Ashbow and others, in behalf of the Mohegan Indians, showing that the division of their land was unequal and that white men have encroached upon this land and asking for relief.

Connecticut Archives: Indians, Series II, vol. 1, doc. 42.

Insolvent Debtors, Series I (1762-1788) and Series II (1750-1820)

These series relate to bankruptcy laws and statutes, along with petitions for insolvency. For example:

Pomp, a "Negro" of East Hartford was a creditor of William Moore in 1798.

Connecticut Archives: Insolvent Debtors, Series I, vol. VIII, docs. 101 c, h, i, L.

Stephen Jerom of Lyme, formerly of Branford, was granted a monopoly of making salt from sea water in October 1746. In 1755 he petitioned for bankruptcy and asked for relief from debt to the colony. In 1759 he petitioned for a lottery to raise the debt. (These petitions were denied.)

Connecticut Archives: Insolvent Debtors, Series I, vol. 1, docs. 182-193.

Elisha Sheldon and Joseph Whiting of Salisbury bought valuable goods with the purpose of working the Salisbury furnace. On account of scarcity of cash, they were obliged to give and take credit and were "being pushed by creditors." They asked for protection from arrest for three years.

Connecticut Archives: Insolvent Debtors, Series I, vol. 1, docs. 335, 336.

Lotteries and Divorces, Series I (1755-1789) and Series II (1718-1820)

The series include an interesting combination of petitions for lotteries to benefit the treasury, roads, lighthouses, meeting houses, etc. along with petitions for divorce and statutes on marriage and divorce. For example:

A petition by Noah Benedict stating that his marriage to Widow Babcock at a tavern on March 27, 1786 was the result of a banter and was without the knowledge of parents or guardian. He claimed that he immediately repented of the act and lived with her only about a week. He asked for annulment of the contract, October, 1786.

Connecticut Archives: Lotteries & Divorces, Series I, doc. 264.

A petition of Mary Babcock showing that her marriage to Noah Benedict and his desertion, taking with him about £16 belonging to her. After a fortnight her husband returned to Danbury and remained with her one night, acknowledging his ill treatment of her and promising reform. Instead, however, he paid attention to other young women as if never married, and she asked for a divorce.

Connecticut Archives: Lotteries & Divorces, Series I, doc. 265.

Miscellaneous Papers, Series I (1635-1789) and Series II (1686-1820)

This series includes material relating to the union of the New Haven and Connecticut Colonies, the New England Confederation, acts relating to smallpox, and inquests in cases of sudden deaths. There are also entries relating to African Americans, for example:

Hannah Deuce, the negro slave of Thomas Richards, questioned the slavery of her child Abda, whom she claimed was son of John Gennings, a white man, 1702/3.

Connecticut Archives: Miscellaneous Papers, Series I, vol. 2, docs. 14, 21a, c.

Filly, a slave, was granted a deed of manumission from Wareham & Elizabeth Mather of New Haven in February 1743/4.

Connecticut Archives: Miscellaneous Papers, Series I, vol. 2, docs. 76d, 78d, 79c, d.

Private Controversies, Series I (1639-1717) and Series II (1636-1811)

These include papers relating to private lawsuits in the Court of Assistants and the General Assembly. There are wills, and inventories, and bonds, as well as material relating to land and debt. For example:

An attempt by Joseph Tracy to seize corn from the Indians at Plainfield, 1704.

Connecticut Archives: Private Controversies, Series I, vol. 6, docs. 82-86.

An agreement in French between Samuel Humphrey and Henry Rose, 1662.

Connecticut Archives: Private Controversies, Series I, vol. 1, doc. 54.

An action by James Fitch, Jr. of Norwich against Benjamin Palmer. Fitch alleged that Palmer had used "more than half of barley and said he would have the other half in despite all the devils in hell."

Connecticut Archives: Private Controversies, Series I, vol. IV, docs. 298-306.

Revolutionary War, Series I, II, III

These series consist of military data and petitions concerning a variety of matters. There are pay and muster rolls; financial accounts; and papers relating to the Stamp and Sugar Acts; the expedition to Ticonderoga; the Lexington Alarm; the burning of Fairfield, Danbury, New Haven, and Norwich; loyalists and confiscated estates; and the state's troops and defenses. Examples relating to individuals include:

Ruel Africa, a "Negro," served as a private from Wallingford and sought bounty.

Connecticut Archives, Revolutionary War, Series I, vol. 30, doc.144a.

Joshua Austin of New Haven submitted a petition and copy of his officer's certificate showing that his Negro, Brister, served six years and would be a fit subject for emancipation, Jan. 1784.

Connecticut Archives, Revolutionary War, Series I, vol. 37, doc. 240.

See also subheadings such as: "Commissariat" for those who provided provisions, "Confiscated Estates," and "Prisoners of War."

Towns and Lands, Series I (1629-1789) and Series II (1649-1820)

Much of these series pertains to town charters and patents, acts regulating town affairs, deeds, maps and plans relating to the settlement of towns and boundaries, grants of land, boundary disputes etc. But there is also considerable information pertaining to individuals. One example is:

The petition of Abigail Wills of Windsor, with a statement about her condition and a writ addressed to the constables of Hartford showing that since she was likely to become a town charge she was moved back and forth between Hartford and Windsor and that said towns refuse to afford her any relief. She prayed that she might be left at her former home in Windsor.

Petition renewed. Plea in abatement neg. Dec. 1733-May 1736

Connecticut Archives: Towns and Lands, Series II, vol. 2, docs. 72-75.

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Although Connecticut's Early General Records and the Connecticut Archives have been treated in two separate articles, they really need to be considered together. For just as Connecticut has two sets of probate records, the loose estate papers packets that include the original will, inventory, and account and the probate court record books into which such documents were transcribed, the Connecticut Archives are what were originally the loose papers and the Early General Records are the record books. Material pertaining to one action or event frequently appears in both sets of records.

For example, the divorce of Jared Foot of East Windsor appears in the Records of the Colony of Connecticut, vol. II, p. 87-88 as well as in Connecticut Archives: Lotteries and Divorces, Series I, pp. 203-228. The divorce of Sarah (Goodsell) Wolcott of Branford appears in the Records of the Colony of Connecticut, v. 14, p. 223 and in Connecticut Archives: Lotteries and Divorces, Series I, pp. 187-199.



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.

**Join us on May 16th for our 47th Annual Meeting
at Trinity-On-Main, 69 Main Street, New Britain
with Marcia I. Melnyk**

**Marcia will be speaking on
"18th & 19th Century Immigration Research:
Harnessing the power of the internet to get the attention of your
distant relatives"**

(see p. 15 for more details and registration form)

PROFILES OF CONNECTICUT'S CIVIL WAR HEROES

by Noreen Manzella, CSG # 15578



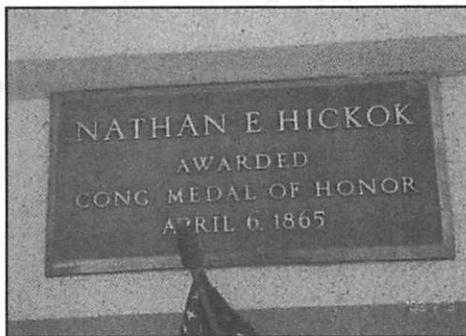
Corporal Nathan E. Hickok Company A, 8th Connecticut Infantry

Nathan Hickok was born about 1839. No family information has been determined for Hickok, although by 1850 he was living with the allied families of Trowbridges, Bennets, Benedicts, and Hickoks. As these families were all long-time Danbury residents, it is possible that these were extended family members.

Nathan E. Hickok enlisted on 2 October 1861, as a private, in Connecticut 8th Infantry Regiment, Company A. As he is listed on muster rolls as present in July through October of 1862, it is possible he fought at Antietam. He reenlisted in December of 1863. On 22 February 1864, Hickok was promoted to corporal. Hickok transferred to a unit composed of sharpshooters in 1864. On 29 September 1864, at the Battle of Chapin's Farm, Corporal Hickok captured the flag of a Confederate unit. The exact unit is unknown. Following this action, on 1 October 1864, Hickok was promoted to sergeant. The last battle for Sergeant Hickok was the Second Battle of Fair Oaks in Virginia. He is listed as being taken prisoner during this battle, however, no further information has been located on Hickok. The question remains whether he actually was taken prisoner, or was one of the countless unidentified dead of the Civil War.

Corporal Nathan E. Hickok's Medal of Honor, awarded on 6 April 1865, reads:

"Capture of flag"



Sources:

-Hickok, Nathan E. "U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles", 1861-1865. *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 30 January 2015).

-Hickok, Nathan E. *Find A Grave* (www.findagrave.com: accessed 30 January 2015).

-*Newstimes.com* (www.newstimes.com: 30 January 2015). "A tribute to a Civil War hero," 26 April 2004.

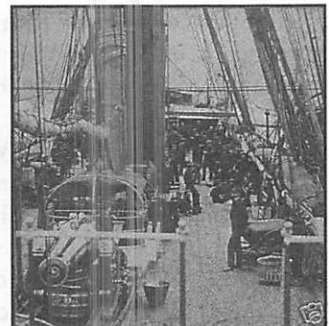
-1860 U.S. Federal Census, Nathan E. Hickok in the household of Joshua B Trowbridge, Danbury, Connecticut.

The author would like to acknowledge Dr. Thomas Valluzzo who has researched Nathan Hickok for many years and who shared his research and knowledge of Hickok with her.

Thomas Harding Captain of the Forecastle U.S. Navy

Thomas Harding was born about 1837 in Middletown, Connecticut. No family or other personal information has been located for Harding, either prior to the war or after.

Thomas Harding enlisted in the Navy in February 1862 at New York. He served on the *U.S.S. Dacotah*. Harding achieved the rank of Acting Master's Mate. Harding's heroic actions took place on 9 June 1864 during the destruction of the Confederate blockade runner, the *Pevensey*. At the risk to his own personal safety, he tried to save an officer's life.



Harding's medal was never received and it is held by the Curator Branch of the Naval History and Heritage Command. Thomas Harding's Medal of Honor awarded 31 December 1864, reads:

"Learning that one of the officers in the boat, which was in danger of being, and subsequently was, swamped, could not swim, Harding remarked to him: 'If we are swamped, sir, I shall carry you to the beach or I will never go there myself.' He did not succeed in carrying out his promise, but made desperate efforts to do so, while others thought only of themselves. Such conduct is worthy of

appreciation and admiration--a sailor risking his own life to save that of an officer."

Sources:

- Beyer, Walter Frederick, Ed and Keydel, Oscar Frederick, Ed. *Deeds of Valor*. 1902, Perrien Keydel Co., Detroit.
- Congressional Medal of Honor Society* (www.cmohs.org: accessed 28 January 2015).
- Find A Grave* (<http://www.findagrave.com>: accessed 28 January 2015.)
- “Medals of Honor Held by the Curator Branch of the Naval History and Heritage Command (<http://tinyurl.com/Is7ae6x>): accessed 30 January 2015.
- “U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles.” *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 22 January 2014).
- “United States Naval Enlistment Rendezvous, 1855-1891,” Index and images, *Family Search* (<https://familysearch.org/pall:MM9.1.1XLBj-265>: accessed 2 February 2015), Thomas Harding, Feb 1862; citing p. 146, volume 18, place of enlistment New York, NARA microfilm publication M1953 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.); FHLF MF 2,381,635-18.
- Photo taken from Google Images is a deck view of the *U.S.S. Dacotah*.

**Private John Henry Weeks
Company H, 152nd New York Infantry**

John Henry Weeks was born 15 March 1845 to Elisha and Mary R. (Tucker) Weeks in Hampton, Connecticut. Identified siblings include Oliver (b.c. 1840), Mary R. (b.c. 1841), Louis (b.c. 1844), John F. (b.c. 1845), Harriet (b.c. 1847), and Hosea (b.c. 1849). Elisha Weeks was a stonemason. The Weeks family later moved to Otsego County, New York prior to 1850.

John Weeks was married three times. (1) John married Emma Wise in Omaha, Nebraska. Identified children include Mark (b.c. 1873), Emma (b.c.1876), Hattie (b.c. 1878), and Josephine (b.c. 1879). (2) John married Adeline Chase. An identified son is Horace Chase (b.c. 28 December 1886). Adeline Chase died about 1890. (3) John married Laura Dingman about 1891. Their children included John Paul (b.c. 1896) and Elsie Rose (b.c. 1898). Following the war, Weeks lived for a time in both Omaha, Nebraska and Los Angeles, California. Weeks' primary occupation was as a mason. John Weeks was a member of the GAR, L.C. Turner Post of Cooperstown, New York. Weeks died March 10, 1911, and he is buried in Hartwick Seminary Cemetery.

John Weeks enlisted on 28 August 1862 in the 152nd New York Infantry, Company H. The 152nd was joined into the Second Corps of the Army of the Potomac and primarily involved with the defense of Washington, D.C. and the pursuit of General Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. It

was during the battle of the Wilderness, at Spotsylvania Courthouse that Weeks displayed his heroic actions. On May 12, 1864, Week's unit was ordered forward early that morning, encountering hand-to-hand combat under great fire from the Confederates. Weeks observed a stand of colors and color guard just as they had fired a volley, perhaps to signal a retreat. Weeks bluffed the guard with his empty rifle and captured the group. He was promoted to Corporal on 25 August 1864. Weeks was mustered out on 27 May 1865 at Washington D.C.

John Henry Weeks' Medal of Honor awarded on 1 December 1864 reads:

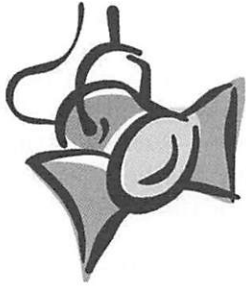
Capture of flag and color bearer using an empty cocked rifle while outnumbered by five or six.



Sources:

- Heitz, Tom and Rathbone, Sherlee. “Capturing the Colors at Bloody Angle,” *The Oil Can*. Volume 89, No. 17, October 25, 2011.
- The Otsego Farmer*. “Captured Color Guard at Laurel Ridge: John H. Weeks, Hero of Well-Known Incident of Civil War Dies at Hartwick Seminary,” March 17, 1911, p.4.
- U.S. Census 1850-1910.
- Weeks, John Henry. “U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles”, 1861-1865. *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 30 January 2015).
- Weeks, John Henry. *Find A Grave* (www.findagrave.com: accessed 30 January 2015).

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



Spotlight on Connecticut Towns & Cities

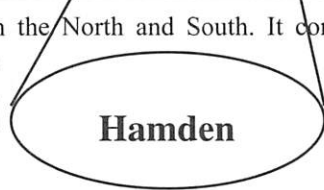
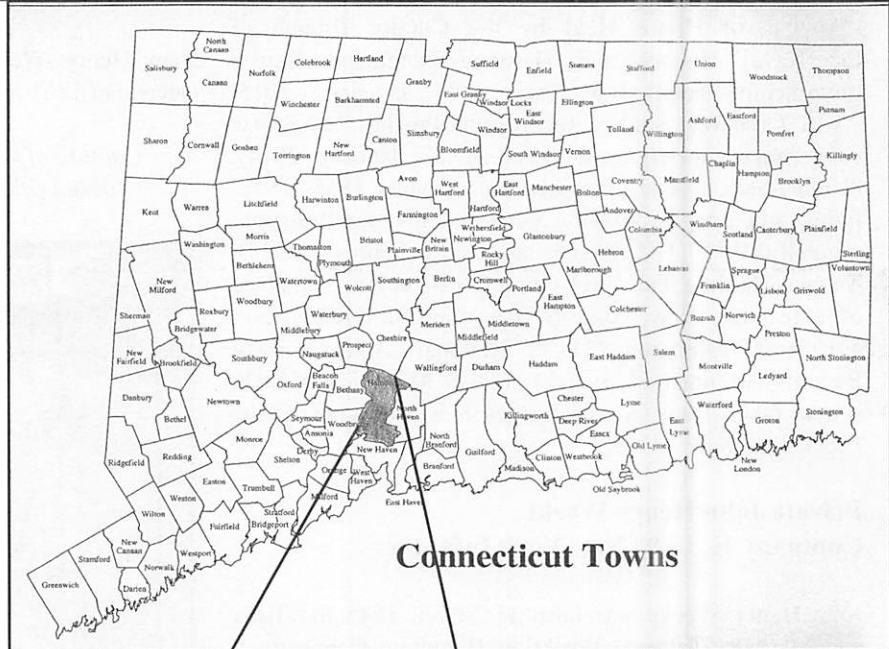


Spotlight on Hamden

by Gregory E. Thompson,
CSG # 12873

Hamden was originally settled as part of the New Haven Colony in 1638 by Puritans from England. The land was purchased from the Quinnipiack Native American tribe by Theophilus Eaton and Rev. John Davenport.

In 1786, 1,400 local residents got together and incorporated it into a separate town, naming it after the English Statesman John Hampden. It is commonly called the “Land of the Sleeping Giant” named for the prominent landscape feature resembling a slumbering human figure which can be seen from the North and South. It contains a recreational park which is popular with the area locals. Originally set up with town contains several sections: Mount Carmel, Woods and Highwood. As the town grew, it played



It contains a recreational park which is village like settlements, the Whitneyville, Spring Glen, West a historic role in the Industrial Revolution.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, the town attracted many immigrants from Italy, Germany and Ireland who arrived to work in the stone quarries, sawmills, and factories that had sprung up. Today, the town is an attractive residential and business community that boasts a rich and varied landscape with mountain, parks, and hiking trails as well as many cultural and recreational attractions.



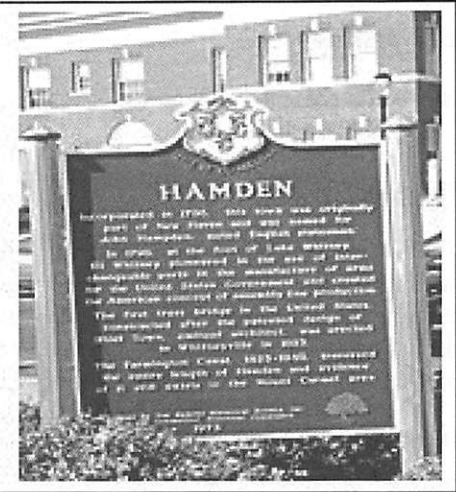
One of the many trails at Sleeping Giant Park

Government

The town is governed by a mayor-council form of government that has a 15-member legislative council. Six councilors are elected at large and the other nine are elected by district. Elections are held biennially during the odd years in May. The Town Clerk and the Board of Education are also elected positions. Scott Jackson was elected in 2009 and is the current mayor.

Notable People

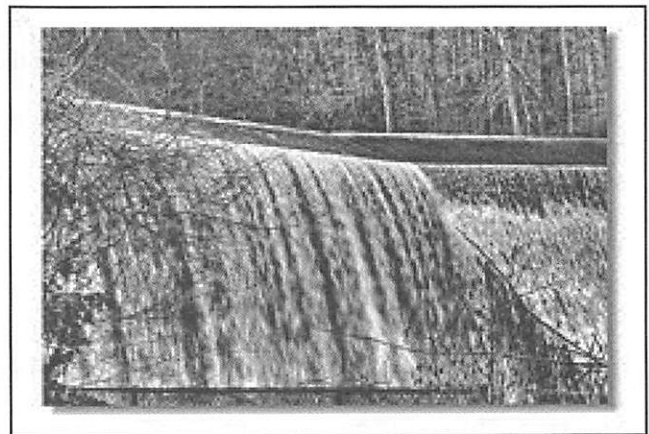
Eli Whitney – The creator of the Cotton Gin, and the father of interchangeable parts was born in Westboro, Massachusetts on 8 December, 1765. Growing up on a farm, he became an expert at finding shortcuts to do his chores by creating many different inventions to help in his work.



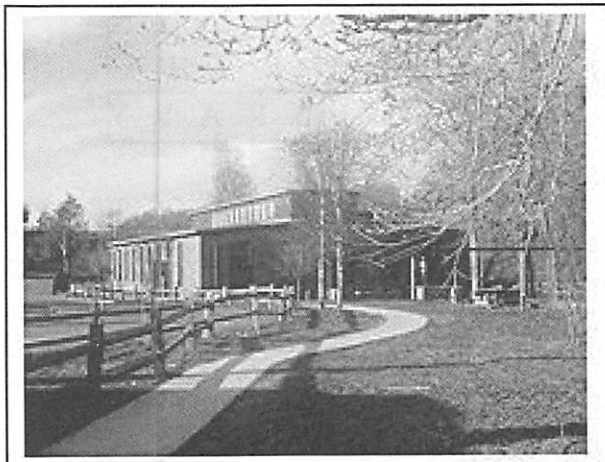
Having been a graduate of Yale in 1792, he took a job at a tobacco plantation that was offered to him while traveling down to South Carolina. While there, he created many inventions and was asked to come up with some idea of how to remove the seeds from Green Seed Cotton. Within ten days, he had created the prototype of his invention which he had called the “Cotton Gin,” the name gin, coming from the word “engine.” He moved back to Hamden and went into partnership with Phineas Miller to manufacture his new invention. However, by the time he patented the machine many copies of it had been made and were used without his permission. He spent a great amount of time trying to enforce his patents. The invention was never a moneymaker.

Having received a contract from the federal government, he turned to making muskets. Having no factory and no experience in making guns, he created his own manufacture using interchangeable parts and created machines which could make the same item consistently and fast.

His factory is located in Hamden in the section called “Whitneyville” at the base of Lake Whitney where he dammed the lake for waterpower. Today that factory is a museum and is open to the public.



The Lake Whitney Waterfall



The Whitney Museum is located on the original spot where Eli Whitney worked and created many of his inventions. It is located at 915 Whitney Avenue, Hamden, Connecticut and the winter hours are: Saturday, 1 p.m.-3 p.m. and Sunday, 12 p.m.-5 p.m.

Universities

Hamden is home to two famous schools, including Quinnipiac University, located at 275 Mt. Carmel Avenue, and the Paier College of Art, located at 20 Gorham Ave.

Hamden Historical Society

The Hamden Historical Society Library is housed on the third floor of the Miller Memorial Library located at 2901 Dixwell Avenue. Its purpose is to collect, preserve and make available materials relating directly and significantly to Hamden. The Library, inaugurated in 1984, provides a safe, central place to research Hamden's past. It is the only facility in Hamden dedicated for these purposes. Currently, the Historical Society room is being moved. The materials are boxed up and unavailable. There are no other genealogical repositories in Hamden.

Published Histories

Colonial History of the Parish of Mount Carmel, John H. Dickerman, Ryder's Printing House, 1904. Available free to read online at <https://archive.org/details/colonialhistoryo00dick>.

History of the Town of Hamden with an Account of the Centennial Celebration, William P. Blake, Price, Lee & Co., 1888. Online at <https://archive.org/details/historytownhamd00blakgoog>.

History of Hamden, CT, 1786-1959, Rachel M. Hartley, Shoe String Press, 1959.

The Story of Hamden, Land of the Sleeping Giant, Shoe String Press, 1966.

Newspapers Covering Hamden

Post-Chronicle, covering Hamden, North Haven, Wallingford. www.ctpostchronicle.com

Hamden Journal. www.thehamdenjournal.com

Hamden Patch. <http://patch.com/connecticut/hamden>

New Haven Register. www.nhregister.com

Libraries

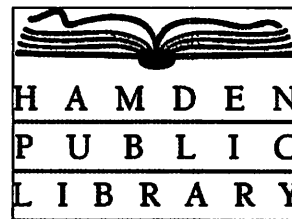
Hamden has a main library and two satellite branches. **The Miller Memorial Library**, located at 2901 Dixwell Avenue is the main branch and is open the following hours:

Monday	10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Tuesday	10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Wednesday	10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Thursday	10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Friday	10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Sunday	Closed

The Whitneyville Branch located at 125 Carleton Street and is open:

Monday	10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 1 p.m.-5 p.m.
Tuesday	10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 1 p.m.-5:30 p.m.
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 1 p.m.-5:30 p.m.
Friday	10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 1 p.m.-5:30 p.m.
Saturday	Closed
Sunday	Closed

The Brundidge Community Branch located at 91 Circular Ave. is open the same hours as the Whitneyville Branch on Carleton Street.



Vital Records

Early vital records are in New Haven records. Hamden vital records begin in 1786. The Barbour Collection of Connecticut Town Vital Records covers 1786 -1854.

Hamden is in Probate District 37.

Town Hall



The Town Hall is located at 2750 Dixwell Avenue and contains all departments of governmental service. The police station is attached to the main building. See www.hamden.com for more information on town government and other town departments.

The Town Clerk's Office

The town clerk is the guardian and keeper of the past, present and future documents pertaining to the town. Duties include recording and processing the land records, registering notary publics, recording liquor permits and recording military discharge papers. Certified copies of Birth, Marriage and Death records can be obtained from this office.

The town clerk has instituted the following policies:

1. No cell phones are allowed in the office or in the Vault.
2. Recording fees checks must be the exact amount.
3. Land Record copies are \$1.00 per page.
4. ONLY CERTIFIED copies of Vital Records are issued at \$20.00 each.

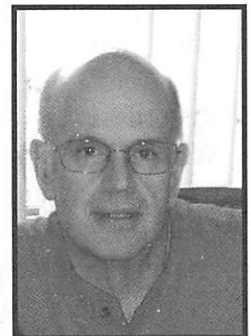
The Office hours are as follows: 8:45 a.m – 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Researchers are welcome on any day but copies must be requested no later than 3:30 p.m.

Sources:

- History of Hamden, Connecticut
- Town of Hamden Web site – www.city-data.com
- Google.com
- Hamden Historical Society website: <https://hamdenhistoricalsociety.wordpress.com/>
- <http://Wikipedia.org/wiki/Hamden>

About the Author

Gregory is the Archivist of the Old Saybrook Historical Society, the Deputy Governor of the Connecticut Society of Mayflower Descendants and a professional genealogist. He specializes in lineage preparation and Mayflower research. He also teaches genealogy classes at the Milford Public Library.



Book Review

by *Nora Galvin, CSG # 18813*

Elaine D. Brophy, compiler. *They Lived in Windsor: A reconstruction of the 1890 census for Windsor, Connecticut.* Windsor: Windsor Historical Society, 2014. Spiral bound, 262 pages, plus electronic version on compact disc. \$40, additional \$10 for shipping/handling. Order from online Gift Shop (<http://windsorhistoricalsociety.org>) or by calling the Windsor Historical Society at (860) 688-3813, x 103.

Raise your hand if you wish you could research the 1890 US census! Mourned by genealogists, all copies of this enumeration were burned up in a fire and finished off by the water used to douse the flames. That 20-year gap between 1880 and 1900 holds so many family mysteries that we all want to be able to see it.

Elaine Brophy has created a substitute for the town of Windsor that will assuage the angst of many family historians. The stated goal of the project is “to identify and document as many persons as possible who *may* have been living in Windsor in June, 1890.” Brophy and other researchers combed records from 1880 to 1900 in an attempt to answer the basic census questions for each resident: name, sex, race, occupation, birthplace and relationship to other household members. Any person who was documented in the consulted records in 1890 is included. In addition families of children born in Windsor in those two decades and persons who died in Windsor are part of the restored enumeration. It lists a total of 3,800 people. People not listed in the tax, voter or vital records will not be included in this list.

Records used to recreate the population were Windsor tax lists, 1890; Windsor voter registration lists from October and November, 1890, and October, 1895; Windsor vital records (birth, marriage and death); funeral records; and church records. Sources that were not consulted were 1880 and 1900 US censuses; city directories, family

genealogies, genealogy websites, naturalization records, cemetery records, deeds and newspapers.

The bulk of this book is five tables of data. The first is the master list—the census substitute (95 pages). Residents are listed alphabetically by surname. Importantly, individuals are grouped into families based on the data found in the sources. Relationship to the head of household is shown for family members. Additionally, age, sex, race, birthplace and occupation are reported. This much looks just like a census sheet. The next few columns are a check list for indicating which type of record provided information about each individual. Individuals not grouped into a family are listed without a relationship (since their household make-up is not known).

The last four tables hold the data extracted from the four sources: government records (40 pages) and birth (44 pages), marriage (20 pages) and death (60 pages) records. If, for example, there is a check for “marriage record” for an individual in the master list, one can flip to the Marriage Record table and look up the details (including original source information) in the fully transcribed record.

So, we have a recreated census list and all the documentation of each fact that went into it. What more can you ask for? The book includes an explanatory introduction and clear instructions about how to read the tables. There is a tax district map at the back to help identify the section of town in which a family lived (no addresses are included). The facts are fully documented. Finally, there is an electronic (pdf) version of the book on a compact disc tucked into the back cover. This allows readers to use the “Find” function to locate names in the document (for example, parents’ names in vital records). What a great resource!

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Annual Appeal

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-0- Lowrey Family Association

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 and indicate "Queries" in the subject line. Contact the CSG Office with any questions you may have.

I would like to correspond with descendants of Thomas **BONNEY** who came from Sandwich, England to Duxbury, MA on the *Hercules* in 1643.

Would like all info (births, marriages, deaths & burials) on Lt. Isaac H. **BONNEY** (Hiram G. and Joan D.) who was killed in the Civil War and died in Indianapolis, IN.

Need all info on Rev. Isaac **BONNEY** who married 1806, Olive **EATON**, b 26JAN1784, d 11MAR1829, age 45.

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

Neslon **WOODIN** b 29 Dec 1814, d 7 Jan 1885 Beekman, NY, m Eliza Allen b 29 Oct 1819, d 29 Dec 1886 Beekman, NY. Par of Nelson possibly William **WOODIN** b abt 1786 and Hannah Mead b abt 1794. Need confirmation/info of Nelson's par and anc. Need par and anc of Eliza **ALLEN**.

Pheobe Jane **SWEET** daughter of Isaac and Margaret Mary (**ATKINS**) **SWEET**, b 26 June 1840, d 30 Nov 1890 Dutchess Co. NY m John James **WOODIN** son of Nelson and Eliza (**ALLEN**) **WOODIN**. Need parents and ancestors of Pheobe Jane **SWEET**.

Rick Mulholland, CSG # 16218
19 Robert Barry Rd
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Witchcraft Prosecution: Chasing the Devil in Connecticut

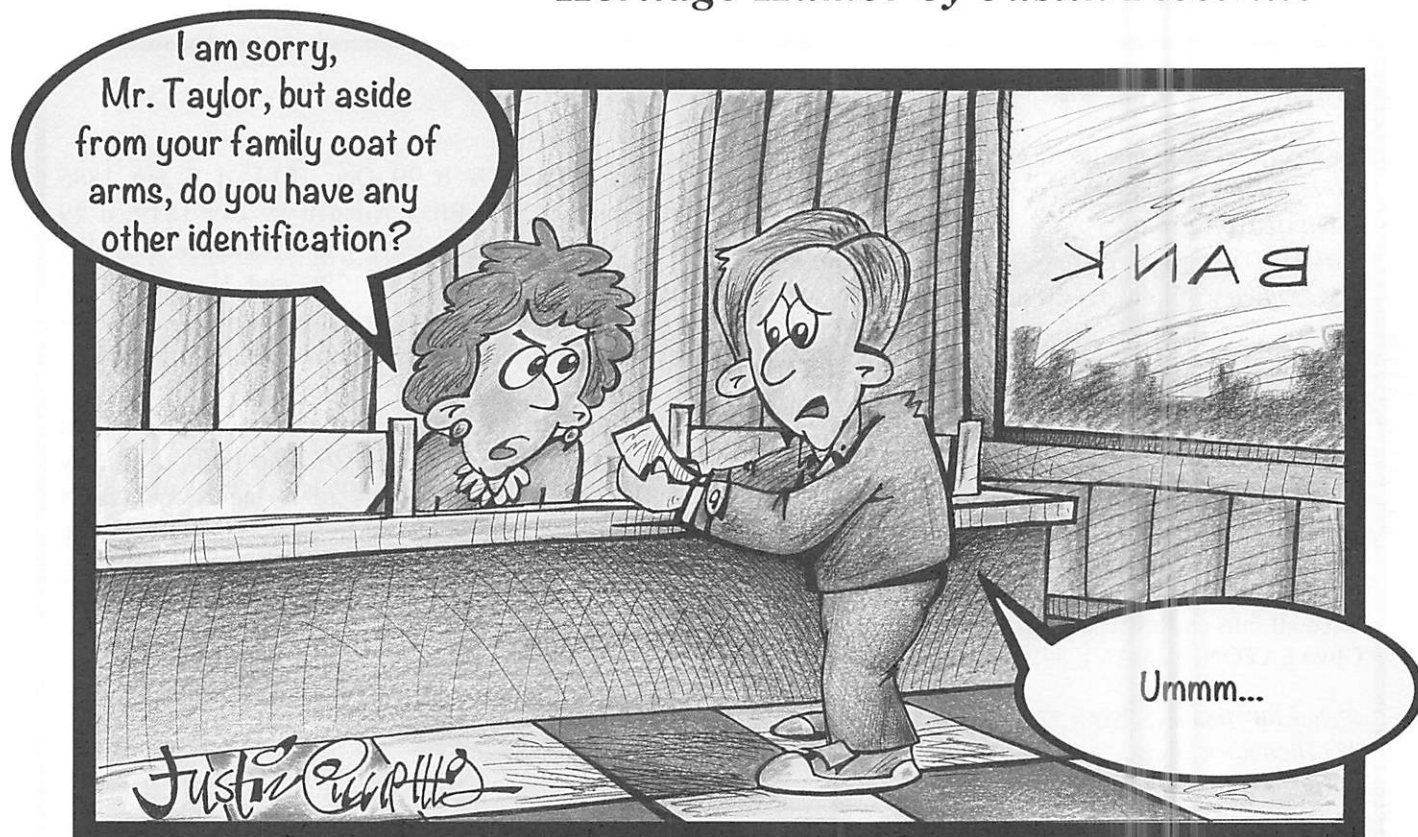
by Richard G. Tomlinson

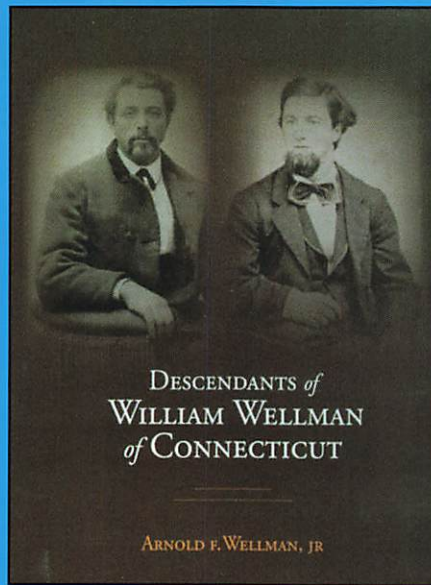
This definitive history of witchcraft prosecution in Connecticut in the 17th and 18th century covers every known case of formal accusation or suspicion of witchcraft. This includes over forty cases. An "every name" index includes nearly 1,000 entries. There are thirteen illustrations and 406 footnotes. The appendices contain a table of the accused, annotated descriptions of the original court documents in the Wyllys Papers collection and historical profiles of key persons. Hardcover, 6 x 9, 224 pp., illustrated, Picton Press.

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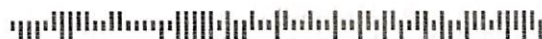
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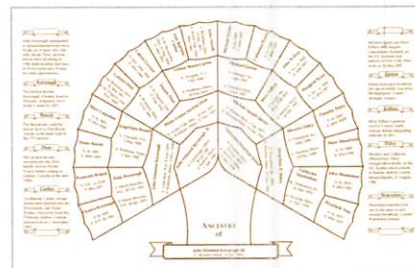
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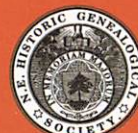
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Connecticut Genealogy News

For Those Who Pursue Their Family Heritage

Summer 2015

Vol. 8 No. 2



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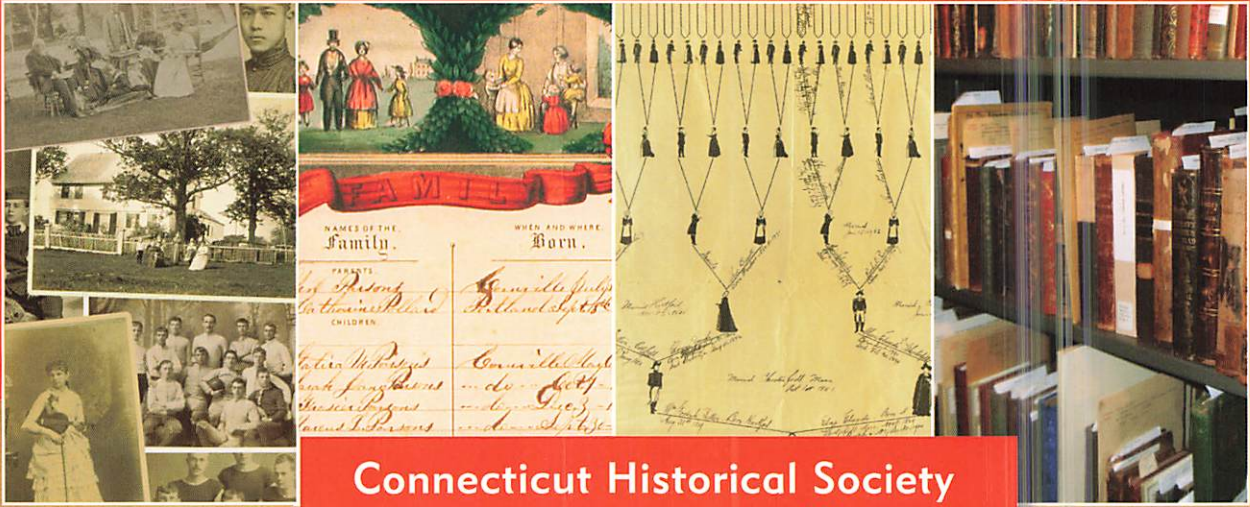
Middletown Catholic Church Records

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President's Message



It was my pleasure to serve as your president this past year. We have progressed on our Ancestry Service data entry project. Thank you to Linda Simard and Sharon Racis and our other volunteers for their efforts to this monumental project. We have offered quality programs and our speakers have

gone out across Connecticut to speak at various locations from libraries and senior centers to historical societies other venues. We entered into a partnership with FindMyPast.com to offer our members even more access to genealogical records. We continue to add new members and to further our mission which is to promote genealogy through our programs and publications.

Thank you to all who have renewed or reinstated their membership this year and to all who go above and beyond with their generations donations. We couldn't do this without you.

At the 47th Annual Meeting on 16 May 2015, I was honored to confer upon CSG Past President and Governor, James "Jim" H. Leatherbee II, the honorary title of Governor Emeritus for his outstanding and dedicated service.

Since becoming a member in 1983, Jim has been an active and important member of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. He has been a dedicated leader, that contributed to the success of the Society. He has served as a member of the Board of Governors from 1991 to the present. He has served four terms as President and six terms as Vice President. He has frequently been a spokesman for CSG and for genealogy. His contributions have included many years of leadership for *The Connecticut Nutmegger* and for the judging of books in the CSG Literary Award contest. He has made important contributions in building bridges between genealogists and the Town Clerks of Connecticut. CSG is deeply grateful for all that he has done.

I look forward to a great new year with Gail B. Richmond as CSG's president and also welcome to the Board, John Bedard and Brian Cofrancesco.

- Carol Whitmer, President

Editorial

The Publications Committee and Editor congratulate James H. Leatherbee II on his appointment as Governor Emeritus of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists and thank him for his long and dedicated service to the Society, *The Connecticut Nutmegger* and to the publications committee. We also wish Beverly Lawton who has stepped down from the Board this year all the best in her future endeavors. She is a huge supporter of *The Connecticut Nutmegger*.

The Publications Committee and Editor welcome John Bedard and Brian Cofrancesco to the Board. We look forward to serving with you.

Thank you to Diane LeMay for her article on City Directories, Bryna O'Sullivan for her article on locating Catholic records in Middletown, Connecticut and Richard G. Tomlinson for his article on Hartford probate records from March 1687/8 –March 1688/9.

This issue features the last of the Connecticut Civil War Hero profiles. Thank you to Noreen Manzella for her dedication to giving us just a glimpse into the lives of these heroes. Thank you to Gail B. Richmond who has shined our spotlight on the Town of Hebron.

CSG Members: Don't miss the FindMyPast.com announcement.

Enjoy the issue!

About the Cover

Tolland, Connecticut celebrates its 300th Anniversary in 2015. See page 14 for a listing of events that could be of interest to genealogists, to be held in honor of its 300th Anniversary. Go to www.Tolland300.org for more details on the celebration and for a complete listing of all events. The photo is from www.Tolland300.org and represents Charter Day celebrated on May 12, 2015.

Unexpected Finds in City Directories

by Diane LeMay, CSG # 7571L

City directories are available for many cities and towns, especially in New England through the Midwest. New York City and Philadelphia directories came into existence on a regular annual basis as early as the 1780's. Many other major cities including New Orleans followed, erratically at first, and were largely commercial. CSG has a 1989 edition of Boston's first 1789 directory. About the mid 1800's, depending on the city, directories attained publication annually for approximately 140 years through the 1990's. Some exist for western states, too. I recently heard of a 1937 directory for a Montana city. As you can expect, there were directories published for Hartford, Connecticut and Springfield, Massachusetts. Many smaller area towns were included in volumes titled Suburban Hartford and Suburban Springfield.

They are generally divided into four parts: listings of adult residents by surname, listings by address, listings by phone number, and Advertisements. Schools, libraries, churches, funeral homes, cemeteries and Justices of the Peace are a few helpful listings in what we know as the "yellow pages." Always on one of the first few pages of the directory you will find a list of any abbreviations used in the entries and historical information.

All adult family members in the same household would be listed. Very often a female who was employed would be entered separately, as well as with her spouse. African-American residents were listed before and after the Civil War with a racial designation as "c" or "col" (colored). Be aware that there is a time lag of almost a year between the currency of the information and when the volume is published. However, any information given may be your invaluable lead to a spouse, a maiden name, a date of death, an old family homestead, a labor union, an association, or even help in narrowing down the time span in which to look for immigration documentation. Additional information such as occupations and place of employment were included in most entries.

If you follow an ancestor over a period of years or find an advertisement for a family business, you would find much about the economic and social position of that family in the town, as in the ½ page ad I found quite by accident for the livery of William Jarvis, a great uncle on my maternal side in the 1916 Walpole (MA) Directory.

WILLIAM JARVIS

Hack, Boarding and Livery Stable

Hacks Furnished for all Occasions

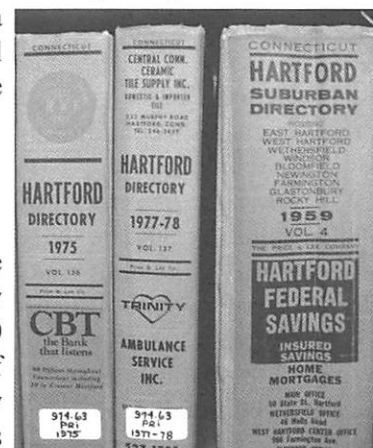
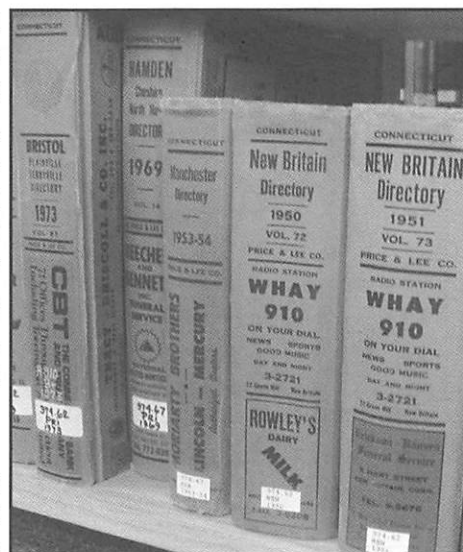
First-Class Teams Furnished Barges Furnished for Parties

LIGHT AND HEAVY TEAMING

Horses Bought, Sold and Exchanged

MAIN STREET, near EAST, WALPOLE, MASS.
Telephones: Stable 228-3; House 228-2.

City directories can help you in your genealogy research in many more important and unexpected ways. They will be a great help in locating family members during the twenty years from 1880 to 1900, and the years since 1940 when we lack census data. You may find change of address, as in the photo of the 1978 Hartford City Directory, which states Morris and Evelyn M. LeMay "rem to Miami Fla" and the entry for Winifred D. Lemasters "wid Charles

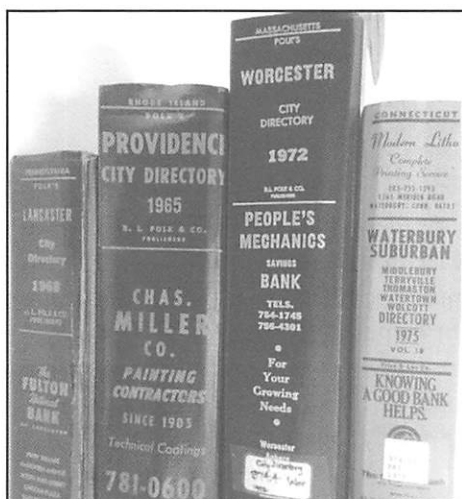


—Stanley L (Ada E) insp P&W Div h 9 Meadow EH
 Lemasters Winifred D wid Charles rem to W Virginia
 LeMay Adrian (Pearl B) roofer emp 25 Albany av
 h 9 S Woodbine
 —Alcide G (Hattie W) truck driver 433 ConnBlvd
 EH r 192 Laurel
 —Alexander J (Marion A) emp UCorp r 122 Elm-
 hurst WH
 —Alfred J (Catherine) chauff 299 Capen h 1659 Main
 —Bertha M r 43 Willard
 —Demerise M assembler RTCo r 154 Babcock
 —Dorothy clk (34) 43 Farmington av r 31 Niles
 —Emile J (Anna D) r 75 Spruce
 —Florence M assembler RTCo r 154 Babcock
 —Gabriel J (Adrienne V) painter r 54 Babcock
 —Gabrielle emp St Francis Hospital r do
 —George A r (33) 163 Buckingham
 —Henry (Mary) h (33) 163 Buckingham
 —Hercules J (Demerise J) h 154 Babcock
 —Jennie benchwkr 133 Sheldon h 111 Ash EH
 —Leo L (Marie D) roofer r 70 Crescent
 —Leo P (Anne A) painter emp 535 Quaker la S
 WH r 19 Sargeant
 —Louis C (Daisy E) emp UCorp h 15 LeMay WH
 —Marcel J (Loretta A) assembler UCorp r 156
 Babcock
 —Marion T married Charles Rinaldi
 —Mary Mrs emp 663 Capitol av r (33) 163 Buck-
 ingham
 —Morris (Evelyn M) rem to Miami Fla
 —Robert L emp 99 Albany av r 1659 Main
 —Rosanna M r 1659 Main
 —Victor H (Lucienne A) painter h 160 Lawrence

rem to West Virginia,” where in this case tells you Charles had died and possibly where a relative resides, probably a grown son or daughter. Marital status, marriage date, death date, ages, and such, especially if it had occurred within a year or two of the publication, may be found as well. Very often in directories of the 1940’s you would find young men in the military listed with their branch of service, as in the entry for Harris Drouin “in USNavy” on the

Droplok Sophie wid Peter h 155 Oak
 —Stella assembler RTCo r 155 Oak
 Drosdell Ernest V (Mildred E) tool eng P&W h 36
 Fairmount Weth
 Drossel Paul F (Anna) carp GF&Co r 216 S Highland
 WH
 Drost Anna E emp UCorp r 131 Clark
 —Frank clk 64 Pearl r 131 Clark
 —John (Mary) plater’s helper 858 Wdr h 131 Clark
 —John N (Mary A) clk ActnaLifeInsCo r 41 Barber
 Wdr
 —Mary A Mrs typist FBCo r 41 Barber Wdr
 Drouin Aldea G Mrs packer HMfgCo r 181½ Lawrence
 —Alphonse J (Aldea G) assembler UCorp h 181½
 Lawrence
 —Andre J student r 181½ Lawrence
 —Antoinette Mrs assembler UCorp r 146 Atleek
 —Arthur J (Lucienne R) (Arthur’s Lunch) 742 Park
 h (4) 4 Wolcott
 —Blanche married John F Wiggott rem to Cromwell
 —Cleophas J (Laura M) mixer CMfgCo h 34 Arnold
 —Harris B in USNavy r 146 Atleek
 —Irene A emp 46 Prospect r do
 —J Ernest (Paula) chauff city r (1) 66 Main
 —Joseph A mach opr 1 Laurel r 762 Park
 —Lazar farmhand h off Maek Wdr
 —Lucienne M floorwoman 76 Albany av r 500 Broad
 —Matilda A emp The Institute of Living r 160 Re-
 treat av

Directory. Keep in mind that prior to the 1950’s not every family had a telephone, and if the person was omitted in one volume, it doesn’t necessarily mean he had moved from the town.



LOCATING CITY DIRECTORIES

You may not find a directory for every year of a given city, however extensive collections may be found in many larger public libraries, state libraries and archives, university libraries, and historical societies. They may be hardbound volumes and shelved in the Reference Collection or Local History Collection, or they may be on microfilm or microfiche. The Church of Latter Day Saints has an extensive collection, and microform copies may be requested, rented, and viewed at the LDS Family History Centers around the country. You will find large collections at the Library of Congress (Washington, D.C.), The New England Historic Genealogical Society (Boston, MA) and the New York Public Library (NY, NY). Locally, The Connecticut Historical Society (Hartford) and the Godfrey Library (Middletown) also have good collections. There are published bibliographies compiling lists of city directories by U.S. state. To ensure you will find the publications you need, first check the

library’s catalog, as most are now available online. You may want to call ahead and ask if you would be able to use and/or copy pages from the city directories. Keep in mind that titles of these directories varied over the years. One such title variation was Household and business profiles, street-by-street address guide, phone number cross-reference, comprehensive business index.

As I searched, I found more and more online sources. They include Ancestry.com; Familysearch.org; Archive.org; distantcousin.com/directories; Books.google.com, to name a few. I just stumbled on the following Tufts University link for these 9 Boston (MA) directories: 1845, 1855, 1865, 1870, 1872, 1875, 1885, 1905, and 1925. www.dca.lib.tufts.edu/features/bostonstreets/people/index.html. If you are looking for someone in Philadelphia, try this site: <http://hsp.org/collections/catalogs-research-tools/subject-guides/philadelphia-city-directories>. Connecticut residents, have free access at home to city directories through the Heritage Quest database, part of www.ICONN.org.

With this article I have tried to make the case that any time spent searching city directories for an ancestor will be time well spent. You are apt to find the very valuable clue to solve your ancestral mystery.

Five Churches, One Town: Locating Catholic Records in Middletown

by Bryna O'Sullivan, CSG # 20006

If your ancestor was baptized, married or buried in a city, locating their Catholic records can be a challenge. The date of their event may be known, but unless you know the parish, you may find yourself navigating between microfilms in an archives or a multitude of church offices. For families from Middletown, understanding the time period and ethnic background of each parish can be a key to resolving the problem.

Prior to 1844:

Middletown did not have its own Catholic church until 1844. Early on the community was served by missionary priests coming down from Boston.¹ Beginning in 1837, the area was served by the priests of Holy Trinity church in Hartford.² The church is no longer extant, and any records are likely in the archives of Archdiocese of Hartford, which can be reached at <http://www.archdioceseofhartford.org/archives.htm>.

1844 to 1904:

The first church in Middletown, St. John the Evangelist, opened its doors in 1844 and has operated in its present building since 1888.³ As the only church in the area, it served Middletown's Catholics as well as the residents of several towns further south. It was predominantly Irish. Many families maintained ties, despite moving elsewhere in town. A search for an Irish family should begin in St. John's. Records are held by the parish of St. John, which has an online presence at <http://www.saintjohnchurchmiddletown.com/Pages/default.aspx>.

1904-1905:

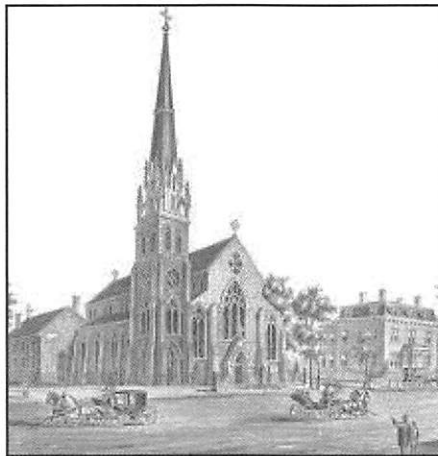
St. Francis of Assisi parish opened its doors in 1904 to serve an increasing number of Catholics in the southern part of Middletown.⁴ For a year, Middletown was split between St. John serving the north of the city and St. Francis serving the south. St. Francis's records are held by the parish, which can be reached at <http://saintfrancisofassisi.com>.

1905-present:

As the population of immigrant Catholics increased, so did the number of parishes. St. Mary of Czestochowa was organized in 1903 and dedicated in 1905 as the Polish Roman Catholic Church of St. Mary of Czestochowa.⁵ Although the parish has diversified over the years and has dropped "Polish," it remains tied to the area's Polish community. A search for Polish records should begin at the parish, which

can be reached at <http://stmarymiddletown.com>.

St. Sebastian's was built in 1931 to accommodate the area's Italian population.⁶ A replica of the church in Melilli, Sicily,⁷ it was a reminder of the past for many. Although many of the families had previously worshipped at St. John's, their new church quickly became home. Any Italian records after 1931 are likely at the parish, which can be contacted at <http://www.stsebastianmiddletown.org>. The newest of Middletown's parishes is St. Pius X, founded in 1957 to address a post-war population boom in the Westfield district.⁸ Run by the Capuchin Friars, the parish has a regional rather than ethnic organization.⁹ That parish can be reached at <http://www.saintpius.org>.



Today, Middletown's parishes are ethnically mixed. A family with a strong ethnic tradition may return to their historic parish for a religious service or may instead attend the parish close to their home. As in the past, a knowledge of the time period, the family's ethnic background, and their residency will guide you in searching for religious records.

Photo of Saint John Church of Middletown found at: <http://www.saintjohnchurchmiddletown.com>.

Endnotes

¹ "About Us," *Saint John Roman Catholic Church* (<http://www.saintjohnchurchmiddletown.com/Pages/aboutus.aspx> : accessed 18 April 2015).

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ "History," *St. Francis of Assisi Parish* (<http://saintfrancisofassisi.com/history/>: accessed 18 April 2015).

⁵ Romuald K. Byczkiewicz, *St. Mary's of Czestochowa: A Century of Polonia in Middletown Connecticut* (N.p.: n.p., n.d.) 8-10. "History of St. Mary of Czestochowa Parish," *St. Mary of Czestochowa Catholic Church* (<http://stmarymiddletown.com/history>: accessed 18 April 2015).

⁶ History of Middletown, Connecticut," *Middlesex County Historical Society* (<http://www.middlesexhistory.org/exhibits/italians.htm>: accessed 12 October 2011).

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ "History of Saint Pius X Parish," *Saint Pius X* (<http://www.saintpius.org/history/>: accessed 18 April 2015).

⁹ Ibid.

Estates Probated in Hartford During the Rule of Sir Edmond Andros (March 1687/8 –March 1688/9)

by Richard G. Tomlinson CSG #55L

During the brief period when Sir Edmond Andros controlled Connecticut as part of the Dominion of New England, he made certain changes in the ways in which laws were administered. He created the office of Justice of the Peace (JOP) which existed in England, but had never been used in New England.

The Justices of the Peace were established to deal with small legal matters not exceeding the value of 40 shillings. It was argued that “many inconveniences may arise unto the inhabitants of this territory by being vexed and troubled with suits of law for small and trivial injuries, debts and trespasses wherein the customary fees and charges may exceed the original debt and damages.” These “shall and may be heard and judged by any of his Majesties Justices of the Peace.”

Justices of the Peace were established for each county throughout the Dominion. A quarterly Court of Sessions should be held by the Justices of the Peace to “hear and determine all matters relating to the conservation of peace and punishment of offenders and whatsoever else.” This included the probate of small estates. In Connecticut there were courts in Hartford, New London, New Haven and Fairfield.

Andros was careful to appoint only men of high reputation as Justices of the Peace. For Hartford County John Wadsworth, Benjamin Newberry, Samuel Talcott and Giles Hamlin, members of the existing Connecticut government were appointed. To these he added, John Chester and Rev. Gershom Bulkeley, prominent Wethersfield citizens and Humphrey Davie, a prominent Bostonian who had recently moved to Connecticut.

When the court heard criminal cases, a jury was selected to join the JOPs. These cases were heard with John Allyn serving as the Judge of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas.

No records of these courts were found until the late 19th century. They were found among the Talcott Papers and given to James Hammond Trumbull, president of the Connecticut Historical Society, who recognized their significance as court papers. Trumbull died in 1888 and his daughter, Annie Eliot Trumbull, published the papers in 1935 as *Records of the Particular Court of Connecticut, Administration of Sir Edmond Andros, Royal Governor, 1687-1688* [a copy of the cover may be found on page 7].

Copies of this somewhat obscure, limited-edition book are found in the Connecticut State Library.

An “Index of Estates” probated, were compiled by E. Stanley Welles in 1936 and is bound in the back of the library copy. There are records of 42 estates probated between March 1687/8 and March 1688/9. Most of these estates had previously been published in 1904 in *A Digest of the Early Connecticut Probate Records, Vol. 1, Hartford District, 1635-1700* by Charles William Manwaring. Eight of the estate records are not found in Manwaring. These are:

Churchill, Benjamin, Wethersfield, 36 yrs old, May 25, 1688.

Coltman, John, Wethersfield, inventory, March 5, 1688/9.

Curtis, Sarah, widow of Samuel, admin granted, Jan. 22, 1688/9.

Garrett, Daniel, [Hartford] inventory, admin granted March 8, 1687/8.

Garrett, Daniel, died Jan. 28, 1687/8, inventory record, March 8, 1687/8.

Henderson, John [Hartford] will and inventory, Dec. 6, 1688.

Welch, William, Hartford, inventory, admin granted, Dec. 6, 1688.

Wiard, John, Wethersfield, 34 yrs old, testimony May 25, 1688.

[A sample of the pages may be found on page 8].

RECORDS *of the*
PARTICULAR
COURT *of the* CO
LONY *of* CON
NECTICUT.

*Administration of Sir
Edmond Andros, ROYAL
GOVERNOR, 1687-1688*

PRIVATELY PRINTED IN
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

1935

ventory the widow and John Tayler accept of ye Executorship.

An Inventory of the Estate of Sergt Thomas Butler of Hartford Deceased was Exhibited in Court and oath made by Thomas Butler weaver; that he made a true p'sentm^t of ye Estate of the Deceased to the appriz^m so far as at p'sent is known & if more Come to knowledg he w— Cause it to be aded to the Inventory./

An Inventory of the Estate of William Welch of Hartford Deceased was Exhibited in Court, and oath made by John Sheperd Junio^r that he made a true p'sentm^t of ye Estate of ye Deceased to the appriz^m so far as at p'sent is known, and if more Comes to knowledg he will Cause it to be aded to ye Inventory. John Sheperd accepts to adminste^r on ye Estate so far as it will hold out ye Cou^t ord^r it to be Recorded./

The Last will and testam^t of Mr John Loomis of Winds^r is Exhibited in Court and proved and accepted; and John Loomis and his Mother have ? [torn] accepted to be Executors to the Estate as allso an Inventory was p'sented and oath made by John Loomis that he made a true p'sentm^t of ye estate of ye Deceased to the appriz^m so far as at p'sent is known, and if more Come to knowledg he will Cause it to be aded to ye Inventory. The Court ord^r it to be Recorded.

The Last will and testam^t of Allexander Duglas of Hartfd Deceased was Exhibited in Cou^t, and proved & accepted. together with the Inventory and oath made

by Capt. Standly th[at] a true p'sentm^t of ye Estate of the Deceased was p'sented to ye appriz^m, and if more Come to knowledg, he will Cause it to be added to the Inventory. The Court ord^r it to be Recorded./

Hartfd Dec^r 27: 1688.

Att a speciall metting of John Allyn Esq^r Judge of the Inferior Co^t of Comen pleas assisted by Hump^{ry} Davie, and Gersham Buckley Esq^{re} Justices of the peace for the County of Hartford. In his Maj^{ties} Territory & Dom: of N Eng.

Hezekiah Portt^r, son of John Portter of Winds^r Deceased appeared before ye Cou^t, and made choyce of his Uncle Samuell Grant senio^r of ye same Winds^r to be his Guardyan./ and the Cou^t appoynts Thomas Bissell senio^r of Winds^r to be Gardyan to Joseph portter; son to ye aforesd John Portter Deceased / he being ^{C 3^r} of full age to Choose a Gaurdyan for himselfe./ Thus far my due taken out./

Att a Speciall Sessions of the peace holden at Hartfd for ye County of Hartford, In his Majesties Territory, and Dom. of New England./

Before Hump^{ry} Davie, Benjamen Neubery, Gersham Bulkly Sam^l Talcott, John Wadsworth, Gyles Hamlyn & Jn^o Chester Esq^{re}

Joseph Scott of farmington was p'sented by ye grand Jury ye 4th of Sept^r p'sent for saying, when he was pressed to goe in ye Kings Service to Northfeld, yt if they would force him to goe he would Charg his gun with a Brace of Bulletts, and Clap it to his heart, and other unseemly words, he was sumonsed and appeared,

ANNOUNCING THE 2015 CSG LITERARY AWARDS CONTEST WINNERS

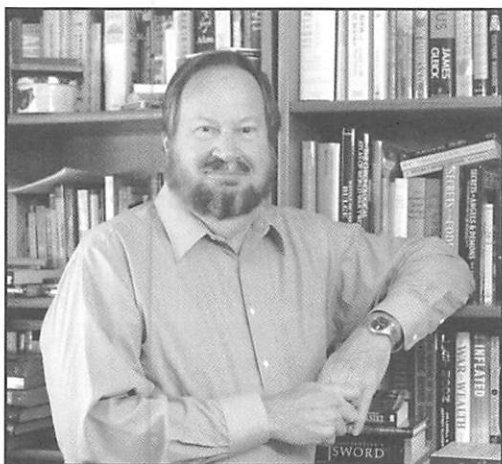
Congratulations to all the winners of this year's contest and thank you to all who entered. The winning "Tell Your Family Story" Essay will be published in its entirety in *The Connecticut Nutmegger*, Volume 48 #1 (July 2015). Book reviews of all the winning entries may be found on page 24 of this issue of *Connecticut Genealogy News*. Book Reviews of all the entries will appear in upcoming issues.



Winner of the 2015 CSG Grand Prize in Genealogy

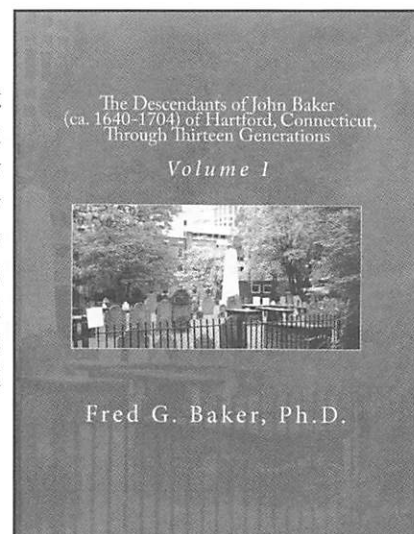
The Descendants of John Baker (ca. 1640-1704) of Hartford, Connecticut through Thirteen Generations Volume I & II

by Dr. Fred G. Baker



Dr. Fred G. Baker is a hydrologist, historian and author living in Colorado. Born in Chicago and raised in Wisconsin, he began his education in a one-room school house and the public high school in Richland Center, Wisconsin. He went on to receive one undergraduate and three graduate degrees: a B.S. in Geology and M.S. in Soil Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, later followed by a M.S. in Civil Engineering and Ph.D. in Geological Sciences/Hydrogeology from the University of Colorado-Boulder. His professional life has been devoted to academic research and environmental consulting in the fields of water resources and civil engineering. In his private life, he enjoys hiking, skiing, photography and creative writing.

Dr. Baker began investigating his family history out of curiosity about where his branch of the Bakers came from and at the urging of a cousin who told him that he was the only one in the family who could actually complete the task. *The Descendants of John Baker* volumes are only partial products of this effort, as they are to be followed by *The Ancestors of Con James Baker, of Des Moines, Iowa and Chicago, Illinois*, his father. He is the author of 29 professional papers, several genealogical articles, numerous technical reports as well as the popular publications *Growing Up Wisconsin*, *The Life and Times of Con James Baker*, and *The Light from a Thousand Campfires* (with Hannah Pavlik).

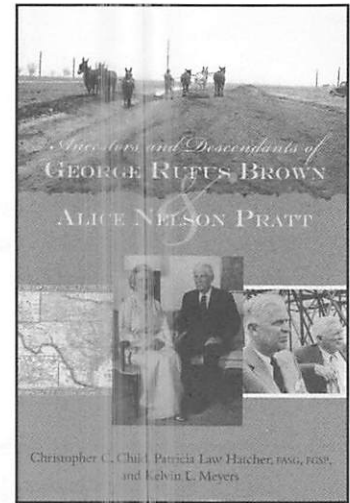




Winner of the 2015 CSG Brainerd T. Peck Award for Family History

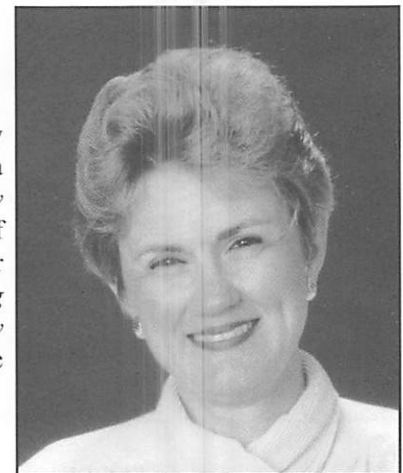
Ancestors and Descendants of George Rufus Brown and Alice Nelson Pratt

by Christopher C. Child,
Patricia Law Hatcher & Kevin L. Meyers



Originally from Putnam, Connecticut, **Christopher C. Child** has worked for various departments at the New England Historic Genealogical Society since 1997 and became a full-time employee in July 2003. He has been a member of NEHGS since the age of eleven. Chris graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. in history from Drew University in Madison, New Jersey, in 2003. He belongs to the National History Honor Society, Phi Alpha Theta. He has written several articles in *American Ancestors*, *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, and *The Mayflower Descendant*. He is the co-editor of *The Ancestry of Catherine Middleton* (NEHGS, 2011), co-compiler of *The Descendants of Judge John Lowell of Newburyport, Massachusetts* (Newbury Street Press, 2011), and author of *The Nelson Family of Rowley, Massachusetts* (Newbury Street Press, 2014).

Patricia Law Hatcher, FASG, FGSP, was elected a Fellow of the American Society of Genealogists in 2000 and a Fellow of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania in 2010. She is past editor of the *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine* and the *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, is a former trustee of the Association of Professional Genealogists, and has written more than two hundred articles and a number of books, including *Researching Your Colonial New England Ancestors*, *Locating Your Roots—Discover Your Ancestors Using Land Records*, and *Producing a Quality Family History*. She has written or edited several books for the New England Historic Genealogical Society and for Newbury Street Press.



Kelvin L. Meyers has been a professional genealogist for the last twenty-seven years and an avid researcher-historian for the last thirty-five years. He is a frequent speaker at many genealogical societies and family associations in Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana. A fifth-generation Texan, Kelvin was employed for ten years in the Genealogy Department of the Dallas Public Library and now serves as a forensic genealogist for law firms, banks, the U.S. Immigration Service, and energy companies. He is a 1989 and 1990 alumnus of the Institute of Genealogical and Historical Research at Stamford University and has lectured in Course III Research in the South and Course VIII Researching African American Ancestors. Kelvin is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, a past president of the Lone Star Chapter of APG, and a member of the board of the Council for the Advancement of Forensic Genealogy.

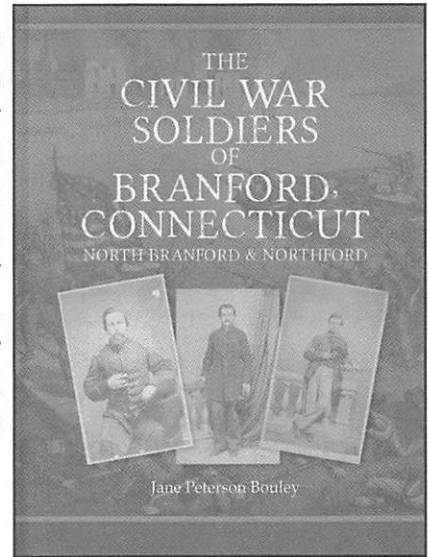
**Winner of the 2015 CSG Prize for
Best Genealogical Resource Publication**

***The Civil War Soldiers of Branford, Connecticut
North Branford & Northford*
by Jane P. Bouley**



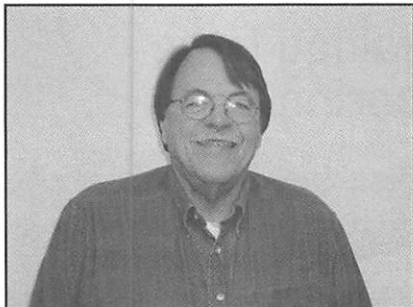
Jane Peterson Bouley is the Branford, Connecticut Town Historian and has focused her research on primary material and resources with an emphasis on the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. She is the author or coauthor of *Damascus Cemetery*, *Mill Plain Cemetery*, *Supply*

Pond, and other works. She is a recipient of an Award of Merit from the Connecticut League of Historical Societies and was inducted into the Branford Education Hall of Fame in 1999.



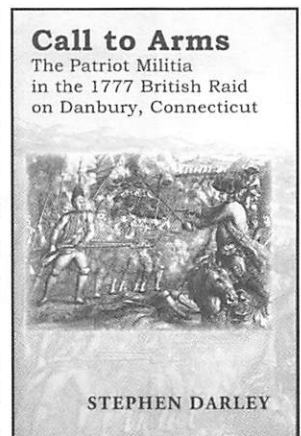
**Honorable Mention in the 2015 Literary Awards Contest
Genealogical Resource Category**

***Call to Arms, the Patriot Militia in the 1777 British Raid
on Danbury, Connecticut*
by Stephen Darley**



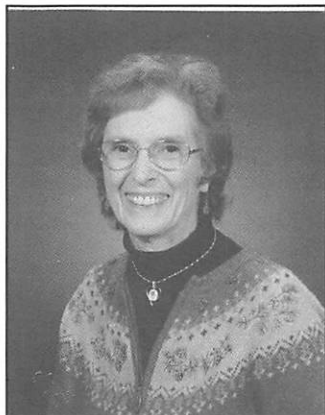
Stephen Darley has a law degree from George Washington University and lives in North Haven, Connecticut. He has a forty year interest in the American Revolution and has written three books exploring battles fought by the Northern Army in the first three years of the Revolutionary War, including the expedition to Quebec in 1775, the battle of Valcour

Island in Lake Champlain in 1776 and the British raid on Danbury in 1777. He has also written twenty-five articles in various historical and genealogical publications including three articles in the *Nutmegger*. He has been retired since 2009 and is a member of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists and the North Haven Historical Society. Visit his web site at www.darleybooks.com.



Winner of the 2015 Literary Awards “Tell Your Family Story” Essay Contest

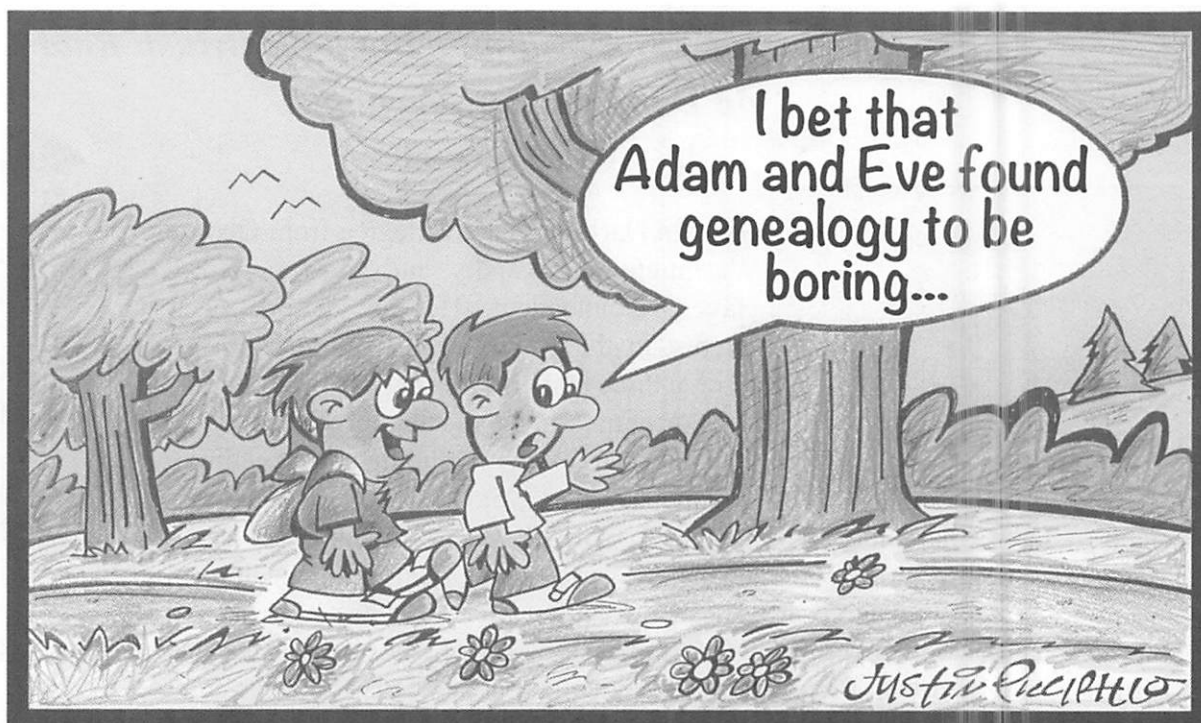
“The Road to Connecticut---the Story of Reginald Campbell Edson”

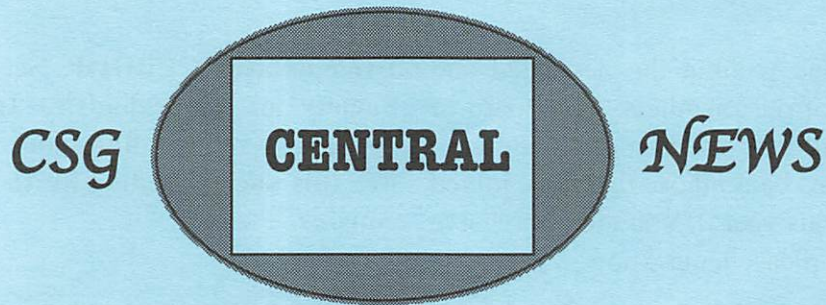


by Jean E. Perreault

Jean E. Perreault, the youngest of three sisters, has been involved in genealogy for over 35 years. She received her BA degree from the University of Connecticut. Jean and her husband Steve enjoy their ever expanding family which includes four sons, their wives, eight grandchildren, and two young great-grandsons. She has written two books. Her first book *Footprints Across Connecticut From Simsbury 1930 Census* published in 2007 received Awards of Merit from both The American Association for State and Local History and The Connecticut League of History Organizations, and the First Prize in “New England Genealogical Resource Publications” from The Connecticut Society of Genealogists. Her second book *Footprints Across Connecticut From East Granby & Granby 1930 Census* published in 2010 received an Certificate of Achievement from The Connecticut Society of Genealogists. She is presently completing her third book, which is focused on Bloomfield residents enumerated during the 1930 census. In addition, she has served on Board of nursery school five years, last year as Chairperson; was a Cub Scout den leader six years, den leader coach three years, and acting Pack Leader one year; Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council membership chair for 4 years; served on homeowners association board from 2008 to 2013; leader of prayer shawl ministry at Sacred Heart parish in Bloomfield and serves as a Reiki volunteer at Hartford Hospital.

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.

2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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 comradery 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. Members are reminded to watch this space and/or the CSG website for updated information.

For questions or to pre-register by phone call 860-569-0002. MasterCard, Visa or Discover Accepted. Please make checks payable and mail to: CSG, Inc., P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033.

--- Join us Saturdays this Summer ---

11 July - "Researching Newspapers"

Speaker: Noreen Manzella

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

Time: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Open Researching or Questions: 11 a.m. to Noon

Cost: \$15

Please pre-register by July 7th.

18 July - "Researching Vital Records, Church Records & Cemetery Records" **Speaker:** Edwin W. Strickland II

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

Time: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Open Researching or Questions: 11 a.m. to Noon

Cost: \$15. Please pre-register by July 14th.

1 August - "Researching the Census and other Genealogy Websites" **Speaker:** Diane LeMay

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

Time: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Open Researching or Questions: 11 a.m. to Noon

Cost: \$15. Please pre-register by July 28th.

19 September - "City Directories: A Great Resource for Locating Information On That Ancestor That May Not Be Found Elsewhere" **Speaker:** Carol R. Whitmer

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

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Cost: FREE. Please pre-register by September 15th.

SAVE THE DATE

17 October - Annual Family History Seminar
"Journeying Into the World of Our Ancestors"

Speakers:

Edwin W. Strickland II on "Caring for Your Stuff."

Marilyn Labbe on "Life in a 19th Century Mill Town: the Culture, Religion, Social Aspects and How the New Influx of Immigrants Changed the Demographics of Those Areas They Settled."

Gail B. Richmond on "Researching in New York City."

Lynn Maffessoli: "Preserving Our Family History for Future Generations."

Place: Four Points Sheraton, 275 Research Pkwy., Meriden, CT.

Time: Registration begins at 8 a.m., first speaker begins at 9 a.m.

Cost: \$45 if registration is received by Sept. 30th. \$55 if received thereafter. **See flyer on page 16 for more details and registration form.**

21 November - "More Than *Metes* the Eye: Using Land Records in Your Research"

Speaker: Edwin W. Strickland II

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

Time: 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Cost: FREE. Please pre-register by November 17th.

We cannot continue without the dedicated and generous support of our members. The Board of Governors thanks all who have renewed and welcomes (or welcomes back) those that have joined new or reinstated this year. If you did not receive your dues renewal please let us know.

The Board of Governors thanks Judith Bowen & Beverly Lawton for their services to the Board and CSG; and wish them well in their new endeavors. At the 2015 Annual Meeting, James H. Leatherbee II was bestowed the honor of Governor Emeritus. Welcome John Bedard & Brian Cofrancesco to the Board for the 2015-2016 year. Thank you to all the Board members who have been re-elected, and we look forward to a prosperous year under the leadership Gail B. Richmond.

CSG has just entered into a Society Membership program with Find My Past! This membership promises to be very beneficial for CSG and its members with access to the census, U.S., Canadian & western European records. Within a couple of years, they plan to have eastern European records available as well. **See page 15** for more details. Please watch the CSG website for all that will be available. One very important feature is that members can receive a 50% off their world subscription price and access it directly from home. Call or email CSG at 860-569-0002 or csginc@csginc.org for the code and instructions on how to subscribe. Members may also find instructions by signing in to the CSG website and following the link on the Welcome Page. **See the inside back cover for more great information from Find My Past.**

We still have books for sale. Check the website under **Books** for what are available. You may even choose to order through the website or may call the CSG Office with a MasterCard, Visa or Discover.

LIKE us on FACEBOOK. Search “Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.” for events, genealogy related links and photos. You can use this social media site to connect up with cousins.

Tolland will be celebrating its 300th Anniversary this year with many unique events and activities. Much will be going on throughout the summer and fall. Go to www.Tolland300.org for more details.

Here is a list of **some** of these events that should be of interest to historians and genealogists. There are enough great events to keep one involved throughout these coming months. We do hope you will attend and enjoy their Celebration!!!

Saturday, June 28th: 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Civil War Exhibit, Tolland Historical Society
Venue: Old Tolland County Court House

Saturday, July 11th: 9:00 a.m.-12:00
The Society of the Seventeenth Century Life in Colonial Connecticut: Variety of Demonstrations.
Sponsor: Tolland Historical Society.
Venue: Daniel Benton Homestead.

Saturday, July 18th: 10:00 a.m. to Noon
Historic hike of sites on the King Trail, Tolland Conservation Corps.
Venue: King Riverside Conservation Area.

Saturday, September 19th: 1 p.m.
Anniversary Parade at the Tolland Green and from 3:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Tolland’s 300th Anniversary Town-wide Picnic and Celebrate Tolland featuring the Arts of Tolland Crafts Show.
Venue: Tolland Middle School.

Sunday, September 20th: 1 p.m. 4 p.m.
Tolland’s Story through the 19th and 20th Centuries in exhibits and weekly activities, plus 300 Years of Fashion, Tolland Historical Society
Venue: Old Tolland County Jail and Museum.

find my past

Welcome to the Society Membership Program with Findmypast!

Your society leadership has just acquired one more benefit to add to the long list of reasons to be an active member. Societies are, in general terms, volunteer organizations, and the passion and energy that members bring to the group are essential in overall success. We invite you to explore findmypast.com today, and all it has to offer you, then come back together and share your success stories as a group. Celebrate the accomplishments you have made, explore the various data collections with your colleagues and research your local community; you may just be surprised at what you find!

The team at Findmypast is very excited to have the Connecticut Society of Genealogists as our newest partners.

Findmypast is a constantly growing resource, and we hope to offer you a unique and diverse collection of genealogical records. We currently have more than 850 million U.S. records on Findmypast, and more than 1.8 billion records in our global collection. One of the many strengths of our holdings is a reflection on the history of the UK, Ireland and Australia. By taking advantage of this program, you are joining a network of 18 million subscribers around the world. Our partners include FamilySearch, the Allen County Public Library, the British Library, and the UK National Archives. We have been working closely with all of these collections to bring you interesting and dynamic records that will enhance your family history and allow you to explore the world in which your ancestors' lived.

A world subscription will give you access to our entire online collection of material, including the incredible British Newspapers collection, which spans from 1710-1953, and includes thousands of local and regional publications from England, Wales and Scotland. Your subscription will give you access to immigration and naturalization records as well as the PERiodical Source Index (PERSI), now exclusively housed at Findmypast. These are just a few titles that are available that span a global history, reaching back to the year 1200.

What does it mean for you?

As a part of our commitment to the family history community, findmypast.com is always looking for ways to assist genealogical and historical societies. Through the Society Membership Program, in conjunction with FGS, as a member of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, you receive a **50% discount** to a twelve month world subscription on findmypast.com.

The leadership team of your organization has been issued a unique registration code for use on findmypast.com, so when you register for a world subscription, and enter the code, the 50% discount will automatically be applied to your subscription. It's that easy!

Happy searching!

---Your friends at Findmypast

Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.
Annual Family History Seminar

Journeying Into the World of Our Ancestors

Saturday ~ 17 October 2015

8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Four Points Sheraton
275 Research Parkway
Meriden, CT

Registration Begins at 8:00 a.m.

Vendor/Exhibitor Booths open, Coffee and Danish

Edwin W. Strickland II on "Caring for Your Stuff"

Marilyn Labbe on "Life in a 19th Century Mill Town: the Culture, Religion, Social Aspects and How the New Influx of Immigrants Changed the Demographics of Those Areas They Settled"

Gail B. Richmond on "Researching in New York City"

Lynn Maffessoli: "Preserving Our Family History for Future Generations"

~Open to the Public~

SEMINAR REGISTRATION - SATURDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2015

Seating Limited - Early Registration \$45

ALL Registrations postmarked after 9/30/15 are \$55 - Deadline to Register: 10/9/15

Name: _____ CSG# _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Telephone # _____

MEAL CHOICE (circle one):

Chicken Marsala or Moroccan Cous Cous w/grilled vegetables & Balsamic glaze (vegetarian)

IF YOU HAVE ANY DIETARY RESTRICTIONS, PLEASE LET US KNOW _____

For more details, visit us at www.csginc.org or pre-register call 1-860-569-0002

Make checks payable and mail to: CSG, Inc., P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033-0435

MasterCard, Visa & Discover Accepted

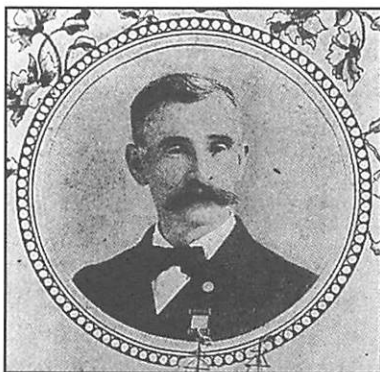
PROFILES OF CONNECTICUT'S CIVIL WAR HEROES

by Noreen Manzella, CSG # 15578



Editor's Note: In this issue we conclude our series on Connecticut's Civil War Heroes, Medal of Honor winners. Thank you again to Noreen Manzella who worked on these so diligently.

John Jones Landsman U.S. Navy



John Jones was born 25 August 1841 in Bridgeport, Connecticut, to James and Abigail (Granville) Jones. Identified siblings include Michael (b.c. 1845) and Mary (b.c. 1847). His father was born in Ireland and immigrated about 1841. Sometime prior to 1860, the family moved to Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

John Jones married Kate (____). The following children have been recorded for John and Kate: Mary (b.c. 1872), William (b.c. 1873), Elizabeth (b.c. 1874), Edward (b.c. 1876), Thomas (b.c. 1878), James (b.c. 1880), Margaret (b.c. 1882) and Teresa (b.c. 1883). Jones worked as a laborer/rigger in the Navy yard. He died 15 August 1907 and is buried in St. Mary's Cemetery, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

He enlisted in the Navy on 13 May 1861 in Portsmouth. He served on the *Ohio*, *U.S.S. South Carolina*, *USS Niagara* and the *U.S.S. Rhode Island*. John Jones was serving aboard the *U.S.S. Rhode Island* in December 1862 when the *Monitor* sank. The *Rhode Island* had been towing the *Monitor* to Beaufort, North Carolina. During a heavy gale, the tow ropes became entangled, the ships separated, and the *Monitor* began to flounder. When it became apparent that the ship would sink and the crew forced to abandon ship, the *Rhode Island* sent out three rescue boats. John Jones served on one of these as it made the mile trip across heavy seas two times.

On the third attempt, the boat disappeared. Through the actions of its commander, Ensign Brown and Jones, along with 6 other sailors, the boat did not sink. The men were rescued off the coast of Cape Hatteras many hours later after their valiant efforts to keep the boat afloat. For their bravery in this non-combat action, the seven men received the award. Jones was discharged on 2 May 1864.

John Jones's Medal of Honor reads:

"Served on board the *U.S.S. Rhode Island*, which was engaged in saving the lives of the officers and crew of the *Monitor*, 30 December 1862. Participating in the hazardous rescue of the officers and crews of the sinking *Monitor*, Jones after rescuing several of the men became separated in a heavy gale with other members of the cutter that had set out from the *Rhode Island* and spent many hours in the small boat at the mercy of the weather and high seas until finally picked up by a schooner 50 miles east of Cape Hatteras."

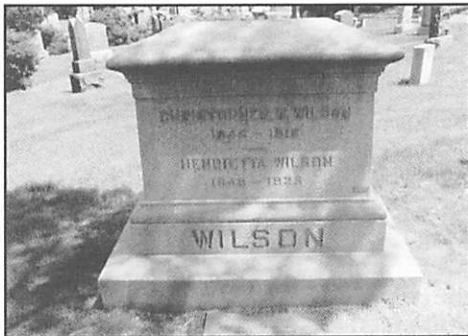
Sources:

U.S. Census 1860-1900
Acton Memorial Library Civil War Archives (www.actonmemoriallibrary.org/civilwar/records/jones_john.html: accessed 29 January 2015).

Beyer, Walter Frederick, ed. and Keydel, Oscar Frederick, ed., *Deeds of Valor* (Detroit, Mich.: Perrien Keydel Co., 1902).

Congressional Medal of Honor Society (www.cmoah.org: accessed 28 January 2015).

Find-A-Grave (<http://www.findagrave.com>: accessed 28 January 2015). Entries for Garvin, Montgomery, Neil and Roberts.



**Private Christopher W. Wilson
Company E, 73rd New York Infantry**

Christopher W. Wilson was born about 1846 in Ireland. Little is known of his early life.

Christopher Wilson married Henrietta (_____) about 1867. Children identified for Christopher and Henrietta are George (b.c. 1868), Robert (b.c.1870), Bessie (b.c. 1877, m. Dr. Charles Schofield), and Christopher W., Jr (b.c.1880). Following the war, Wilson took business training and worked as a bookkeeper for a time. He entered the lumber trade and was senior member of C.W. Wilson and Co. Wilson lived in Brooklyn, and maintained a summer home in Seacliff, New York. He was active in many areas including the Third Army Corp Veteran Association, the Commerce, Hanover and Lincoln clubs, and the New York Lumber Trades Association. He served as vice-president and director of the Eastern District Hospital, as well as director of the New York Rubber Company and the Greenpoint National Bank.

Christopher Wilson died September 12, 1916 in Seacliff and is buried in Evergreen Cemetery in Brooklyn, New York.

Wilson enlisted on 7 May 1861 in Company E, 73rd New York Infantry. Records differ as to the location, but Connecticut is credited as his “hometown.” The 73rd New York was also known as the 2nd Fire Zouaves as many members of the unit were from the New York Fire Department. Some of the battles in which the 73rd were active were the Siege at Yorktown and the Battle of Williamsburg in 1862. Other engagements included Fair Oaks, second Bull Run, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorville. At Gettysburg, the unit met great losses. In 1864, the 73rd was active in the fighting at the Wilderness and joined General Grant in the battle with Lee’s army at Spotsylvania Courthouse. Intense

fighting occurred on May 12. Over thirty soldiers earned the Medal of Honor, including Christopher Wilson. After the color bearer was wounded, Wilson took up the flag and carried it over the Confederate lines. At the same time as he was displaying these colors, he managed to capture the flag of the 56th Virginia. Private Wilson carried both flags off the battlefield. Wilson was promoted 18 November 1864 to 2nd Lieutenant, followed by promotion to 1st Lieutenant on 12 January 1865. He was mustered out on 12 June 1865 at Washington, D.C.

Lieutenant Christopher Wilson’s Medal of Honor, awarded 30 December 1898, reads:

“Took the flag from the wounded color bearer and carried it in the charge over the Confederate works, in which charge he also captured the colors of the 56th Virginia (C.S.A.) bringing off both flags in safety.”



Sources:

Home of Heroes (www.homeofheroes.com/moh/citations_1862_cwq/wilson_christopher.html. Entry for Christopher W. Wilson.

New York State Military Museum. “73rd New York Infantry.” (<http://tinyurl/pcdwvw5>: accessed 1 February 2015).

U.S. Census 1850-1910.

Wilson, Christopher. *Find-A-Grave* (www.findagrave.com: accessed 30 January 2015)

Wilson, Christopher W., “U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles,” 1861-1865, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 30 January 2015).

William Garvin
Boatswain's Mate
U.S. Navy

Robert William Montgomery
Captain of the Afterguard
U.S. Navy

John Robert Neil
Master at Arms
U.S. Navy

James Roberts
Seaman
U.S. Navy

As no family information could be verified for any of these four men, and all served aboard the *U.S.S. Agawam*, we are presenting a combined profile for them.

William Garvin was born about 1835 in Canada and entered the U.S. Navy at Plymouth, Connecticut. He enlisted 24 February 1864 in Company H, 8th Infantry. He transferred to the United States Navy on 4 May 1864. He was discharged 29 January 1866.

Robert Montgomery was born about 1838 in Ireland and entered Navy service at Norwich, Connecticut. He died about 1898 in England and is buried there.

John Neil was born in Newfoundland, Canada and entered service at Norwich, Connecticut.

James Roberts was born in 14 February 1837 in England and entered service at Hartford, Connecticut. He died in New York on 19 October 1908. He is buried in Bath National Cemetery, Bath, New York.

During the first battle of Fort Fisher in December 1864, it was decided that if a boat loaded with explosives could get close enough to the fortified walls of the fort, it could damage the fort. To this end, Garvin, Montgomery, Neil and Roberts were among the men from the *Agawam* under the command of Commander Rhind, who volunteered to man a powder boat rigged to explode in the waters close to the beach at the fort. The powder boat was towed in by the *Wilderness* to prevent the Confederates from being alerted to this action. The powder boat had been rigged in Beaufort, North Carolina with the expectation of simultaneous firings. Once aboard the powder boat, additional pine knots were lit in the cabin to assure an explosion and the men escaped back to the *Wilderness*. Less than two hours later there was an explosion of a lesser degree than anticipated. It was believed that some misfires occurred and, consequently, the efforts failed to produce the desired results. Despite the lack of results,

the men were honored for their bravery.

On 24 December all four men were awarded the Medal of Honor. Their citations read

“on board the USS Agawam as one of a volunteer crew of a powder boat which was exploded near Fort Fisher, 23 December 1864. The powder boat was towed in by the *Wilderness* to prevent detection by the enemy, cast off and slowly steamed to within 300 yards of the beach. After fuses and fires had been lit and a second anchor with a short scope let go to assure the boat's tailing inshore, the crew boarded the *Wilderness* and proceeded a distance of a few miles from shore. Less than two hours later, the explosion took place, and the following day fires were observed still burning at the forts.”

Sources:

Walter Frederick Beyer, ed. and Oscar Frederick, Keydel, ed., *Deeds of Valor*. (Detroit, Mich.: Perrien Keydel Co., 1902), 80-81.

Congressional Medal of Honor Society (www.cmohs.org: accessed 28 January 2015).

Find-A-Grave (<http://www.findagrave.com>: accessed 28 January 2015.) Entries for Garvin, Montgomery, Neil and Roberts.

“U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles.” *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 22 January 2014). Entries for Garvin, Montgomery, Neil and Roberts.

U.S. Census 1850-1930

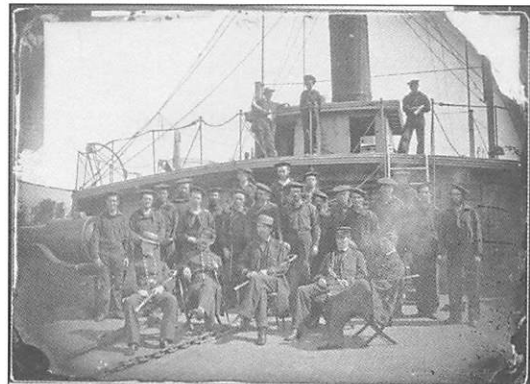
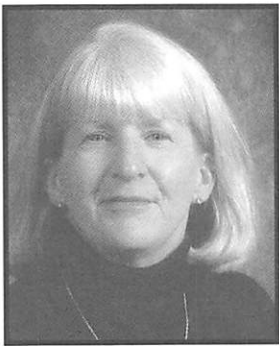


Photo of the officers and crew of the *U.S.S. Agawam* from Google Images.

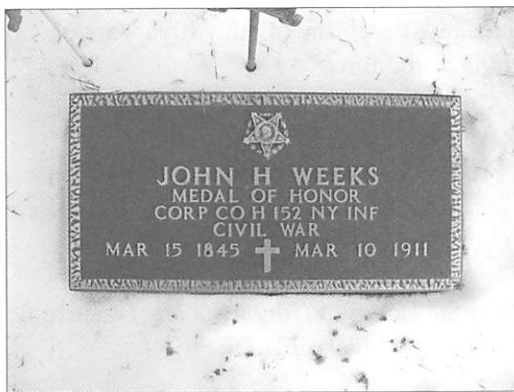


About the Author

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 20th 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.

Editor's Note: In the last issue of Connecticut Genealogy News (Vol. 8 No. 1 Spring 2015) we published the profile for Private John Henry Weeks of Company H, 152nd New York Infantry. Included below are some more pictures found for him.



Franco-American Clubs, Genealogical Societies, Libraries, Museums, Et Cetera

*by Albert J. Marceau (March 7, 2015)
submitted by Oliva Patch, CSG # 5058*

Genealogical Societies

French-Canadian Genealogical Society of Connecticut
P.O. Box 928
Tolland, CT 06084-0928
860-872-2597
<http://www.fcgsc.org>

American-Canadian Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 6478
Manchester, NH 03018-6478
603-622-1554
<http://www.acgs.org>

American French Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 830
Woonsocket, RI 02895-0870
401-765-6141
www.AFGS.org

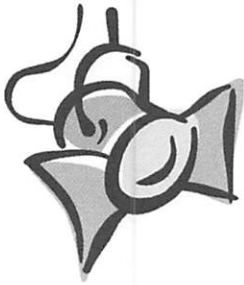
ACGS, Father Begin Chapter
P.O. Box 2125
Lewiston, ME 04240-2125

Franco-American Genealogical Society of York County
P.O. Box 180
Biddeford, ME 04005-0180

Northern New York American-Canadian Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 1256
Plattsburg, NY 12901

Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 65128
Burlington, VT 05406-5128
Fax: 802-656-8518
<http://vt-fcgs.org>

Continued on page 27



Spotlight on Connecticut Towns & Cities



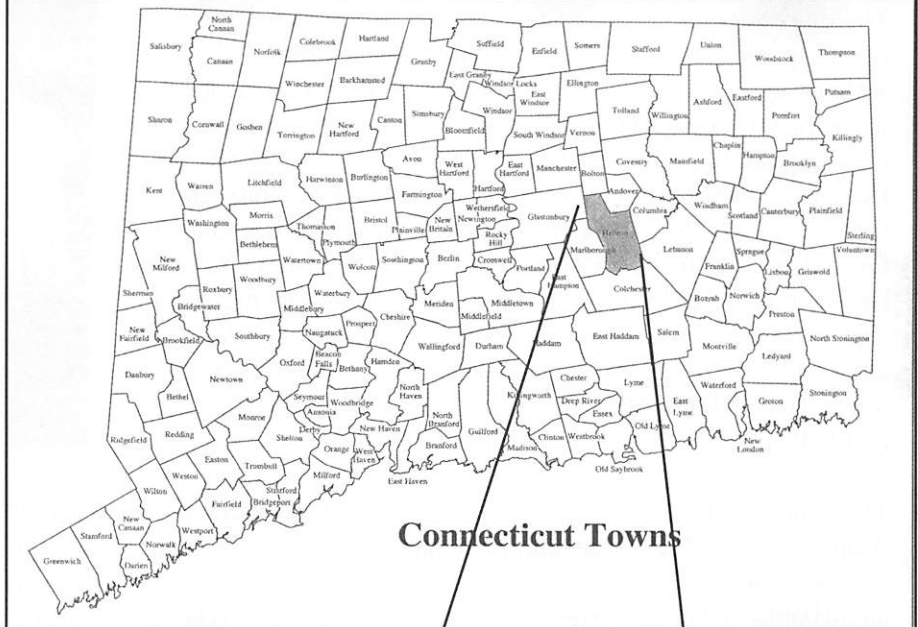
Spotlight on Hebron

by Gail B. Richmond, M.S.,
CSG#18530

Historic and Geographic Information

Hebron, located in Tolland County, and in the Hartford metro area, was incorporated May 26, 1708. The 41st oldest town in Connecticut, Hebron was named after the biblical city in Canaan.

It was first settled in 1704 by Timothy Phelps and William Shipman of Windsor. The first Town Meeting was held September 20, 1708. Today Hebron Center, Gilead and Amston are Hebron. Hebron has two postal zip codes: 06248 for Hebron and Amston.



Connecticut Towns

Hebron

located within 06231 for



In May 1710 a diamond figure brand was required of all horses kept in Hebron. The diamond shape is now used in the town seal along with a pump. Hebron is often referred to as Pump Town, a name that dates back to an event celebrating the end of the French & Indian Wars. The pump depicted in the seal, however, is a water pump, not the hollowed out log used in the celebration.

The town has a total area of 37.3 square miles and a population of 9,571 (2010 census) for a population density of approximately 256 people per square mile. Hebron has been ranked in the top ten of Connecticut towns by Connecticut Magazine. Although farming was once the main industry more businesses have been entering. Hebron now has a CVS located on Main Street and Horton Boulevard.

Hebron has a Town Manager as its Chief Executive Officer, a Board of Selectmen and a Board of Finance. The Charter which was recently revised, was approved by the voters in November 2014.

Places and Events of Interest

The Hebron Harvest Fair is held annually in September at the Hebron Lions Fairgrounds and attracts people from all over the state. Each March the Maple Fest is held on Main Street and at sugar houses throughout town.

Last year (2014) the first Hebron Day was held in August at Burnt Hill Park. It is expected that this will become an annual event and is already scheduled for August of this year.

Hebron has many recreational areas. Gay City State Park is located in Hebron and offers trails for hiking and biking. In season there is a pond for swimming as well as cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. The Airline State Park (a lateral park) offers hiking and walking, horseback riding and mountain biking trails. There are several access points in town. Burnt Hill Park offers a variety of active and passive activities including ball fields, walking trails and a pavilion. Burnt Hill Park is also the location of the historic Peters House (ca. 1700's) which currently is being restored thanks to town funding and multiple grants. The Town of Hebron is working with the Historic Properties Commission on the restoration. Many hours of volunteer time have also gone into this project. Another park is Grayville Falls Park where Raymond Brook ends in a beautiful waterfall. It has areas for picnicking and also trails. Veteran's Memorial Park has a playscape, skate park and ball fields. There are also other ball fields located throughout town. Two public golf courses are located in town: Blackledge and Tallwood.



**Mrs. Charles J. Douglas
(Ida Porter Douglas)
1903**

The Douglas Library located on the Town Green celebrated its 125th Anniversary in 2014. The library is named after Ida Douglas, a devoted advocate for the library. In addition to books, magazines, DVDs, CDs, and audio books, the library offers Overdrive Advantage, that is books that may be downloaded onto a patron's eBook reader. Passes for museums and state parks are also available courtesy of the Friends of the Douglas Library. Genealogists are pleased that the library offers the index for the Barbour Collection (Hebron Vital Records

prior to 1870) online. The Rivereast News Bulletin, a weekly newspaper published by the Glastonbury *Citizen*, publishes local news and obituaries of people from Hebron. Copies are available at the library.



Genealogical Resources

Hebron is fortunate to have an active historical society. The Hebron Historical Society, a non-profit corporation, was established in 1966. Its mission is to preserve and promote Hebron history. It hosts several programs each year. The Old Town Hall and the Burrows Hill School have been restored by the Society which also maintains them. The Hebron

Historical Society website is www.hebronthistoricalsociety.org. Once on the site, a reader may link to Hebron's genealogy page on the USGenWeb Project. This link also connects to the biographies of Hebron and Tolland County's early settlers.

Of the many historic cemeteries, the old Hebron Cemetery dates back to the 1730s. Findagrave.com has many listings of internments in these cemeteries, as well as for many others both nationally and internationally. Some cemeteries are: Burroughs Hill, Gott, Gilead, Godfrey Hill, Jones, Jones Street, Sumner, St. Peters and others. The Hale Collection of Connecticut Cemetery Inscriptions has cemetery inscriptions from 1629 to 1934. The

information is available at the Connecticut State Library. Ancestry.com has digitized this work.

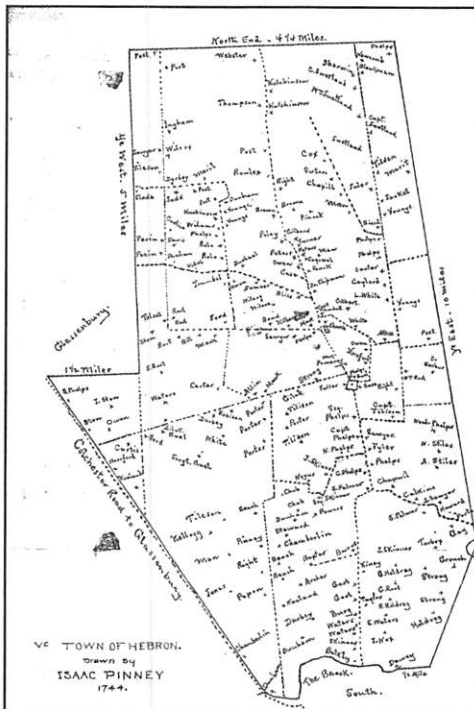
Glastonbury Hebron Probate Court located in the Glastonbury Town Hall has probate records for Hebron. The Connecticut State Library, Hartford, CT has Hebron Probate records from 1833, and 1851-1975. Many files prior to 1851 are with the Andover Probate District Records.

The Town Clerk's Office is one of the oldest and the official record keeper for Hebron. Vital records from 1708 to the present exist. Some of the early records available have not been filmed or indexed by Barbour. Birth records are available for anyone born in Hebron or whose mother resided in Hebron at the time of the birth. Death records are available for anyone who died in Hebron or for a Hebron resident who died outside of town. Marriage licenses are available if the marriage occurred in Hebron or if one of the parties is a Hebron resident. Licenses for marriages or civil unions must be obtained in the town where the ceremony is to be held.



The Town Clerk's Office has land records from 1698 to the present. Grants of Land from 1724 to 1745 are also available. Indexes of land records are available online at hebronct.com and can be accessed from home. There is a fee to see the actual image from home, or it may be viewed at no charge in the Town Office Building. Grantor and Grantee Records are available from 1698. Hebron Town Reports are issued annually since 1878 and are also available.

The Town Clerk's Office has records of service of Connecticut Men in the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, the Mexican War and the War of Rebellion. Militia enrollment from 1851 to 1923 are available.



Records of Town Meetings from 1708 exist and Tax Lists from 1723 have also survived. The Tercentennial Collection of Hebron Town Records, 1747 to 1970 are available in the Town Clerk's Office. These are comprised of Town Records, Taxes (Assessments and Collections), Financial Records and Legal Records.

Having moved to Hebron over thirty years ago from Brooklyn, NY I can attest to the many charms and attributes of Hebron. My husband and I were pleased to raise our three children here. Find State Routes 85 and 66 on a state map or your GPS and pay us a visit. It is worth a drive!

Sources:

Contribution from Merris Williams of CSG.

Photos provided by Donna Lanza, Director of Administrative Services, Town of Hebron.

Town of Hebron, website: www.hebronct.com.

Hebron Town Clerk's Office: personal interviews with Carla Pomproicz, Town Clerk and Ann Hughes, Assistant Town Clerk.

Betty Jean Morrison, *Connecting to Connecticut* (Glastonbury, Conn.: The Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc., 1995), 134-135.

Linda MacLachlan, *New Copies of Old Records from Hebron CT 1708-1875* (Berwyn Heights, Md.: Heritage Books, 2011).

John Sibun, *Our Town's Heritage, 1708-1958* (Hebron, Conn.: Racine Printing, 1975).

Hebron Historical Society, website:
www.hebronthistorical.society.org

Wikipedia, website:
www.Wikipedia.org/wiki/Hebron,_connecticut.

About the Author:

Gail B. Richmond, currently serving as vice president of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc., was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. She and her husband and three children moved to Connecticut in 1976 and raised their children here. 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. Gail worked for many years in special education, and later 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.

Book Reviews

by Russell A. DeGrafft, CSG # 19174

Descendants of John Baker (ca. 1640-1704) of Hartford, Connecticut, Through Thirteen Generations, Volume 1 & 2 by Fred G. Baker, Ph.D. Published by Other Voices Press, 2970 Howell Road, Golden, CO 80401, 2013. 9x11, softcover, Vol. 1: ISBN 978-1-49295-388-8, 476 pages, Vol. 2: ISBN 978-1-49296-232-8, 455 pages. Order directly from the author at Fred G. Baker, 2970 Howell Rd., Golden, CO 80401 or email at b8746641@yahoo.com. \$24.99 plus P&H for each volume.

Grand Prize winner of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. 2015 Annual Literary Awards Contest in Genealogy, these two volumes demonstrate the tenacious abilities of the author in his detailed researching of the thirteen Baker generations. Any scholar of the Baker genealogy beginning about 1640 will surely thank this author when fleshing out their narratives. Cleverly designed charts and creatively displayed photographs are abundant throughout. It would be easy to become overwhelmed with all the data if not for the many instructional guideposts including the table of contents and a bibliography. A must for the library shelf of anyone researching John Baker.

Ancestors and Descendants of George Rufus Brown and Alice Nelson Pratt, by Christopher C. Child, Patricia Law Hatcher and Kelvin L. Meyers. Published New England Historical Genealogical Society, 99-101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116, 2013. 10x7, hardcover, Library of Congress Control Number 201-3948520, ISBN 978-0-88082-314-2, 669 pages. Order directly from NEHGS, 99-101 Newbury St., Boston, MA 02116 or email leslie.weston@NEHGS.org. \$59.95 plus S&H.

Winner of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. 2015 Literary Awards Contest, Brainerd T. Peck Award for Family History, these authors should be recognized for their excellence in researching/writing. This is a huge book brimming over with four parts of superbly researched data, more than any genealogist can absorb in one reading. The multiple narratives in this material assist the ancestors/descendants in telling his/her amazing stories. A reader should expect to find a clearly marked route when exploring this book. Beginning with the usual table of contents (a vast endeavor on its own) to the conclusion with its notes, bibliography, glossary and index the material shows the extent of the exceptional thoughtfulness of the authors. Black and white illustrations provide the historical context for the researcher's recognition of the role these families played in the history of America. If your interests lie with Brown/Pratt ancestors you will find this a superb book for your research.

***The Civil War Soldiers of Branford, Connecticut, North Branford and Northford* by Jane Peterson Bouley. Self-published by the author, 2014. 8 ½ x 11, hardcover, ISBN 978-0-692-24891-1, 557 pages. Order directly from www.janebouley.com. \$49.00 plus sales tax & S&H.**

Winner of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc., 2015 Annual Literary Awards Contest for Best Genealogical Resource Publication, this book is a Civil War researcher's dream. It is a plethora of material and captivating illustrations that highlights 450 soldiers using federal, state, military and family records that tell the soldiers' stories. The author clearly and entertainingly illustrates those community contributions with more than 400 photos and illustrations, including the soldiers' gravestones. We seldom realize the significance of the soldiers who represented our Connecticut communities during the times of a "state vs. state conflict." Not only did I personally find this book entertaining, but also realize its value as a researcher's personal source of information for that difficult time for America. The author assists the reader with a host of reading aids making this document a simple road to follow, beginning with the usual table of contents and concluding with a massive index. This source is one a researching genealogist will read for pleasure, then for its narrative richness and once again for another dose of intellectual stimulation.

***Call to Arms, the Patriot Militia in the 1777 British Raid on Danbury, Connecticut* by Stephen Darley. Self-published through CreateSpace, 2015. 6x9, softcover, 284 pages. Book is subject to availability. Contact the author at Stephen Darley, 100 Fitch Street, North Haven, CT 06472 or email darley100@comcast.net. Cost \$12.99 plus S&H.**

This book received an Honorable Mention in the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. 2015 Literary Awards Contest in the Genealogical Resource category. This book is a worthy read not only to expand the reader's knowledge of the Danbury, Connecticut environs and how their men fought to stop the British, but also to flesh out a genealogist's narrative with exciting skirmish accounts. If your ancestor was killed in the Battle of Ridgefield, Connecticut, here is a new source of data to consider. Many people from the area do not recognize the name Sybil Ludington. If you are researching this location, she is worthy of your consideration for narrative inclusion. You will find it easy to conquer the data with the extensive index and bibliographic data. This is a book that can be read simply for the pleasure of historical reading or one used by serious researchers. A very exciting read.

"Franco-American Clubs..." continued from page 20

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Williamantic, CT 06226-2295
860-465-5168

Franco-American Center
University of Maine at Orono
Orono, ME 04469
207-581-3789

Assumption College - French Institute
P.O. Box 15005
Worcester, MA 01615-0005
508-767-7415

Public Libraries

Springfield Public Library
Genealogy and Local History Department

220 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103

Fitchburg Public Library - Acadian Collection
610 Main Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420
978-829-1780

French-Canadian Social Clubs-Connecticut

French Social Circle, Inc.
P.O. Box 280921
East Hartford, CT 06128
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 860-223-9610

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 55 Store Avenue
 Waterbury, CT 06705-1444
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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 Wyllys Papers collection and historical profiles of key persons. Hardcover, 6 x 9, 224 pp., illustrated, Picton Press.

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PERSI was first created by the Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library over twenty years ago, and over time, they have diligently added more than 2.5 million entries. The rich content hidden away in publications from genealogy societies around the world has always been difficult to reach in the past, and family historians everywhere have potentially missed wonderful opportunities and information on their ancestors. We are currently working to close this gap, and make these periodicals and newsletters easily accessible.

In order to do this, the team at findmypast.com worked diligently for months on two aspects of the project before we launched. First, the index needed to be updated in online version. The last update occurred in 2009, so the last five years of material has been unavailable. We completed a significant update in early 2014, and the version of PERSI you find on findmypast.com is the only version available online that is current. We have taken this process a step further, and have been updating the index every quarter since it was launched on the site. Secondly, we have been engaged in the process of working one-on-one with societies around the United States and Canada to gain permission to use their material. The majority of

these publications are still protected by copyright, and we take that protection very seriously. Each organization deserves the attention and recognition of our leadership in this project, and we will continue to hold onto that commitment as we move through this process.

This process will take some time, and although we are anxious to see the collection of digital images grow, we are also taking steps to be careful and methodical in our process. This continues to ensure a high quality product being provided to our customers around the world. In addition to quality images, we have provided a search platform specifically designed for PERSI, in order to make the best use of this collection. Our search process includes the ability to find articles by keyword, publication location, title of periodical and more. The benefit is a more detailed and concise search.

The benefits of our relationship with the Genealogy Center at the Allen County Public Library provide one last feature of the PERSI collection. Each item in PERSI on the findmypast.com site has a direct link to the matching entry in the catalog at the ACPL. This equates to easy access and identification of the item, should you have the need to order a copy from the library before it can be digitized.

We are excited to be the new home of PERSI, and look forward to working with the numerous societies' and organizations around the world to make this incredible resource fully available online.

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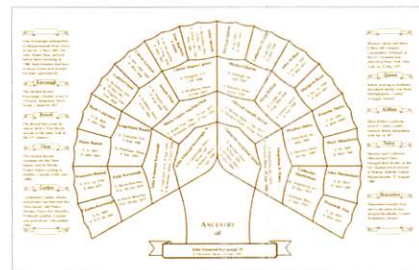
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For Those Who Pursue Their Family Heritage

Fall 2015

Vol. 8 No. 3



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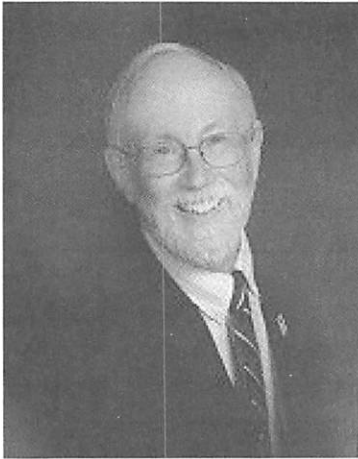
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President's Message



Most of you, upon seeing a President's Message coming from me will be surprised that it is not coming from Gail Richmond. Although elected President at CSG's Annual Meeting in May, Gail resigned as President and from the Board on July 8. Her resignation

was accepted by the Executive Committee with regrets. Per CSG's Bylaws, "In the event of death or resignation of the President, the Vice President shall become President for the remainder of the term." Accordingly, I became CSG's new President effective July 8. By recommendation from the Nominating Committee, approval by the Executive Committee, and vote of the Board at its July 15 meeting, Dick Tomlinson is our new Vice President.

We have two new Board members this year, John Bedard from Lenox, Massachusetts and Brian Cofrancesco from Meriden, Connecticut. Returning Officers and Board members are Diane LeMay (Assistant Treasurer, East Windsor), Peg Limbacher (Treasurer, North Haven), Noreen Manzella (Secretary, West Haven), Donald A. Naples (New Britain), Olivia C. Patch (Tolland), Justin Piccirillo (Meriden), Edwin W. Strickland II (New Britain), Lisa M. Vasas (Milford), Carol Whitmer (Marlborough), Merris E. Williams (Hebron). You can find out more about each of us at http://www.csginc.org/csg_current_board_of_governors.php.

Although the Board of Governors is the designated leadership of our organization, there are many ways in which YOU can help make CSG a better genealogical society:

-Let us know of a speaker or program topic that interests you, or what you'd like to see on the CSG Webpage.

-Volunteer to help out in the Library, at outreach activities, and at programs (you can do this without actually being on the Board).

-Complete Ancestor Charts and submit them for inclusion in the CSG Ancestry Service. See <http://>

www.csginc.org/pdf/CSG_Ancestry_Service_Submission_Instructions.pdf for instructions.

-Enter data from our Ancestry Service into the indexes currently being created in Excel (this can even be done at home if you have Excel on your computer).

-Write an article for *Connecticut Genealogy News* or for the *Connecticut Nutmegger*. The *Nutmegger* is our traditional "journal of record" for well-documented articles. *Connecticut Genealogy News* features more informal articles, and is especially looking for people to write spotlight articles on Connecticut's towns.

We're looking forward to receiving your suggestions and feedback both on how we can improve the ways through which we assist "those who pursue their family heritage" and the ways in which you can help us accomplish this!

Editorial

In this issue we feature an article written by Heritage Humor artist, Justin Piccirillo about Johann Georg Graser and his journey to America. Justin's work is sincerely appreciated. We also extend our appreciation to Diane LeMay for shining our spotlight on the Connecticut town of South Windsor and to Olivia Patch and Bryna O'Sullivan for their brief but very informative articles on the "Gig Economy," "What is a River Pilot" and "Understanding and Employing "Mission" Church Records."

About the Cover

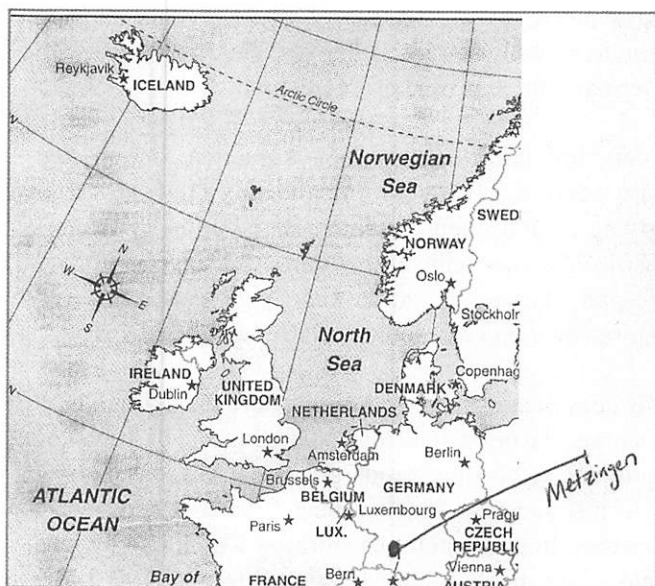
This image is from the free "wallpapers" found on "Wallpapers in HD" at wallpapershdin.com. The photo is called "Nature Trees & Forest Paths." The location is not given, but it is the spittin' image of the woods in the town park in my hometown of Glastonbury, CT. To me it epitomizes Connecticut in the Fall. Walking down that path fills your senses with smells and sounds and sights. Small critters rustle in the leaves and the air has just a tinge of the sharpness of winter to come. You can't help but smile and feel that it is a wonderful world we live in. RGT

Johann Georg Graser of Metzingen, Germany and Wallingford, Connecticut

by Justin Piccirillo, CSG # 16445

It was during 1845, in the German town of Metzingen, Johann Georg Graser, a rebellious, almost resentful, young man of only fifteen packed up his belongings bound for a trip which would change his life forever.

Like most of Europe at that time, Germany was in complete disarray, with war an everyday scene in the eyes of the young Graser. Turning fifteen meant to Johann that he now had to enlist into the German military, entering just prior to the Bismarck regime, to fight for a country which had compulsory military training for youths up until the age sixteen. Johann didn't want to, had refused to serve, and decided to leave Germany and travel elsewhere without his homeland's civil repercussion. It is said that he had left without even saying goodbye to his family or his friends.

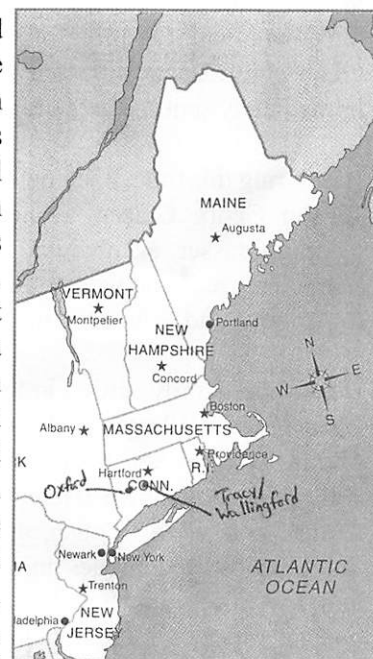


His family, comprised of parents Wilhelm Friedrich Graser and Elisabetha Katherine Fladd, and his three sisters, one of which was deaf and dumb, knew of Johann's unhappiness toward this military commitment, and though he had left abruptly, they understood. They agreed that Johann would be better off traveling to America, the land of opportunity and freedom, where he could then look up his mother's relations, John

Fladd and his wife of Glastonbury, in the state of Connecticut.

Little is known about the trip itself, but it could be assumed that the voyage must have been both nerve-racking and anxious for young Graser to take part in such a life-changing event. Upon arriving in America, John quickly found his way to his cousin's home in the County of Hartford, though he was soon to learn that the Fladd name had been changed to Flagg. Johann's stay in Glastonbury was quite short, lasting just under a year.

He moved out and began to make a life for himself. He took on any such laboring jobs he could find, until settling on working in machinery. Life was hard, but he made do. He eventually met Bridget, and after a brief courtship, on 15 October 1855 in Glastonbury, Hartford County, they wed. A few years later, the twenty-six year-old mechanic, Johann, and his wife, Bridget, welcomed their first child, Annie.



Not much is known about Bridget, or, in fact, about Annie. Bridget was, though, thirty when she bore their second child, Mary, in 1858, giving Bridget an approximate birth year of 1828. Her marriage certificate to Johann lists her as being born in Ireland, as well as, being previously married to a printer named Flynn in the Hartford County area. As far as Annie is concerned, little to no information has survived currently in the research other than in the census and in family lore.

It is known that Mary Elizabeth Graser, born on 20 August 1858, was a blessing for the couple. Later, it would be said that Mary was the strong one - the backbone - of the family, finding work at a young age and resembling her father in her hard work ethic and, eventually, in her erratic freewill.

Having interest in silver production and feeling the need to find a new life for him and his family, Johann assessed the situation. Knowing that silversmiths were in demand predominately in Central Connecticut, just a mere fifteen or twenty miles south of Hartford, he decided he wanted to relocate. So, as family lore would have it, he left one day to survey the locale. But since there was no stop in Tracy, Connecticut, an up-and-coming silver-manufacturing town and his tentative target for a home, Johann Georg Graser decided that he had to jump off the train. Tracy, a Wallingford, Connecticut suburb, was nice, but it was the downtown of Wallingford, with its up and coming urban culture, that attracted Johann to the area. He immediately sent for his wife and kids to join him.

It is during this time, documents were drawn up listing Johann Georg Graser, as now being written John George Grasser, an obvious result of him becoming 'Americanized' and welcoming his decisions to come to America and Connecticut.

He and his family settled in town, becoming the first Germans in Wallingford. They bought a quaint home on Christian Street, a desirable abode, just a short walk from downtown. Here, he taught himself how to read and write English, and within a short time, his advanced techniques in his metalworking skills and his European tenacity soon found him as the general supervisor and manager of the Eli Mix Silver Company in Yalesville.

Things couldn't have been brighter for John George and his family. Bridget gave birth to Frederick on 2 January 1860, and although Mary was no-doubt the more independent and self-reliant child, Frederick tended to be more family-centered, with a focus more on his education. He was also always considered both a studious and arrogant child, and not without a crude and stubborn-side, as well.

Unfortunately though, as life should seemingly be finally settling down for the Grasser's, John George's

erratic behavior worsened. He anxieties seemed to escalate and his irritability increased. Was it the stress of now having a family that created this change? Was it the long work hours that seemed to unsettle him? Well, although both of these suggestions may hold some truth to his behavior, it would later come out that it was his exposure working and handling of toxic metals in the silver-making industry, most likely, that would play an even greater effect on his health and well being.

His behavior seemed to be inconsistent, as he simply began to not think twice about much. He had become, for better or worse, truly a carefree man. He did as he pleased and when he wanted, as evident in his often disappearing from his home and family for days without notice or reason. Just as he left Germany without saying goodbye back in 1845, history seemed to repeat itself, with him abandoning his loved ones, as family tradition even states that John George had left to return to his native land for a few weeks without telling anyone, again including, this time, his family in the United States. Though it has been said that throughout his life he regretted leaving his family back in Germany so abruptly, these revisits allowed him to suitably say his goodbyes. He traveled back to Germany three times before he died.

Well, life unfortunately took a sudden, unexpected turn when wife Bridget would die only a few days after giving birth to their daughter, Barbara, on 11 August 1861. She was only thirty-four. And to the family's despair, Barbara would die shortly thereafter as well. This sent John George into an even greater disparity.

To complicate matters during this trying time, John George also developed lead poisoning and had become quite ill. According to his grandson, George Grasser III, his sickness was caused from two suspected sources. In addition to his working with the toxic lead and silver all day, his Christian Street's home pipes were also made of lead. He was indirectly poisoning himself all along. To combat these strange and bizarre behaviors, John George was said to have even tried consuming lye in order to reverse their ill effect. When it became apparent that John George was so gravely sick, his doctor ordered that he find a more suitable environment. So, John George leased his home to the Holy Trinity Church, which stood no more than one-hundred feet away from his Christian Street home. He took his children and left Wallingford, fittingly

moving to a cabin-shack in Oxford, Connecticut, where, it was believed, there was better air and a better water supply.

He and his family lived there for approximately nine months. While in Oxford, John befriended a neighboring Irish immigrant gentleman named Daniel Doonan. They both resided near Quaker Farms on Pigsville Hill overlooking the scenic town. There, as the town postmaster and a small, country-store owner, John George met Annie Doonan, Daniel's sister.

Within the year 1862, John George and Annie married. They would return to Wallingford shortly after.

It is really unclear how many times the Grasser family relocated back and forth between Wallingford and Oxford, but it would be safe to assume that it happened quite a few times. There were several land transactions taking place between John George and others between the years 1865 and 1880 in Oxford, as well as in Wallingford. This would allow us to believe that his health continued to be compromised and that his new bride continued to have strong ties to her former family as well.

John George and Annie would have three children together. Bridget Louise was the oldest, and then George, and the youngest was Daniel.

John George's home life seemed to improve, as did his financial position. His hard work and perseverance were beginning to pay off and it was during this time, that he had begun working for three war factories manufacturing spoons. His allegiance to helping the American war effort had him wielding buttons for the Union soldiers, not unlike other local metal outfits. At first, he did it on a contract basis for Simpson, Hall, Miller and Company, which would coincidentally later, in 1898, become the famed International Silver Company. But he also sold his products to the R. Wallace Company in town.

At the peak of his prosperity and success, John George owned three separate silver flatware factories in town. He had his Silk Street factory that was run by waterpower at the bottom at the edge of Community Lake in Wallingford, although this would be at a time before the town had named it Community Lake, which was a by-product of the local communities forging together to create a local watering hole. This factory would ultimately later be destroyed in the Wallingford tornado of 1878. His second factory was on the east side of town by St. John's Cemetery, and the third was alongside the property of Father Mallon's farm, later to be renamed as the 'Dean' property off of East Main Street, toward the center of the town.



Tornado of 1878

Sometime in 1867, while in Oxford, John George received some rather unpleasant news. The Holy Trinity Church had caught fire and had burned to the ground. Father Mallon, the pastor of the Church, had asked John George if the church could use his home as a makeshift congregational setting during the church's reconstruction, to which he agreed.

Holy Trinity Church was located on the south side of the Grasser's lot. But

after the wooden church had burned, Father Mallon, who was an immigrant from Ireland, and a mason by trade, rebuilt the church greater in size than anybody anticipated. He was criticized immensely about the size and structure of the building. Once completed, it was during an early sermon to only half a congregation that Father Mallon said, "People have criticized me for building such a large church, but one day I shall fill this church many times over in it one day." And true to his word, Holy Trinity became one of Wallingford's biggest congregations, still to this day.

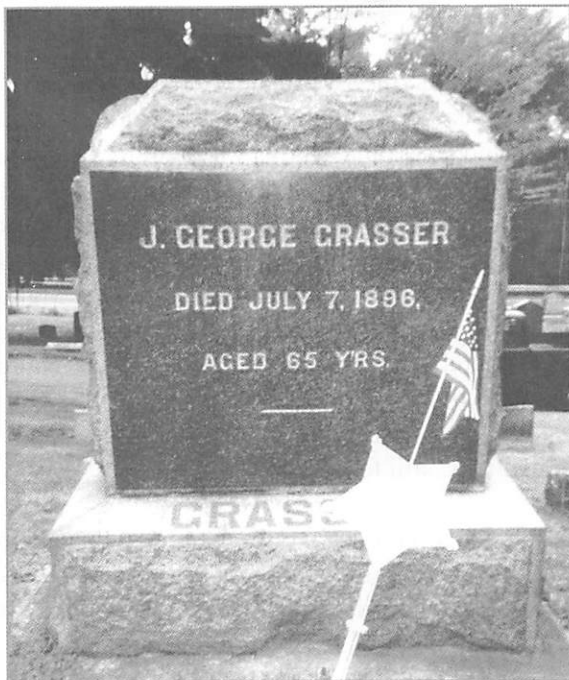
With the added Grasser family members, their home needed to be bigger. Once the renovations were completed, the family decided to move back to Wallingford for good. They rebuilt their compact,

cottage-type home into a more luxurious-for-the-time, 'L'-shaped house.

Coincidentally, it is interesting to note that in their home's bedroom several generations were born to this family. Annie and John George gave birth to Bridget, born 22 June 1863, and her brother, George, born 20 June 1865. Then, years later, two of *George's* children, son, George, born 20 June 1913 and daughter, Regina, born 22 June 1911, were also born there. The Grasser family owned the residence from 1865 to 1956.

Unfortunately, due to a financial error with the home's addition, John George was presented with a strict lawsuit and was again facing turmoil. During this financial struggle, he ventured once again to Oxford until its settlement and returned to the Christian Street homestead afterward.

Misfortune again struck the elder Grasser, this time again, in the form of financial disaster. John George's business had become a victim of the infamous 1878 tornado that devastated Wallingford and he was considered one of the heaviest losers. Author, John B. Kendrick of the book, *History of the Wallingford Disaster*, was apparently not particularly fond of John George, and rarely mentions him in his book, but in its rare mention of John George, it lists him as one of the highest in the amount of loss and damage. He lost \$2,250.00.



This devastating calamity spiraled into a greater sickness and depression than before until the inevitable happened. Because of the tornado, his ailing body, and his destructive misfortune, John George Grasser tried committing suicide in 1896. He had overdosed on arsenic of potash.

His attempt to suicide took three days to fully take his life and, at the request of his family, during his last seventy-two hours, the local priest was asked to try to convert him from his atheist spirituality to his family's Catholicism, but he wouldn't. Last rites were also offered each of these three days, but he still refused. Then, on 7 July 1896, M.S. Russell, M.D. concluded that John George had died of acute gastroenteritis.

Unfortunately though, since suicide was against his family's Catholic virtue, he could not be buried with the rest of his family in the Holy Trinity Cemetery on North Colony Road in Wallingford. The church would not allow it. Instead, he had to be buried in the In Memoriam Cemetery on Main Street in town. Today, the plots remain with his family buried across town in the Holy Trinity Cemetery, and he, is buried alone in a twelve-man plot in the cemetery.

After John George's death, his surviving wife and children maintained their Wallingford residence. Annie Grasser lived another thirteen years, having died on 21 September 1909 in their Wallingford home.

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Mary O'Keefe's death certificate, 23 Dec 1914, Page 136, Wallingford 1914 Deaths, Wallingford Vital Statistics, City Hall.

Mary Grasser's birth notice, 15 August 1858, Glastonbury 1847 – 1858 Births, Volume 4, Page 36, Glastonbury Vital Statistics.

Barbara Grasser's birth certificate, 7 Aug 1861, Wallingford 1861 Births, Volume 1861 -1862, Wallingford Vital Statistics.

George John Grasser's death certificate, 23 June 1957, Page 134, Wallingford 1957 Deaths, Wallingford Vital Statistics.

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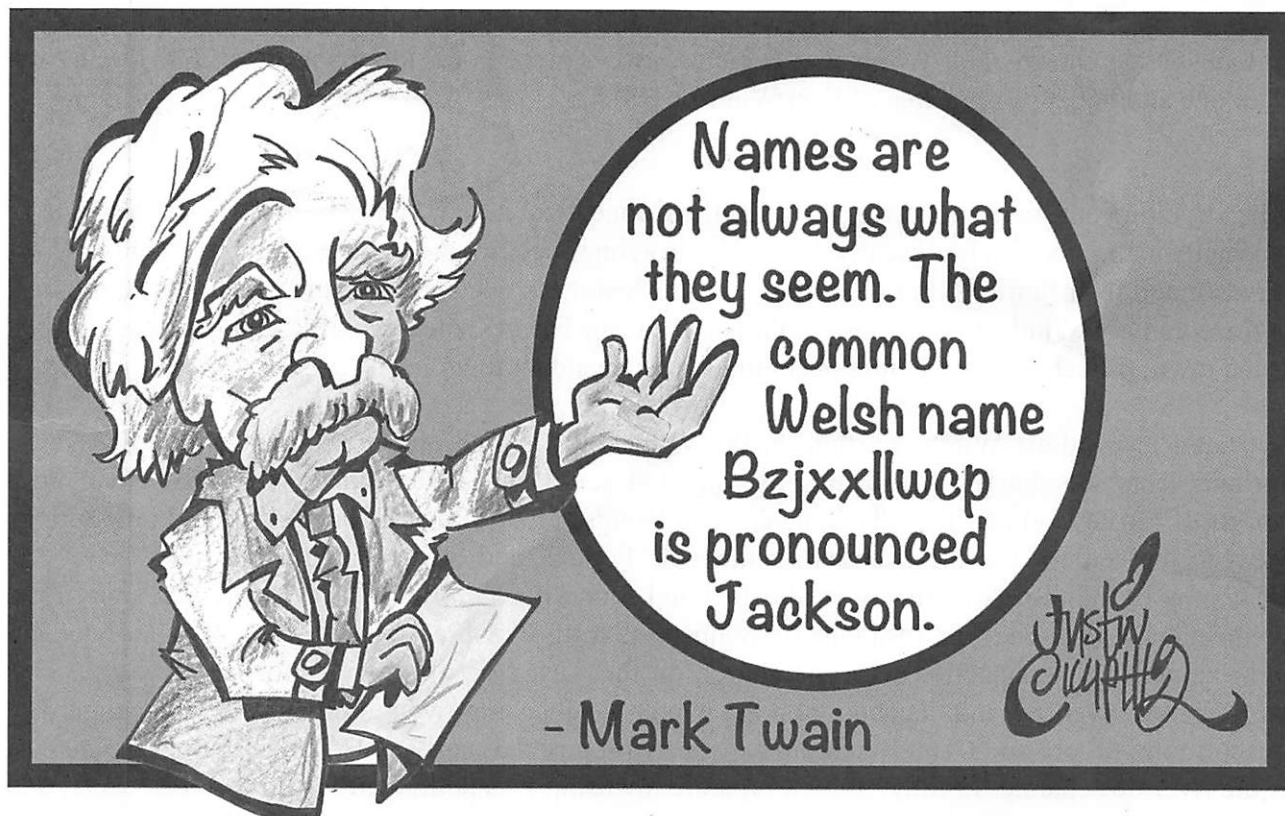
Oxford 1790: to Celebrate the Dodraquicentennial of the Incorporation of the Town, 20 Oct 1798, Copyright 1973, Oxford Historical Society, Page 37.

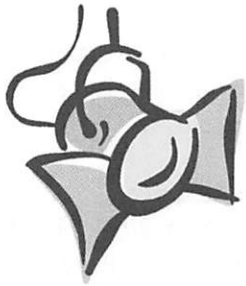
John B. Kendrick, *History of the Wallingford Disaster* (Hartford, Conn.: The Case, Lockwood and Brainard Co., 1878), 64. Wallingford Historical Society, Call No. 974.67 Ke, C3.

George Grasser III family videotape, 1998, filmed by Mary Ann Davie, given to the author by Thomas Grasser.

Google Images at www.google.com. Maps of Connecticut and Germany show approximate location of Metzingen, Germany and of Tracy/Wallingford and Oxford, Connecticut.

Heritage Humor by Justin Piccirillo





Spotlight on Connecticut Towns & Cities



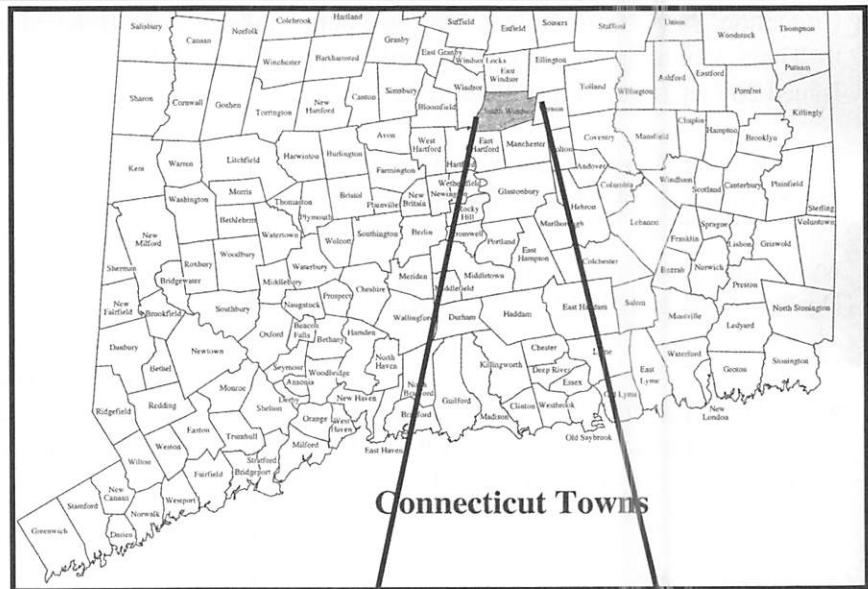
Spotlight On South Windsor

by Diane LeMay, CSG # 7571

Historic and Geographic Profile

According to the United States Census Bureau, the Connecticut River valley town of South Windsor covers a total of 28.1 square miles of land and 0.62 square miles of water. It is located in Hartford County and the CT state Register and Manual says it is comprised of the villages and districts of Barber Hill, Dart Hill, East Windsor Hill, Long Hill, Mouth of Scantic, Pleasant Valley, Podunk, Stone Quarry, and Wapping.

There are two zip codes for the town, with 06074 being the main one and 06028 for the area of East Windsor Hill.



When tracing your family on the east side of the Connecticut River, especially in the area that is presently South Windsor, one needs to research the history of Windsor, East Windsor and their families. For over 200 years, its history is one and the same. It had its beginnings as the colony of Windsor and its North Parish, Windsor Farmes, the Second Parish of Windsor, then as the town of East Windsor before becoming an independent town.

As stated in my East Windsor article in the Winter 2010 issue of Connecticut Genealogy News, Puritans from Dorchester, Massachusetts migrated south and settled along the Great River after reports of fertile land and friendly Indians. The Windsor Land Records document land transactions between the settlers and the Scantick, Namerack, Podunk and other Connecticut tribes. By 1637 the colony of Windsor was firmly established and soon after families settled on the east side of the Connecticut River. The first residents of Windsor's North Parish on the east bank attended worship and retained their connection with the church on the west side of the river for many years. This was very inconvenient and depending on the winter weather, it proved to be difficult and dangerous. Deacon John Moore and Capt. Benjamin Newberry proposed as early as 1672 that the settlement east of the river be separate. In May, 1680 a separate township was petitioned for, in October, 1691, and again in April, 1694. Finally in 1768 residents of Windsor's North Parish were allowed to incorporate



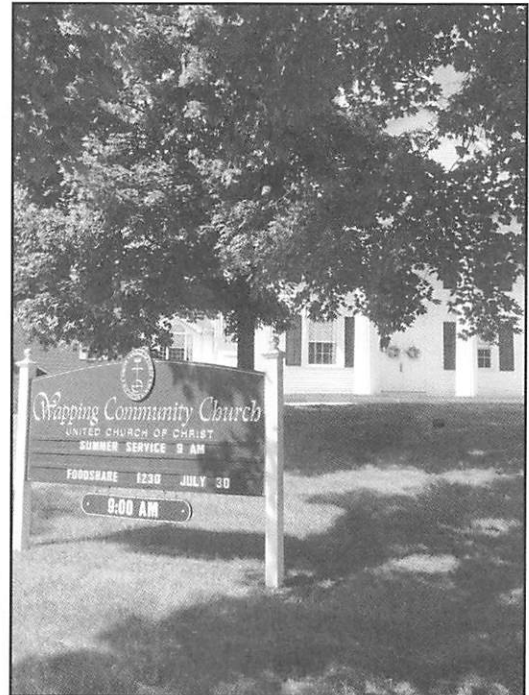
as the separate town of East Windsor. It was divided in 1786 when Ellington became an independent town, followed by South Windsor in 1845.

Since its early beginnings, South Windsor has been a strong farming community and the crops produced in abundance were tobacco and potatoes. A few tobacco farms still exist today. In the area that is South Windsor, at the mouth of the Scantic River, shipbuilding and shipping were carried on from before 1728 to 1820.

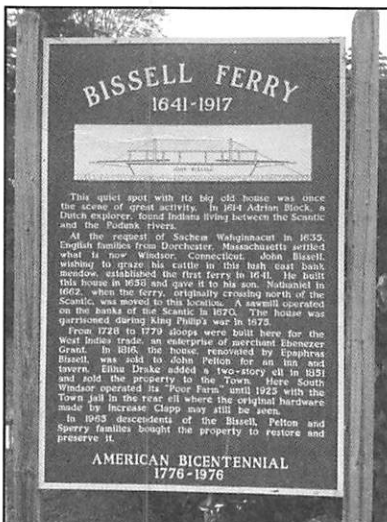
First Settlers and Their Churches

The “Second Church of Windsor”, now South Windsor’s First Congregational Church on Main Street is the fourth structure, and has a sign that reads, “Timothy Edwards Church founded 1694. This building erected 1846.” Erected in 1699 the first Meeting House was originally just north of the Old South Windsor Cemetery on Main Street, where the Masons’ Meeting Hall now stands. Then a replacement was built in 1714 because the parish had grown from 55 families to 94.

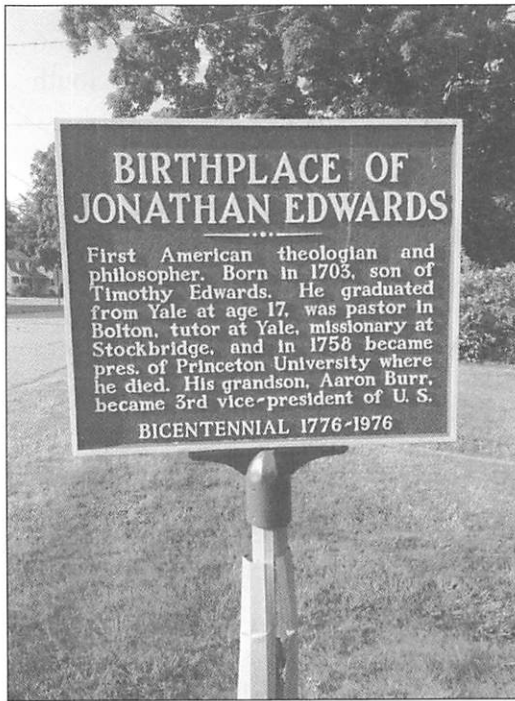
The Congregational parish in Wapping was established in 1761. Some pastors through the years were Deacon Matthew Rockwell, Moses Tuthill, Rev. Robbins and Rev. Henry Morris. The first Baptist church built in 1823 was also on Main Street. The Wapping Methodist Church was organized about 1827 by the Rev. V. Osborn. In 1923, the Wapping Congregational and the Wapping Methodist Churches united under the name Wapping Federated Church, and 13 years later



became the Wapping Community Church. Before a group of Catholics built a church for their St. Francis of Assisi Parish in the 1940’s, they were allowed to hold services in the Wapping Community Church.



The colony of Windsor was the home of General Roger Wolcott (1679-1767), colonial Governor 1750-1754 and the birthplace of his son Oliver Wolcott (1726-1797), signer of the Declaration of Independence and Governor of Connecticut 1796-1797. Another prominent man in the town’s history, John H. Bissell was granted rights in 1648 and established the first ferry to cross the Connecticut River. It was in continuous operation until 1917. Stiles says, Bissell’s “house was erected about 1658 or ’59. It was undoubtedly the first and for several years the only dwelling-house in East (now South) Windsor; and it is probable that John Bissell, Senior, himself moved over to the east side

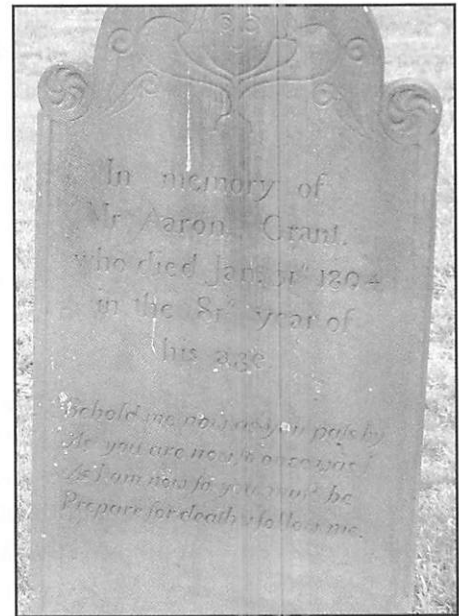


in 1662, for in that year he made over without reservation, his former residence on the west side of the Connecticut to his son John Jr.”

George Hull, a magistrate of Dorchester, MA and Windsor, Connecticut, who surveyed the town of Wethersfield in 1636, was granted a parcel of land of 27 rods on the east bank. He sold it soon after to Drake and removed to Fairfield. In 1659 Thomas Burnham purchased a tract of land from the chief sachem of the Podunk tribe. Joseph Fitch 1662 bought land south of the Podunk River. Simon Wolcott, among the first settlers of the North Parish, brought his wife and nine children in 1680. Others included the Osborns, the Allens, the Bucklands, the Drakes, the Grants, the Loomis’, the Newberrys, the Taylors, the Wells, John Fitch, inventor, and Jonathan Edwards, son of Rev. Timothy and Esther and

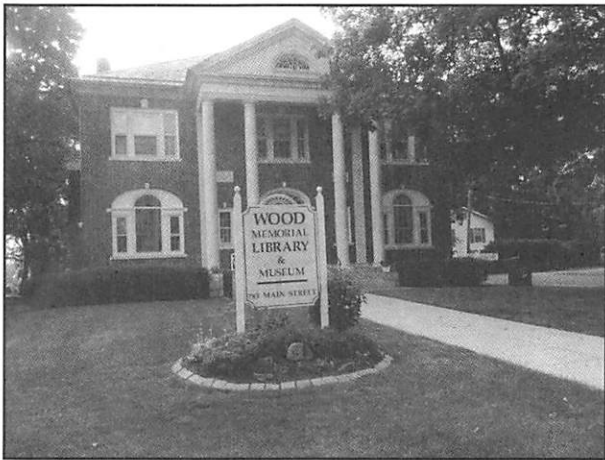
who became President of Princeton University and is buried in Princeton, N.J.

It is said that Samuel Elmore was the first to settle on Long Hill, and Harvey Elmore, one of two East Windsor Representatives to the General Assembly led the group to have South Windsor separate from East Windsor. Two Elmore homes on Long Hill Road are on the National Register of Historic Places. During the early 18th century Ebenezer Drake and his brothers Nathaniel and Silas were gravestone carvers, and together owned a successful shop and a sandstone quarry. Eli Terry and Daniel Burnap were clockmakers. Joseph Rockwell & Samuel Rockwell’s homes from 1775 and 1810 respectively can still be seen on Beldon Street. The Porter and Grant Homesteads are on Main Street. Ancestors of President U.S. Grant walked the fields of the Windsors. At least 15 men in the Grant family of South Windsor fought in the Revolution.



Led by the Reverend Dr. Bennet Tyler, the Theological Institute of Connecticut at East Windsor Hill (also called the Theological Seminary and now the Hartford Seminary Foundation) was chartered and the cornerstone laid in 1834. Two buildings were constructed, a chapel and a four-story dormitory and classroom building. Only 30 years later the Institute moved to Hartford. The buildings remained a number of years serving as a private school, apartments, and even a Dixieland nightclub before being torn down. The property soon after became the site of the first high school. Structures and land parcels in town were often sold, traded or passed on to sons or daughters as I found out in Doris Burgdorf’s wonderful book [A Country Mile](#). It recounts the stories of South Windsor families behind dozens of homes and other structures along Main Street.





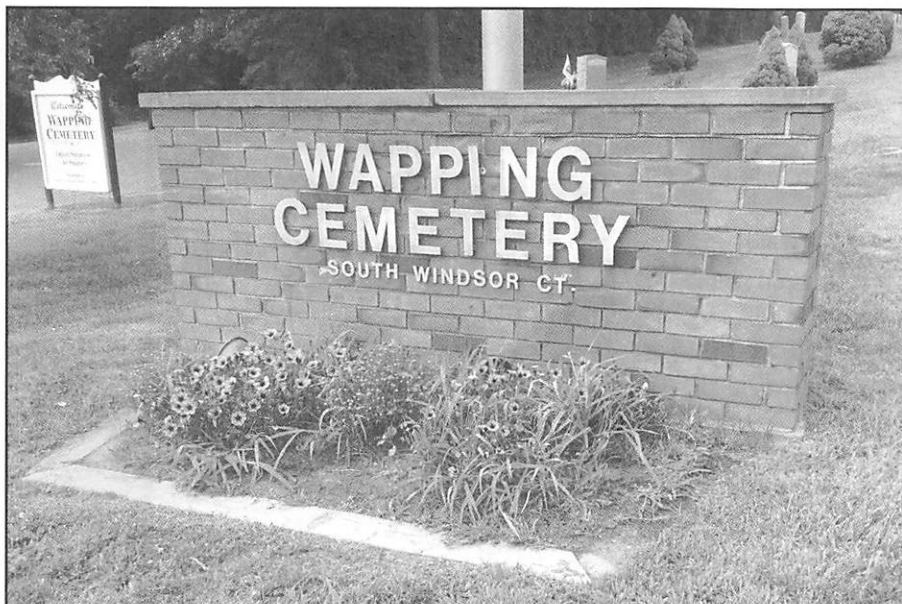
Built in 1862 on Ellington Road near Long Hill, the District Five Pleasant Valley Schoolhouse Museum is the sole, original one-room schoolhouse in town that has not been destroyed or converted.

Genealogical Research in South Windsor

The main library, which has an extensive local history collection and extremely helpful professionals, is located at 1550 Sullivan Avenue, S. Windsor, CT 06074. 860-644-1541. Since hours change for the summer, be sure to call or check its web site for hours. (www.southwindsorlibrary.org/sw). A very

important part of the town's Windsor Farms Historic District of (Old) Main Street remains the Wood Memorial Library & Museum, 783 Main Street. Built by William R. Wood and dedicated in 1928 as a memorial to his parents, it is full to the brim with history of the town and its illustrious residents, some historical maps of their properties and town reports as early as 1876. Wood Library is open Mondays and Thursdays 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and welcomes genealogists. Call 860-289-1783 for events, or check its web site woodmemoriallibrary.org for the newly added online exhibit "The Places Where We Met" and its wonderful searchable historical database under the tab "Collections".

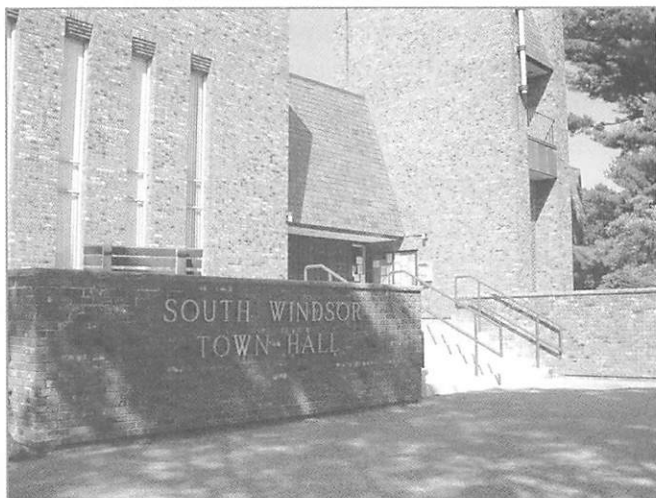
The Historical Society has a website at www.southwindsorhistory.org. The Historic District Commission is now completing phase 3 of documenting over 350 historic structures in town. Upon completion, these bound volumes will be placed in the two libraries and will be available for purchase.



There are eight cemeteries: Center, East Windsor Hill, Edwards, New Center – North, New Wapping, Old Wapping, Bissell (or Rye Street), and Watson. Old South Windsor Cemetery is the oldest on the east side of the river and contains the remains of Thomas Morton, its first burial in 1708. Known also as God's Acre, or Edwards Cemetery, it is where Rev. Timothy (1669-1758) and his wife Esther

(Stoddard) Edwards are buried. Center Cemetery is on Main Street adjacent to the First Congregational Church. New Wapping and Old Wapping are adjacent to the Wapping Community Church. The first burial was in 1766 in the old cemetery.

Accessing Town Hall Records



Local vital records from 1845, the year when South Windsor split from East Windsor, up to the present day are accessible from the Town Clerk, South Windsor Town Hall (adjacent to the public library) at 1540 Sullivan Avenue and at www.southwindsor.org. The hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 860-644-2511, ext. 325. Any earlier birth, marriage or death record may be found in Windsor or East Windsor. The cost for a certified copy of a birth, death, marriage, civil union is \$20. Lori Trahan is the Town Clerk and Registrar of Vital Statistics. James Krupienski and Terry Samsel are the Assistant Town Clerks. There are regulations, described in CT General Statutes, which address access to all vital records, and these are in effect throughout all 169 CT towns. In addition to providing proof of identity, a requester must also provide proof of genealogy membership.

Accessing South Windsor Probate Court Records

The Probate Court of South Windsor is located at the Town Hall. Hours are M-F 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Clerk of the Probate Court is Annette Tarascio 860-644-2511 ext. 371, or through the web site www.southwindsor.org/probate-court.

A digitized Probate Index from 1845 to present is located there, as well as on the CT Probate web site, and refers you to a specific volume and page. The Probate Index and most of the old records have been

deposited at the CT State Library and are accessible there in the Genealogy Department. I was told that records from the 1980's to present and some wills from 2011 to present are located in the Probate Court. All Probate information changed as of 1/1/2011 when the number of Probate Courts in CT was reduced from 130 to about 54. At that time the Courts of Windsor and East Windsor merged with that of South Windsor.

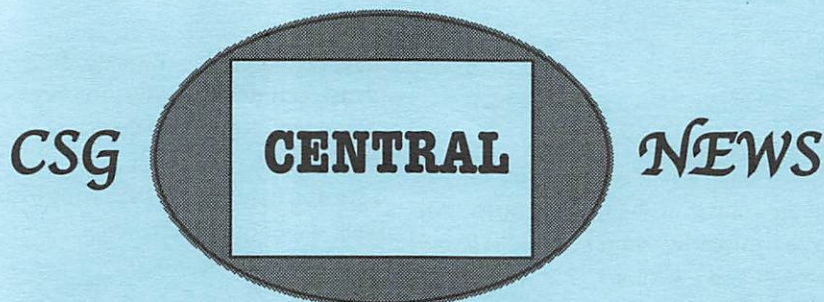
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- South Windsor Ass't Town Clerk, Terry Samsel.
- South Windsor Historic District Commission, Virginia Macro.
- Wood Memorial Library & Museum, Claire Lobdell.
- [En.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Windsor,_Connecticut](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Windsor,_Connecticut)
- www.southwindsorlibrary.org/sw
- woodmemoriallibrary.org.
- Photos, except for South Windsor Town Hall, taken by the author.
- Photo of South Windsor Town Hall taken by Stephanie Hyland, Editor, *Connecticut Genealogy News*.

About the Author

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 after 36 years as a high school library media specialist, including some part-time work at the Connecticut State Library and St. Joseph's College library. She has enjoyed researching her family genealogy since 1979 and was on the CSG Board of Governors briefly in the 1980s. She resided in East Hartford for 26 years, moving to East Windsor in 2001 where she lives with her dog Charlie.





The logo features the text "CSG" on the left, "CENTRAL" in a white box inside a dark oval in the center, and "NEWS" on the right.

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 - 2015-2016

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. Members are reminded to invite their friends and watch this space and/ or the CSG website for updated information.

2015

*****SAVE THE DATES- REGISTER EARLY*****

17 October - Annual Family History Seminar "Journeying Into the World of Our Ancestors"

Speakers:

Edwin W. Strickland II on "Caring for Your Stuff."
Marilyn Labbe on "Life in a 19th Century Mill Town: the Culture, Religion, Social Aspects and How the New Influx of Immigrants Changed the Demographics of Those Areas They Settled."

David Robison on "Researching in Southern Massachusetts"

Richard G. Tomlinson on "Creative Ways to Use Google for Genealogical Research."

Time: Registration begins at 8 a.m., first speaker begins at 9 a.m.

Cost: \$45 if registration is received by Sept. 30th. \$55 if received thereafter.

See flyer and registration form on page 15 for more details.

21 November - "More Than *Metes* the Eye: Using Land Records in Your Research"

Speaker: Edwin W. Strickland II

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

Time: 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Cost: FREE.

Please pre-register by noon on Friday, November 20th so we may plan appropriately.

There will be no programs in December or January 2016.

2016

20 February - Genealogical Problem Solving

Open Forum - Each attendee (as time permits) will present one genealogical problem and the group will give their suggestions for possible solutions.

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

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Cost: FREE

Please pre-register by noon on Friday, February 19th so we may plan appropriately.

19 March - The LDS Website: New Changes Ahead!

The topic will discuss the many upcoming changes and what we should know when utilizing their website, ordering films, etc.

Speaker: Barbara Prymas

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

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Cost: FREE

Please pre-register by noon on Friday, March 18th so we may plan appropriately.

16-17 April - Join us in Massachusetts this weekend for the Massachusetts Genealogical Council Seminar.

See flyer on the inside back cover or go to program@massgencouncil.org for speakers, topics, location and registration fees. Questions should be directed to the Massachusetts Genealogical Council.

CSG NEWS

29th Annual Literary Awards Contest

Beginning with the 29th Annual Literary Awards Contest, CSG will begin receiving entries in **March of 2016**. All entries will be due in the office by **August 15, 2016** and awards will be presented at CSG's Annual Family History Seminar in October. **Look for entry forms in the Spring edition of *Connecticut Genealogy News***, the CSG Website or you may request them after the contest opens by contacting the CSG Office at csginc@csginc.org or calling 860-569-0002.

Queries

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. No queries were submitted for this issue.

Transaction Code Reminder

Your transaction code is the 4-digit number after your member number on your membership card. Members need their transaction code only once when registering for the first time on the website. The CSG Office updates it thereafter. This number changes every year to help maintain the security of the website. We cannot access your member record with it, however so be sure to put your member number on all correspondence. Thank you.

CSG Website

CSG Members: the CSG website is not connected to our Member database. If you have information changes please let us know for the member database but then go to the My Account link in the upper right of the screen and make the changes to the website. Let us know if you need further assistance.

If you are registered on the website and signed up to receive emails, please check the My Account link to be sure your email address is correct on the website. Updates to our list server (the service that manages the email addresses for the mass emails) are made on the first of each month. Also, please do not reply to emails received from there. Email replies should be sent to csginc@csginc.org. Thank you.

FindMyPast.com Reminder

CSG has partnered with FindMyPast and members may receive a 50% discount on the world subscription. Contact CSG for the discount code required.

CSG Bookstore

Visit the CSG website at www.csginc.org for a list of new and used genealogical books for sale. **ALL PRICES ON USED BOOKS HAVE BEEN REDUCED 50%**. Books

may be purchased directly from the website; **however please call or email first to check availability**, as in most cases there is only one copy.

The Connecticut Nutmegger

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

*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.

Plus CT State sales tax (6.35%) where applicable and shipping and handling.

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 S&H and CT State sales tax if applicable. Again, quantities are limited and subject to availability.

CDs of either publication are also available. Contact the CSG Office for more details.

AARP Members and Ancestry.com Discount

according to the AARP website (www.aarp.com) you can get Ancestry.com at a 30% discount. Further investigation of this reveals that it is only on the world subscription. See their website for more details.

ANNUAL FAMILY HISTORY SEMINAR

See the flyer with registration form on page 15. Please note the change in location. This year we are holding the Seminar at the Four Points Sheraton in Meriden, CT.

Meet this year's Annual Family History Seminar speakers on page 22.

Charlotte L. Evarts Memorial Archives (Madison, CT)

For more information on the history of Madison, CT, go to www.evartsarchives.org. This link may be found on the CSG website under Links, then Other Helpful links as well.

Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.
Annual Family History Seminar

Journeying Into the World of Our Ancestors

Saturday ~ 17 October 2015

8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Four Points Sheraton
275 Research Parkway
Meriden, CT

Registration Begins at 8:00 a.m.

Vendor/Exhibitor Booths open, Coffee and Danish

Edwin W. Strickland II on "Caring for Your Stuff"

Marilyn Labbe on "Life in a 19th Century Mill Town: the Culture, Religion, Social Aspects and How the New Influx of Immigrants Changed the Demographics of Those Areas They Settled"

David Robison on "Researching in Southern Massachusetts"

Richard Tomlinson on "Creative Ways to Use *Google* for Genealogical Research"

~Open to the Public~

SEMINAR REGISTRATION - SATURDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2015

Early Registration \$45

ALL Registrations postmarked after 9/30/15 are \$55 - Deadline to Register: 10/9/15

Name: _____ CSG# _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Telephone # _____

MEAL CHOICE (circle one):

Chicken Marsala or Moroccan Cous Cous w/grilled vegetables & Balsamic glaze (vegetarian)

IF YOU HAVE ANY DIETARY RESTRICTIONS, PLEASE LET US KNOW _____

For more details or to pre-register, visit us at www.csinc.org call 1-860-569-0002.
 MC, Visa or Discover accepted. Mail to: CSG, Inc., P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033

Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.

presents

More Than Metes the Eye: Using Land Records in Your Research

with

Edwin W. Strickland II

on 21 November 2015

at 1:30 p.m.

at

The Connecticut Society of Genealogists Library

175 Maple Street

East Hartford, CT 06118

Cost is FREE

~Open to the Public~

PROGRAM REGISTRATION - SATURDAY, 21 NOVEMBER 2015

Pre-registration required so we may plan appropriately

Please pre-register no later than Wednesday, 18 November 2015 by 12 Noon.

Name: _____ CSG# _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone # _____ Email: _____

For more details or to pre-register, visit us at www.csginc.org call 1-860-569-0002.

Mail to: CSG, Inc., P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033

The Gig Economy

submitted by Olivia Patch CSG #5058

Ever wonder why some of our ancestors moved around so much—or, were listed on census records as “farm laborers, or just plain “laborer?”

Stephen Mihm, Associate History Professor at the University of Georgia wrote an interesting article for the Bloomberg View, and published in the July 19, 2015, Hartford Courant. The article was entitled, “Part-Time, Free-Lance, Work on the Rise.”

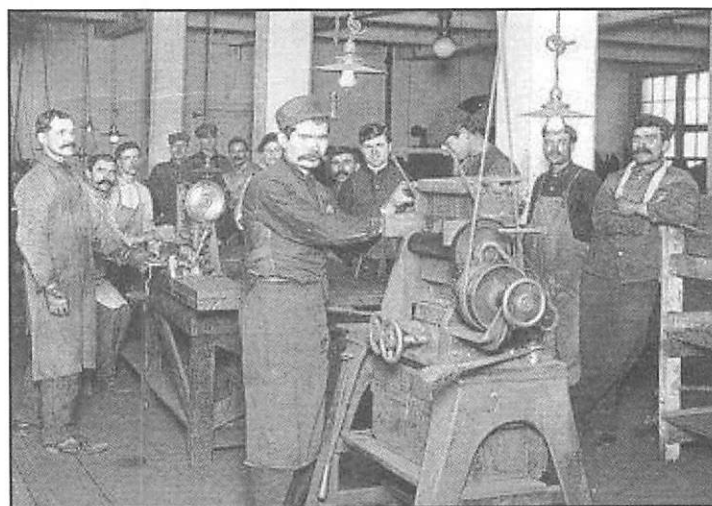
The Gig Economy, according to Mihm refers to “*the world of part-time, free-lance, contingent workers and others.*”

Mihm claims that the replacement of steady jobs by unpredictable gigs marks a return to what passed for normal for most of the U.S. history.

He indicates that in the late eighteenth century, most people worked on farms (as we know). “Although many Americans owned land, contingent farm labor (contingent means temporary work) was commonplace, much as it was in England, where the rise of capitalism had created a class of casual wage laborers who moved from job to job and place to place.”

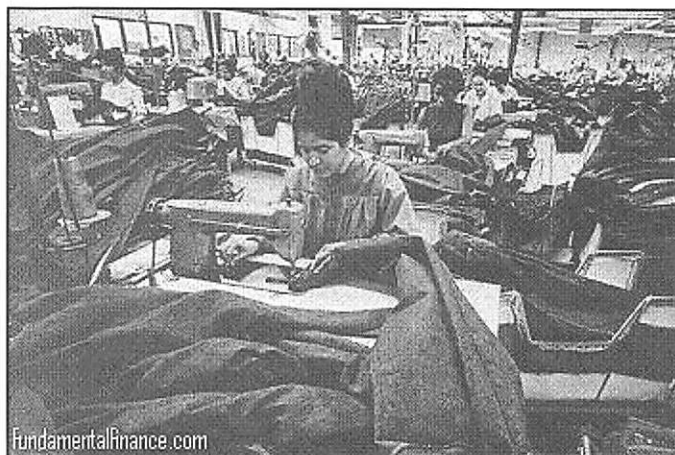
In New England, landless laborers traveled from farm to city, and back again, piecing together jobs with nothing but their hands to make a living and support a family.

Mihm states that “the countryside was crawling with such people. In cities and towns, those fortunate enough to learn a trade, enjoyed far greater privileges. But acquiring those skills required an apprenticeship with a master craftsman, and this system was quite stable until this system broke down as the Industrial Revolution became prevalent in the nineteenth century.”



“The growing division of labor reduced once complex crafts to easy-to-master steps—each of which could be contracted out to contingent workers; whereby much of this production took place outside of factories. Employers would subcontract the labor of men and women—many who worked at home. For an example. A single pair of pants might tap the labor of 17 or 18 seamstresses and tailors, working as subcontractors.”

Stephen Mihm indicates that this was the Gig Economy. Workers struggled to make ends



meet, contending with an ever-changing number of employers, jobbers and other middlemen, who hired them.

In the second half of the 19th century, the growing number of laborers began toiling in large factories, but immoderate fluctuations in the business cycles with seasonal changes in demand, put large numbers of people out of work on a regular basis. While they waited to be hired or rehired, laborers often turned to odd jobs, unskilled labor and other forms of make-shift employment. This

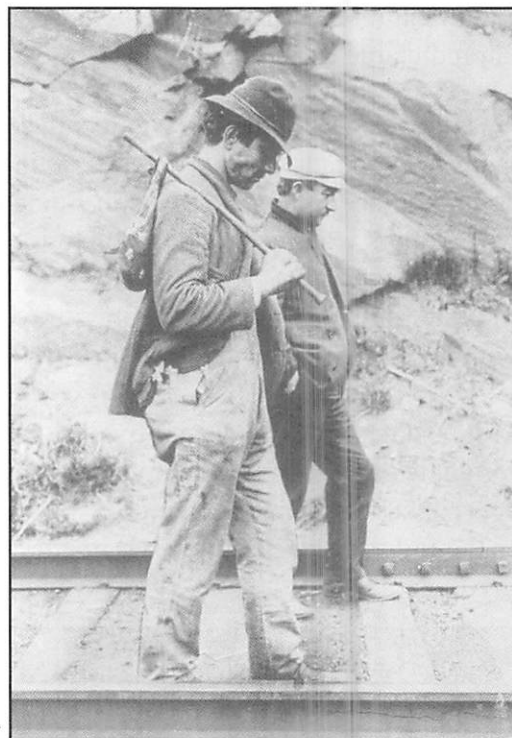
was especially true in what Mihm refers to as “Extractive Industries, such as logging and mining, where seasonal, temporary and contract work remained the norm.”

In the world of contingent flexible contract laborers, life was very difficult. To make things worse, these itinerants were frequently referred to with derogatory names such as hobos, bindlestiffs, floaters and tramps.”

Stephen Mihm indicates that “the 20th century brought some stability to the labor markets, especially with the formation of unions. The nature of work was transformed and during the postwar era, a job for life with benefits was the norm for many of the American workforce; though contingent freelance employment lived on in some areas of the economy, such as migrant farm work.”

Stephen Mihm’s article is enlightening, enabling us to fathom the life of ancestors who did not inherit the family farm or had the privilege of having parents provide apprenticeship training.

Lack of education was also a factor, which Mihm does not mention. In my parents’ day, many young people only went to school as far as the fourth or fifth grade—good enough for the mill, until the mill shut down. Many mill workers died young from respiratory problems, due to the conditions of the mill’s environment.



Learning about the life and times of our ancestors leads to an appreciation for those we descend from, and enables us to be thankful for being born during this period of time.

Source for photos: Google Images, www.google.com.

What is a River Pilot?

by Olivia Patch, CSG # 5058

Editor' Note: Save Your Family Stories

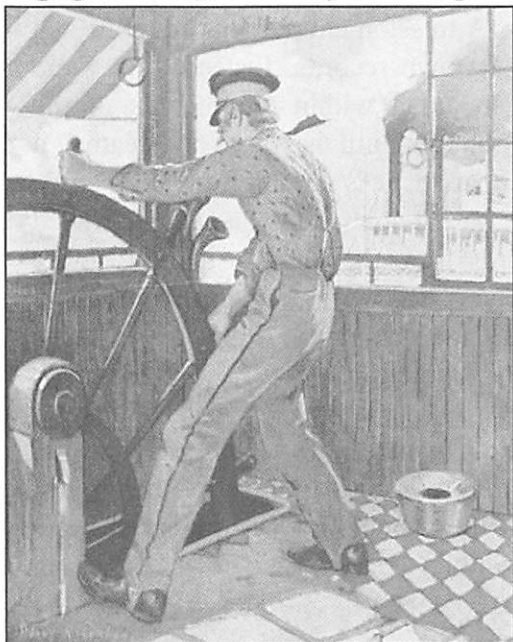
Family history is more than just numerical data on vital statistics. Every family has little stories about the things that happened in their lives. Wouldn't you treasure even a paragraph or two from your great-grandmother or your great-great-great-grandmother ... even some simple comments or observations about daily life. At CSG we advocate writing down your family stories, however brief, and saving them with your genealogical research papers. Someday these little notes may be highly prized by future family members. Here is an example of such a note, by CSG Board Member, Olivia Patch



River Pilot guiding a larger vessel
(Source: Google Images)

Husband, Curtis Patch's grandmother, Ida Mae (Shappell) Swanston frequently shared her stories on some of her ancestors who lived in Delaware. Some of them had interesting occupations! Her ancestors, Nathan and Donovan Spencer lived, for awhile, in the Lewis and Rehoboth, Delaware area. Ida Mae indicated that these Spencers were Pilots. I inquired about the term "pilot." She said they were not vessel captains, but river guides. A river pilot, living close to canals and rivers would rush to reach an incoming vessel to be hired to guide ships to their destinations. Safe river channels would be unknown to many incoming vessels, but the local river pilots would know exactly where the safe channels were located. Frequent silting of rivers and other bodies of water would create sandbars, dangerous to a heavy-laden vessel.

The July/August, 2015 American Spirit periodical of the Daughters of the American Revolution, had an interesting article on river pilots in Delaware; *Maull House: The Pilot's House*, by Courtney Peter (pages 22-25). Courtney Peter explained that "in earlier times, local ship captains were hired to help commercial vessels navigate unfamiliar waterways. In the piloting trade, getting ahead of the competition was important. Living close to canals and waterways allowed pilots to keep a close eye on arriving vessels."



River Pilot (Source: Google Images)

commercial vessels navigate unfamiliar waterways. In the piloting trade, getting ahead of the competition was important. Living close to canals and waterways allowed pilots to keep a close eye on arriving vessels."

According to Courney Peter, "during the 18th and 19th centuries, the Lewes and Rehoboth canal was an important transportation waterway. The pilot trade was a profitable and necessary trade aiding incoming vessels along unfamiliar waterways."

It would seem to me that this trade must have been prevalent along many river-ways, such as our Connecticut River, that is noted for silting and depth channel issues.

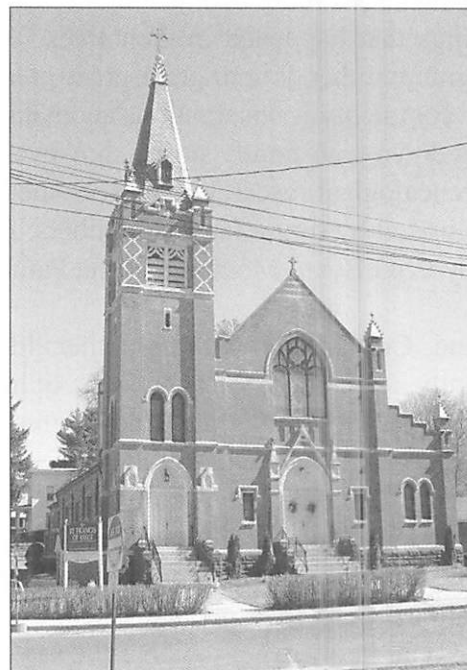
One can discover very interesting stories when interviewing grandparents. Most are very happy to share the stories that were handed down to them.

Understanding and Employing “Mission Church” Records: the Church of Notre Dame, Durham, Connecticut

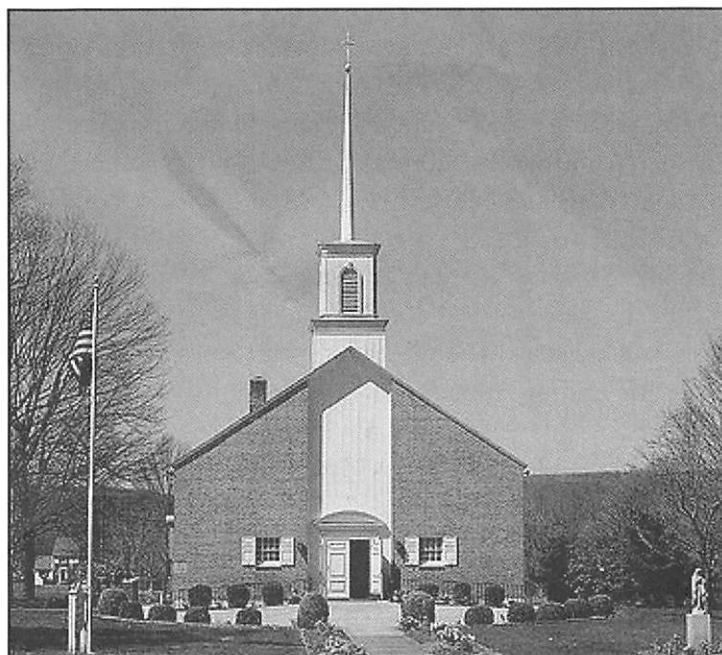
by Bryna O’Sullivan, CSG # 20006

In Eastern and Central Connecticut, tracing a Catholic family isn’t as simple as requesting records from the local church. Most suburban churches started out as “missions” to parishes from the nearest city, serving a Catholic population that had just started to move out of cities. These missions shared staff and resources with the city parish. This situation could exist for years or decades, depending on how long it took the mission to gain the population, resources, and diocesan approval necessary to become an independent parish.

The Church of Notre Dame completed this process quickly. The church’s first mass was celebrated in Durham’s town hall on 15 August 1954.^[1] 1955, members had raised enough money to build a church. Notre Dame was dedicated on 30 October 1955 and became an independent parish in June 1960.^[2]



**St. Francis of Assisi Parish,
Middletown, CT**



**Church of Notre Dame of
Durham, CT**

Yet, the time spent as a mission church complicates any research into Notre Dame’s families. A mission church was not expected to keep its own records. Instead, they were usually included within the records of the “parent” church until the mission became a separate parish. It is common to see records from the parent church on one page, followed by records from the mission church on the next. From 1954 to June 1960, Notre Dame was a mission church to St. Francis of Assisi parish in Middletown.

This means that a search for records between 1954 and 1960 should begin at St. Francis. While Notre Dame’s First Communion and Confirmations earned their own pages in

the appropriate sacramental register, baptisms, marriages, and burials were interspersed with those of St. Francis parishioners. A name or exact date will be necessary to locate any record. The parish of St Francis can be reached from its website: <http://www.saintfrancisofassisi.com/>.

On 9 June 1960, Notre Dame began keeping its own records. A copy of any baptism, marriage or burial after that date can be requested directly from the parish. The church also has copies of First Communion records going back to 1954 and Confirmations back to 1957. The church can be contacted through its website: <http://www.churchofnotredame.org/>.

An awareness of Notre Dame's time as a mission church should simplify the process of locating records for its families – at least up to 1954. Prior to that date, local Catholics could have travelled to a number of area churches, including St. Colman (Middlefield) and St. Francis (Middletown). Knowledge of their residence will be crucial in determining where they were most likely to travel.

Sources:

- ¹ "Our History," *The Church of Notre Dame* (<http://www.churchofnotredame.org/our-history.html>: accessed 24 August 2015).
- ² Ibid.
- ³ Photos taken from Google Images, www.google.com.

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 and indicate "Queries" in the subject line. Contact the CSG Office with any questions you may have.

I would like to correspond with descendants of Thomas **BONNEY** who came from Sandwich, England to Duxbury, MA on the *Hercules* in 1643.

Would like all info (births, marriages, deaths & burials) on Lt. Isaac H. **BONNEY** (Hiram G. and Joan D.) who was served in the Civil War and died in Indianapolis, IN.

Need all info on Rev. Isaac **BONNEY** who married 1806, Olive **EATON**, b 26JAN1784, d 11MAR1829, age 45.

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

Joseph **JOYCE** m Mary **BULKELY** at Redding, CT in 1794.

Need where Joseph came from.
Was he an immigrant?
Need Joseph's parents.

*John Babina, Jr., CSG # 16575
jbabina@babina.com*

**Meet the Speakers for the Connecticut Society of Genealogists
2015 Family History Seminar
17 October 2015 at the Four Points Sheraton, Meriden, CT
(See page 15 for Flyer and Registration form)**



Edwin W. Strickland II

Speaking on: "Caring for Your Stuff."

Ed came from a family of packrats on one side and a family of true Yankees of the other (use it up, wear it out, make do, or do without). In 1973 he was searching for a unique wedding present for his brother that could not be returned. He settled on copying his grandmother's information on his paternal line. In short order, two great aunts supplied material on five more ancestral lines. As they say, the Hunt was a Foote! He joined CSG in 1974 and began working on the other female lines. In 1983, he served on the committee to establish The Descendants of the Founders of Ancient Windsor, where he has continued as

genealogist for 16 years and is a past president. With his retirement from the University of Connecticut Health Center in 2000, he has turned his attention to editing, teaching, lecturing and serving the greater genealogical community.

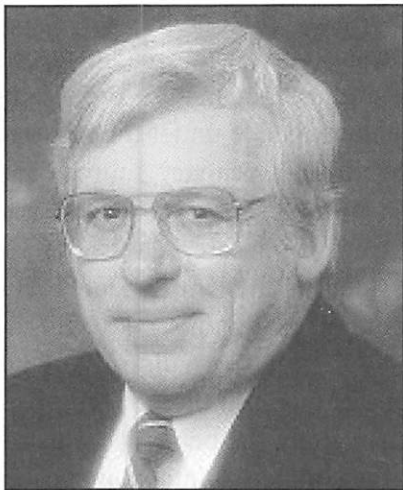
Marilyn Labbe

Speaking on: "Life in a 19th Century Mill Town: the Culture, Religion, Social Aspects and How the New Influx of Immigrants Changed the Demographics of those Areas they Settled."

I grew up in Dudley, MA in the 1940's & 50's, married, had a family, and was a stay at home mom. Got interested in genealogy about 1968 and never lost that interest. Became a crafter for many years, but finally in 1995 when the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society opened I went to volunteer, and have never left. Besides



doing the research, typing up tidbits from the Windham County Transcript, church records and anything else of interest, I am now the Executive Director of the Center. I have published one book "The Poor & Others To Be Pitied" and have typed up numerous genealogies that others have left behind them. Looking forward to doing more of the same in the future.



Richard G. Tomlinson

Speaking on: “Creative ways to Use Google for Genealogical Research.”

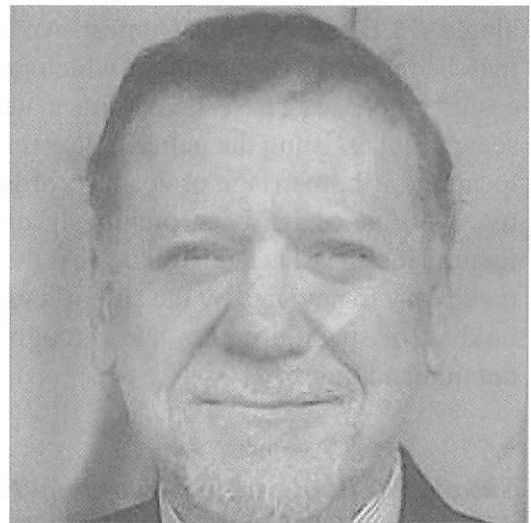
Dick is a descendant of Henry Tomlinson, an early settler of Milford and Stratford, and is related to Connecticut Governor Gideon Tomlinson. Interested in family history for over 45 years, he is a founder of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. and has served as an officer or governor nearly continuously. He is the creator of the CSG Literary Awards and Connecticut Genealogy News and has published several books including, “Witchcraft Prosecution: Chasing the Devil in Connecticut”. He is a former vice president of United Technologies Corporation and a former senior principal scientist in the UTC Research Labs. In 1985 he founded the Connecticut Research, Inc., a management-consulting firm.

He holds a PhD from the Ohio State University, an MS from Case-Western Reserve University and an MBA from RPI. He is a Sr. Life member of the Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers and a Trustee of the Connecticut Historical Society.

David Robison

Speaking on: “Researching in Southern Massachusetts.”

In 1969, Dave began casually searching for his own roots. But beginning in 2004, his interest blossomed into more of a passion and he’s been operating on a professional level since. He has found that his family extends from Plymouth Colony to San Diego; from Alabama to Rochester, NY! Dave is a member of many professional genealogical societies: Association of Professional Genealogists (APG) and its New England Chapter (NEAPG) where he is the 2015 president, Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society (WMGS) where he is Vice-President, Massachusetts Genealogical Council, Connecticut Society of Genealogists (CSG), Research Associate at the Museum of Springfield History, Tri-Chairperson for the 2017 NERGC Conference and owner of Old Bones Genealogy of New England. Dave has completed Boston University’s Genealogy Certificate Program and is currently working through the ProGen program for Professional Genealogists which should complete in the spring of 2016. Dave performs contract research work for clients, teaches basic through advanced genealogy, lectures, blogs, and contributes to a number of genealogical newsletters and publications. Visit Dave’s website at www.oldbones.info or his blog www.oldbonessearch.com. Dave lives in Chicopee, Massachusetts with his wife, Karen (Thurber), who is an RN in the Chicopee School System. Between them they have 5 adult children and 4 grandchildren.



Book Reviews

by Russell A. DeGrafft, CSG # 19174

“The Fort Fairfield Review” 1902-1903, 1904-1905, Births, Marriages, Death Notices and Obituaries with Census Additions, “The Aroostock Republican and News” Years 1887 to 1890, 1891-1892 (2009) and the “Northern Leader” 1893, 1894-1896 (2011), “The Beacon” 1894-1895 researched and transcribed by Linda J. Zapatka. Self-published in Aroostock County, Maine. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, spiral-bound. “Fort Fairfield Review”: 48 and 80 pages. “The Aroostock Republican”: 84 and 49 pages. “The Northern Leader”: 31 pages. Order directly from the author at Linda J. Zapatka, 47 Belanger Road, Caribou, ME 04763. Cost is \$25 plus \$5.60 S&H.

These books are an addition to a vast multiple series of materials made available by the author. Many of which have either won or been Honorable Mentions in the Connecticut Society of Genealogists’ Literary Awards Contest. An order form may be requested of the author which provides for easier purchase. These books are a valuable research tool assisting the genealogical researcher in locating birth, marriage or death records of a relative who may have been previously unknown to them. This massive undertaking by the author is made easy to navigate by the author’s use of color, bolding of specific names and through the introduction and index.

Sustainable Genealogy: Separating Fact From Fictin in Family Legends by Richard Hite. Published by Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 3600 Clipper Mill Rd., Suite 260, Baltimore, MD 21211-1953, 2013. 6 x 9, softcover, ISBN 879-0-8063-1982-7, 120 pages. Order directly from the publisher. Write to address above or call 1-800-296-6687 or go to www.genealogical.com. Cost is \$18.95 plus S&H.

The author describes many traps that genealogists fall into as they research and write about their “family legends” in those long popular family tree narratives. Mr. Hite has shown the reader in this collection of case studies that many “oral traditions have fallen by the wayside under the scrutiny of careful research, through primary sources and most recently DNA testing.” Because your name is Lincoln does not mean you are necessarily related to the 16th president of the United States. The forward and introduction of this material sets the course and then Hite provides us with a five-page table of contents of exciting and thoughtfully presented material. Throughout the book, the illustrations break the printed material into manageable and digestible pieces. This is a delightfully written book that will provide any level of researcher thought provoking moments.

Finding Your Roots, Easy-To-Do Genealogy and Family History by Janice Schultz, adopted by the American Library Association. Published by Huron Street Press, 50 East Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611, an imprint of ALA Publishing, USA, 2014. 6 x 9, softcover, ISBN -13: 9781937589004, 240 pages. Order directly from the publisher. Write to the address above or call 312-280-5418. Cost is \$21.95 plus S&H.

The author of this valuable reference guide has provided advice and encouragement to anyone eager to begin uncovering their family roots. Getting started always seems to be a major road block to conquer for any new researcher, but do not be deceived. This guide book is also a wealth of information for every researchers’ level. Its materials delve into most forgotten areas such as the ancestors’ personality traits and health issues. Any hesitation about conquering this book is put to rest early when the author employs her many easy to use devices. The book is a simple and easy to follow pathway, beginning with that very essential table of contents and preface, leading on to multiple pictures, charts and graphs. The book concludes with a helpful index of names and places with their very essential information concerning their location.

***Classic Diners of Connecticut* by Garrison Leykam, Forwards by Larry Cultera and Christopher Dobbs. Published by American Palate, a division of the History Press, 645 Meeting St., Suite 200, Charleston, SC 29403, 2013. 6 x 9, softcover, ISBN 978.1.62619.215.7. Order directly from the publisher at Historypress.net or contact Katie Parry at 843-577-5971, ext. 113 or email at katie.parry@historypress.net. Cost is \$19.99 plus S&H.**

This quirky little book gives the reader not only an opportunity to locate classic diners in their area, but also provides a chuckle over the uniqueness of their foods in addition to that “long ago” generation, revisited. One of my main concerns is the rather shallow coverage of coast-line eateries. The author only highlights two significant spots in New London County. This is not a standard book for genealogical research but rather seems to be more for enjoyment and relaxed reading. A rather unique section provides recipes for the adventurous served up at those selected diners. There are the standard table of contents and index. This is a new approach to viewing our past, enjoy it.

***Generations: The WPA Ex-Slave Narrative Genealogical Resource Database, Volume 1: Ex-Slaves with Virginia Origins* by Dr. James M. Rose. Published by Clearfield Company, Inc., 2013, DVD format [this electronic product is formatted for viewing with Adobe Reader, version 9.0 or later and must be installed prior to viewing the contents of the book. Go to Adobe’s website: <http://www.adobe.com/products/reader> to download the free software. Required hardware: A PC with a DVD drive]. ISBN 978-0-8063-8054-4. Contact the publisher to purchase at www.genealogical.com. Cost is \$39.99 plus S&H.**

The Federal Writer’s project of the WPA, between the years 1937-1938, conducted thousands of interviews with former African-American slaves. This PDF program, part of a larger series, presents the narratives of these ex-slaves along with

critical genealogical materials. While many of the interviewees continued to reside in their original location, many others relocated to other southern localities. When pictures were possible of those being interviewed, the author chose to use them to lighten the mood and atmosphere of the disc. The materials are clearly broken down. Those researching their former slave background will find this alternative approach interesting.

***What’s In A Name? History and Meaning of Wyckoff* by M. William Wyckoff. Published by CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, Rochester, NY 14619, 2014. 6 x 9, softcover, ISBN 10: 1500379556 or ISBN 13: 978-15003379957, 58 pages. Order directly from Amazon.com or the author at 236 Trafalgar St., Rochester, NY 14619 or mwwyckoff@gmail.com. Cost is \$9.50 plus S&H.**

This thoroughly researched book by its scholarly author leaves the reader convinced that the Wyckoff family origins are not Dutch as previous thought, but Fresian. The focus of the book is about the history of the surname, not in the history of this family’s immigration to America. This material is of a distinct scholarly style. The serious genealogist, who may be researching the name Wyckoff, will find this material well-defined and accurate in presentation. The introduction and history at the beginning of the book sets the reader on a definitive course of exploration. Specifically noteworthy are the many drawings and photographs which add significant detailed expedience to the material. Although a great undertaking, a name/place index at the conclusion, would have assisted any fellow researcher.

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Franco-American Clubs, Genealogical Societies, Libraries, Museums, Et Cetera

*by Albert J. Marceau (March 7, 2015)
submitted by Oliva Patch, CSG # 5058*

Continued from Connecticut Genealogy News, Summer 2015, Volume 8, No. 2

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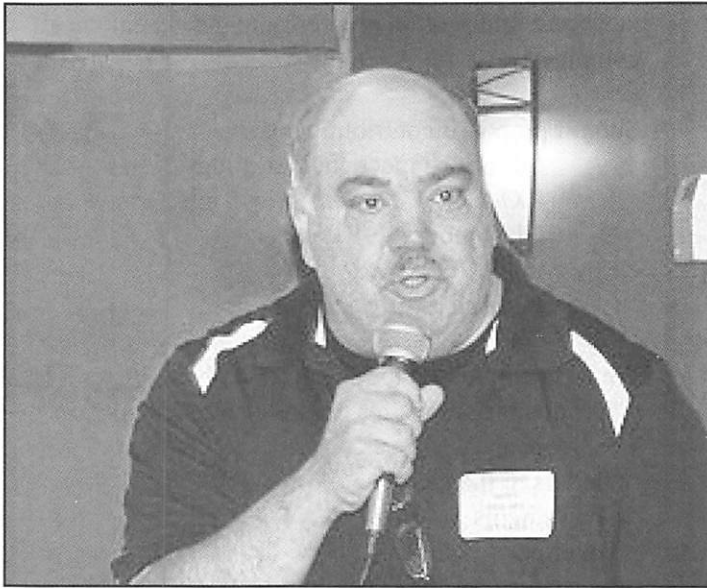
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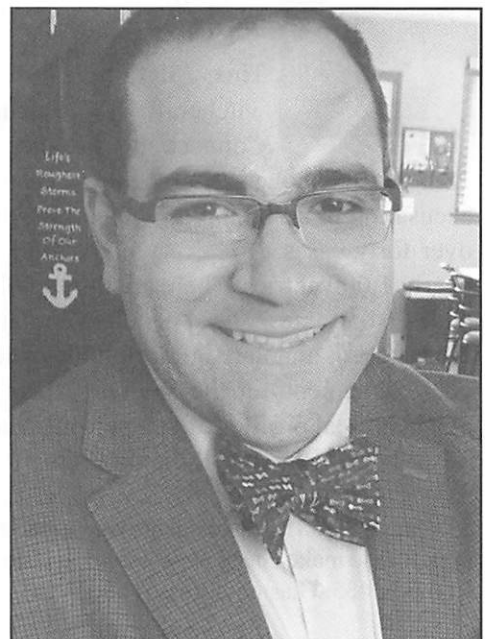
John Bedard

John has been doing various types of historical research for over 25 years. Mostly genealogy research for clients, but has also done other historical type research as well. He uses his thirty-five years of photography experience as a professional photographer to do genealogy related photo work. This includes gravestones, homes, etc. Other photography clients have included Tanglewood (summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra), National Wildlife Federation, New England Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (website), Tourism Dept. of Roxton Falls, Quebec, Canada. He is a member of the Association of Professional

Genealogists, New England Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Connecticut Society of Genealogists (life member), Massachusetts Genealogical Council, International Society of Genetic Genealogy, American French Genealogical Society and Massachusetts Audubon Society. Besides handling all aspects of both his photo business and genealogy business, he also maintains their respective websites.

Brian Cofrancesco

Brian is a native of Meriden, CT and works as the Head of Education at Connecticut's Old State House. An architectural historian by training, he earned his Bachelors of Architectural History at the University of Virginia and has worked at the Harriet Beecher Stowe Center, Thomas Jefferson's Monticello and the University of Virginia Art Museum. He has been a member of CSG since 2011 and researches his family's roots in Portugal, Madeira and Italy. Outside of CSG, Brian serves on the boards of the Connecticut League of History Organizations, Center of CT Tourism District, Kiwanis Club of Meriden, Meriden Historical Society, Meriden Hall of Fame, Victorian Society in America Summer Schools Committee, and the UVA School of Architecture Young Alumni Council, and is co-founder of the Drinking About Museums-Hartford networking group. He is co-editor of *Falmouth, Jamaica: Architecture as History* (2014).





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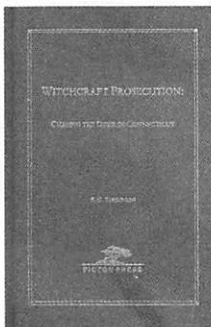
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Witchcraft Prosecution: Chasing the Devil in Connecticut

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 Wyllys Papers collection and historical profiles of key persons. Hardcover, 6 x 9, 224 pp., illustrated, Picton Press.

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CONNECTICUT GENEALOGY NEWS

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April 2016

Date of Seminar

- Saturday, April 16, 2016
- Sunday, April 17, 2016
- You may attend one or both days

Location

- Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, Marlborough, Massachusetts. Routes 495/20
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- \$85 for Sunday

Speakers

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Pam Eagleson (Obituaries in Genealogical Research and Their Role in American Culture)

Diane Gravel (Internet Genealogy: Separating the Trash from the Treasure)

Polly Fitzgerald Kimmitt (Identifying and Repatriating our Military Dead)

David Lambert (Workshop: Military Records: Revolution through for Civil War)

Barbara Mathews (Getting All Sherlock: Using Your Sources as Evidence)

Rhonda McClure (Using your Computer for Genealogical Analysis)

Marian Pierre-Louise (Looking After the Poor: Finding Your Ancestors in New England Poverty Records)

Diane Rapaport (Finding Your Ancestors in Court Records)

Margaret Sullivan (A Needle in a Haystack: A Case Study in Identifying 19th Century Ancestors)

Helen Ullmann (Workshop: Using FamilySearch Effectively)

Sunday

Ce Ce Moore, the genetic genealogist (4 lectures on how to use DNA for genealogical research)

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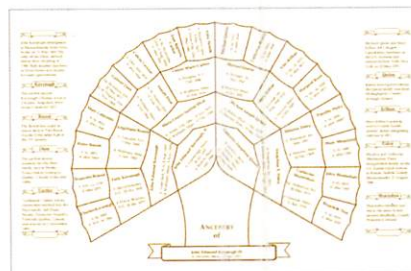
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Connecticut Genealogy News

For Those Who Pursue Their Family Heritage

Winter 2015

Vol. 8 No. 4



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

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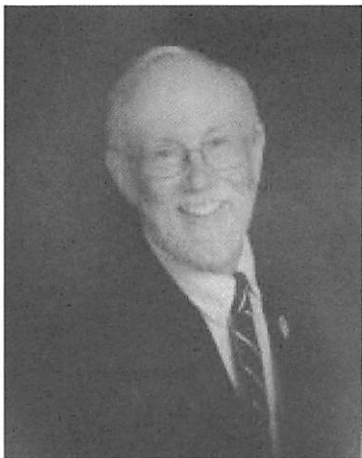
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President's Message



An important part of CSG's mission, as set forth in the Bylaws, is to provide instructional and educational programs through out the year. One of our most visible -- as well as the best attended -- of our programs is the annual Family History Seminar. Based on the feedback in the evaluation forms, nearly everyone who attended the 2015 Seminar on October 17

appeared to enjoy all aspects of the Seminar - not only the speakers and their topics, but even the food!

We have several additional informative programs coming up. On February 20, the topic is "Genealogical Problem Solving." Each attendee will have the opportunity to present one genealogical problem and the group will offer possible solutions. In March, Barbara Prymas will be discussing the many changes to and what we should know when utilizing the FamilySearch website. Both programs will be held at the CSG Library in East Hartford.

In lieu of a CSG meeting in April, we encourage you to attend the Massachusetts Genealogical Council Seminar on Saturday, April 16, and Sunday, April 17, at the Courtyard by Marriott, Marlborough, Massachusetts. The Saturday program offers a great selection of top-notch speakers at a cost of \$75 for the day. On Sunday, CeCe Moore, the "Genetic Genealogist," will present four lectures on how to use DNA for genealogical research. Ms. Moore is the genetic genealogy consultant on *Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr.* and *Genealogy Roadshow* and is a frequent presenter at "national" genealogical conferences. Don't miss this opportunity to hear her right here in New England. Cost for the Sunday sessions is \$85. For further information, visit the Massachusetts Genealogical Council website, www.massgencouncil.org, or e-mail program@massgencouncil.org.

We're planning some changes to the format of our Annual Meeting coming up on May 21, which will be held at the Connecticut Historical Society. As usual, we'll be receiving Annual Reports, electing officers and members of the Board of Delegates, and listening to a speaker, but a special feature of the meeting will be the opportunity learn more about CHS and get an "behind the scenes" look at some of the collections. However, please note that we won't be presenting the 2016 Literary Awards at the Annual Meeting in May. Instead, they will be awarded in October at the 2016 Family History Seminar. (If you have any questions about the 2016 Literary

Awards, please call the CSG Office at [860-569-0002](tel:860-569-0002) or email csginc@csginc.org.



Speaking of changes, we're working on some additional changes for the October 2016 Seminar. Watch for additional information in future issues of *Connecticut Genealogy News*.

On behalf of the Board of Governors, I hope you have a happy holiday season! And as we enter a new year, I encourage you to resolve to take full advantage of the many educational programs CSG offers.

- Richard Roberts, President

Editorial

In this issue, you will not find any book reviews, but there are quite a number in the queue being worked on, so the next issue should have them. The section usually found on this page entitled "About the Cover" has moved to page 14 due to space considerations in this issue. We did receive a number of Queries this time, so be sure to take a look at those and, if you have an answer or even a clue, please feel free to contact the member directly at the contact information listed. Those members would be more than happy to hear from you.

It is our pleasure to include contributions in this issue from Margaret Weaver, the Killingly Municipal Historian, who has written for us, on very short notice, the Spotlight on Killingly; and CSG Member Denise Kennedy, who has written for *The Connecticut Nutmegger* on occasion, a very informative article on Connecticut's Digital Library. Richard Roberts, formerly the Head of the Connecticut State Library's History and Genealogy Unit and currently serving as CSG's President, has continued his series on the resources at the Connecticut State Library with Transportation in Early Connecticut. CSG Life Member Diane LeMay, currently serving as CSG's Assistant Treasurer and facilitator of the CSG Facebook page, has contributed an article on "Facebook and Your Family Tree;" and Dick Tomlinson, also a CSG Life Member, Founding Member and currently serving as CSG Vice President and Chair of the Publications Committee, has submitted an article that explains how to use Google in genealogical research. Thank you all for your contributions and for your support of this magazine.

To all our members and friends, Happy Holidays.

- Stephanie Hyland, Editor

Transportation in Early Connecticut: Travel, Highways, Ferries, Bridges

by Richard C. Roberts CSG # 8680

Today Connecticut is crisscrossed by a modern transportation system including interstate highways that let travelers drive from Danbury to the Massachusetts line in a little over an hour and a half or from New Haven to Enfield in about an hour. It certainly wasn't always this way. The *Journal of Madam Knight* is the account of a woman who made her way through the towns along Long Island Sound in 1704. In it she describes the crossing of a bridge in Stamford as "exceedingly high and very tottering and of vast length" and one at Norwich where she "crept over a timber of broken Bridge about 30 foot long and perhaps 50 foot to the water" (Mitchell, p. 16).

In the spring of 1711 floods destroyed every bridge in Windham County. Complaints from irate travelers to the General Court ultimately forced local authorities to take action (Mitchell, p. 17). In 1716 inhabitants of Hartford complained that "the Collegiate School of Connecticut" (later Yale College) should not be situated in New Haven because it was so remote and the transportation by water so uncertain (Federal, p. 48). In 1768 Lord Adam Gordon traveled the so-called "Greenwoods" Road in Litchfield County and commented that it was the "worst he had seen in America" (Mitchell, p. 2). In 1780 Count Chastellux wrote in a letter, "you mount four or five miles, continually bounding from one large stone to another, which cross the road and give it a resemblance to stairs" (Federal, p. 48).

Although not large in area, Connecticut's topography created virtually infinite obstacles for our ancestors. The irregular coast and wide rivers resulted in the need for numerous ferries. Smaller "wild and hazardous" rivers and streams not only resulted in a need for bridges but frequently overflowed their banks, washing out roads and bridges and creating great expense to towns as well as the colony and later the state. The alignment of Connecticut's "mountains" made it difficult to lay out straight roads (Mitchell, p. 3). It is no wonder then that road building and related travel issues were among the most frequent topics at town meetings and the subject of much legislation by the General Assembly (Collier, p. 266).

ROADS AND HIGHWAYS

Connecticut's earliest settlers in Windsor, Wethersfield,

and Hartford either followed Indian trails or used the Connecticut River as a means of transportation. The oldest, planned and formally laid out road between towns, dates to 1638, connecting Windsor and Hartford (Mitchell, p. 20; Pub. Rec. v. 1, pp. 17-18).

As Connecticut towns were laid out, most had a square or "green" in the center, a long, wide street with house lots on each side. Just beyond were the "meadow lands." Still further out were common undivided fields and wood lots. In most towns, a committee was chosen to lay out roads heading from the home lots to the meadows, pastures, woods, and the mill (Mitchell, p. 5). But all too often, as new homes were built on what once were meadow lots or wood lots, there was no way for someone to get to and from their holdings without going through their neighbors' property. In a 1732 petition to the General Assembly, some residents of Lebanon complained that they had to cross "particular men's properties as trespassers and through many miry places as well as over bad hills and be troublesome to our neighbors" in order to get to attend church (Mitchell, 7).

In 1643 the General Court passed a law by which each town had charge of making and mending "ways" within its own bounds. Consequently, requests for new roads were made first to the town and considered at town meeting. If the Selectmen determined such roads were needed, they would appoint a committee to mark them out and to recommend compensation to those who lost land in the process. If those grieved were not satisfied, they could appeal to the County Court within 12 months. If those seeking the new road were denied by the selectmen, they could take the matter to the County Court. Decisions of the County Court could be set aside by the General Court (Mitchell, p. 7).

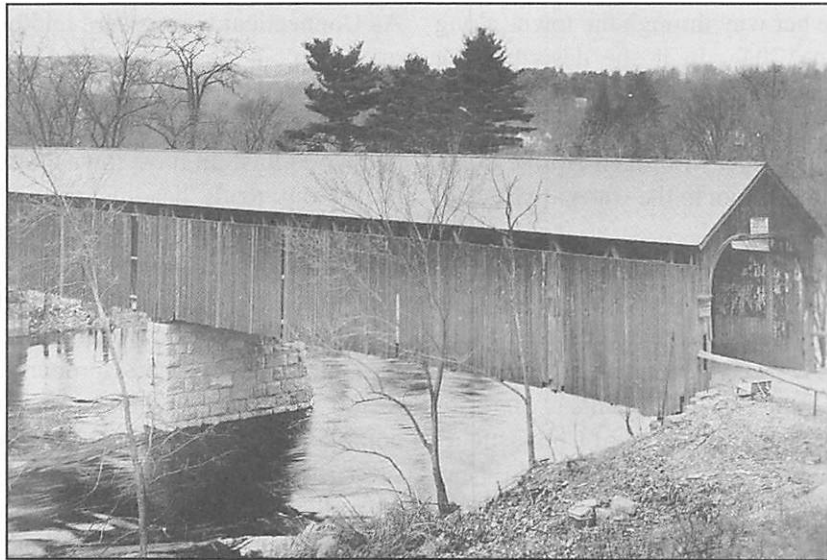
In 1732, inhabitants of Newington parish complained to the General Assembly about "badly contrived" highways that made it necessary for them to either "tarry at home or go somewhere else to meeting, which was 'a great hardship considering the great taxes they pay for the support of the public worship'" (Mitchell, p. 7). In 1733, Ezekial Ashley of "Ousatonnuck" petitioned the Assembly to finish a road, which he had begun from the present limits of Salisbury toward

Hartford. The request was denied due to the sparseness of the population (Warren, p. 104).

In the 1750s a road was established leading from Hartford toward Boston through Coventry, Mansfield, Ashford, and Thompson. It became known as the "Middle Road" (Mitchell, p. 22). Another of Connecticut's earliest "highways" ran from Hartford through Farmington, Harwinton, Litchfield, Cornwall, and Canaan and became known as the "high road to Albany" (Mitchell, p. 22).

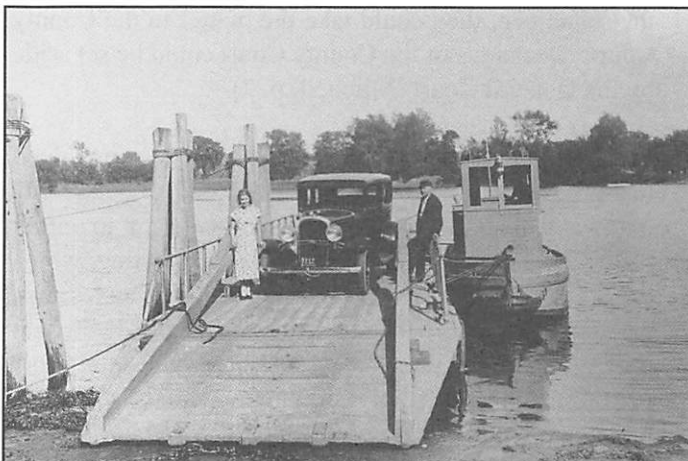
In 1758 inhabitants petitioned the General Assembly for a new road. In 1761 it was laid out through Simsbury, New Hartford, and Norfolk (Mitchell, p. 22). In 1764 a memorial to the General Assembly noted that "It is now become One of ye Greatest Roads in ye Government & wyll still be of great Service if proper

Care is taken to keep this Road in good repair and finish it thro-out" (Warren, p. 197). Two years later another petition noted "That by Reason of Greate and Tall Trees falling in and acrost s^d Highway and Sum Bridges being Impaired and Sundry other amendmets wanting, Travelers with Horses and Teemes, &c are Exposed to very Greate Difficultye." This time, proprietors were ordered to "keep the Road in Repare" and a committee appointed to insure the repairs were done (Warren, p. 198).



Early public bridges were under the supervision of the General Assembly, but the towns were responsible for keeping them in repair (Mitchell, p. 15). For 14 years Stonington refused to pay Connecticut's share of the bridge to Westerly, Rhode Island. The General Assembly threatened a fine of 300 pounds. Beginning

about 1735 bridges were usually financed by a man or group of men who subscribed part of the expense and then petitioned the General Assembly for permission to collect a toll for a period of 10 or 20 years. When the time expired, the town had to take it over (Mitchell, p. 16). After 1750 there were many requests to the General Assembly for permission to conduct lotteries to finance bridges; change toll bridges into free ones; repair old ones; and build new ones. Few petitions were granted (Mitchell, p. 16).



FERRIES

Many of Connecticut's rivers were too broad to be crossed by bridges. In January 1641/2 the General Court authorized a ferry boat at Windsor and in January 1648/9 the Court authorized John Bissell "to attend the Ferry over the Great River at Windsor, for the full term of seven years." By 1700 there were nine important ferries. That year, due to the dishonesty of the Saybrook ferryman who was convicted of doing "a rong [sic] to travelers in his ferry employment," the General Court enacted a law pertaining to all ferries fixing rates and regulating equipment, exemptions, rules of carriage, etc. (Mitchell, p. 18). By 1750 there were 26 public ferries (Mitchell, p. 29). Today the

Glastonbury-Rocky Hill ferry (which began operation in 1655 and which is the nation's oldest continually operating ferry) and the Chester-Hadlyme ferry (which began operation in 1769) continue Connecticut's ferry tradition.

STAGE LINES

In 1717, Captain J. Munson of New Haven obtained permission of the General Assembly to transport passengers between New Haven and Hartford in his wagon once a month except in January, February, and March (Mitchell, p. 28). However, there were no stagecoaches in Connecticut until after the Revolution. The first regular line of stages, established between Hartford, Boston, and New Haven in 1783 initially met with opposition (Federal, p. 48).

The stagecoach era reached its height after 1840 (Federal, p. 48). The fare between Hartford and Albany was \$5. In the summer, the trip at either end began at 2:00 a.m. and passengers were promised arrival at the other end "in time to dine and take outgoing stages of other lines," however the remainder of the year it took two or three days to make the trip (Warren Thoroughfares, p.727).

TURNPIKES

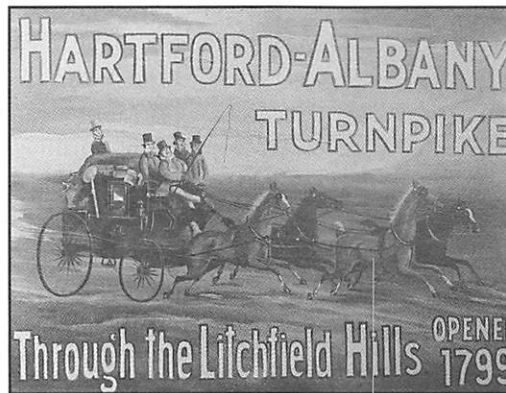
The nation's first turnpike company was chartered in Virginia in 1785 (Collier, p. 267). However, Connecticut was a pioneer in the turnpike movement (Collier, p. 267); Connecticut's General Assembly chartered the nation's second and third turnpike companies in 1792. Soon thereafter, additional private corporations began to be chartered to build and maintain specific roads and collect tolls, and often authorized to raise funds by lottery to finance construction (Federal, p. 48). Between 1795 and 1853, 121 toll roads (turnpikes) were granted by the General Assembly (Federal, p. 49).

The first toll road in Connecticut was the Mohegan Road, between Norwich and New London, which followed the course of an old Indian trail (Federal, p. 49). In May 1792, the General Assembly passed an act establishing a toll gate – the second toll gate authorized in America but the first to be completed – and appointed a board of commissioners to maintain it. Toll collections continued until 1849 (Federal, p. 49). The third toll gate in the

U.S. was established on the Greenwich Road in 1792 (Federal, p. 49).

In October 1797 the General Assembly granted a franchise to the Boston Turnpike Company for roads "from Hartford, through East Hartford, Bolton, Coventry, Mansfield, Ashford, Pomfret, and Thompson to the Massachusetts Line." This route also became known as the "Middle Turnpike" (Federal, p. 49). The Talcott Mountain Turnpike Company was chartered in May, 1798 to construct and maintain a road from Hartford through Farmington to New Hartford (Federal, p. 49).

In May 1798 George Humphreys of Simsbury and associates were "constituted a company for establishing and keeping repair a turnpike road from the west line of the city of Hartford through the towns of Farmington and Simsbury to Eldad Shepard's present dwelling house in New Hartford" (Warren Thoroughfares, p.722).



During the first thirty years of the nineteenth century, wagons were a common site along the Albany Turnpike as families from Connecticut made their way

to the Western Reserve in what is now northeastern Ohio. Turnpikes also became a thoroughfare of choice for "Yankee peddlers," with the most prosperous establishing a permanent stand in a city and setting out in wagons in all directions to peddle their wares (Warren Thoroughfares, p. 729).

Toll gates became "a favorite lounging place for the people of the immediate neighborhood. The collector's house was built so as to overarch the way and a door on one side of this shed opened to the office from which

windows looked up and down the line" (Warren Thoroughfares, p.722).

In 1858 Eli Whitney Blake of New Haven invented the stone crusher, making possible the economical construction of highways on a large scale (Federal, p. 49). That marked the beginning of the end of Connecticut's turnpike movement. In 1895 the franchise of the Derby Turnpike, the last of the private turnpikes, was abandoned. That year a state commission was created to assume responsibility for Connecticut's highways

(Federal, p. 49). Through routes were designated as “trunk lines” (Federal, p. 49). Connecting routes became known as “State Aid Roads” (Federal, p. 49).

RAILROADS

In 1832 a charter was granted to the New York and Stonington Railroad after prolonged debate in the General Assembly. One memorial stated that a railroad would “produce more harm than good, and may result in great injury and injustice to private property.” It was signed by Roger Sherman, Simeon Baldwin, William Bristol, and J. Wood, all overseers of turnpike stock (Federal, p. 50). Later in 1832 a charter was granted to the Boston, Norwich, and Worcester Railroad (Federal, p. 50).



The first railroad operation was in 1837 (Collier, p. 274). The Hartford and New Haven Railroad opened in 1838 with a line from New Haven to Meriden. In 1839, it was extended to Hartford, connecting with a line to Springfield, Massachusetts. When the charter was granted, people of Newington presented a petition stating that they were a “peacable [sic], orderly people” and begging that their quiet might not be disturbed by “steam cars and an influx of strangers” (Federal, p. 51). The railroad along the old Farmington Canal was chartered in 1846, opened between New Haven and Plainville in 1848, and extended to Northampton, Massachusetts in 1855 (Federal, p. 51). The first east-west railroad in Connecticut was the New York and New Haven Railroad, chartered in 1844, which opened in 1848. It absorbed the Hartford and New Haven railroad in 1872 (Federal, p. 51).

Electric power was first used on the New Britain to Hartford branch of the New Haven Railroad in 1901.

The main line was electrified to Stamford in 1907 and to New Haven in 1914 (Federal, p. 51).

The first streamlined train on the New Haven Railroad was the *Comet*, which first ran between Providence and Boston on June 5, 1935 (Federal, p. 51).

CANALS

On January 29, 1822 citizens from 17 towns met to discuss the building of the Farmington Canal, intended to connect Long Island Sound with the St. Lawrence River (Federal, p. 52). In May 1822 a charter was granted to the Farmington Canal Company. Work began near the Massachusetts border on July 4, 1825. By 1829, the canal operated from New Haven to Westfield, Massachusetts. Landslides resulted in high maintenance; by 1847 operations were suspended and many stockholders petitioned the General Assembly for permission to build a railroad to replace the canal (Federal, p. 52). The Farmington Canal was never an economic success but did help small industries along its route (Collier, p. 269).

The Enfield (Windsor Locks) Canal was completed in 1828. It was built to take river traffic around the rapids and provide water power. It had hand-operated gates and locks (Federal p. 52). The Quinebaug Canal (1824), Saugatuck and New Milford Canal (1829), and Sharon Canal (1826) were all failures.

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- Christopher and Bonnie B. Collier, *The Literature of Connecticut History* (Middletown, Conn.: Connecticut Humanities Council, 1983).
- Richard DeLuca, *Post Roads & Iron Horses:*

Transportation in Connecticut from Colonial Times to the Age of Steam (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 2011).

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- Sarah Kemble Knight, *The Journal of Madam Knight* (Boston, Mass.: D. R. Godine, 1972).
- Isabell S. Mitchell, "Roads and Road-Making in Colonial Connecticut," Tercentenary Pamphlet XIV, (New Haven, Conn.: Published for the Tercentenary Commission by the Yale University Press, 1933).
- H. A. Warren, "Clearing the Trail for Civilization: Penetrating the Great Woods...." *Connecticut Magazine*, 8 (1903): 1, 193-200. "Thoroughfares in Early Republic Controlled by Corporations...." *Connecticut Magazine*, 8 (1094):4, 721-29.

Photo Credit - All photos are from the State Archives, Connecticut State Library:

- "Ancient Covered Bridge at West Cornwall, pg. 180, Box 1, Folder "Covered Bridges."
- "Rocky Hill-Glastonbury Ferry," pg. 180, Box 2, Folder "Transportation."
- "Hartford-Albany Turnpike," pg. 180, Box 2, Folder "Transportation."
- "Tariffville Railroad Disaster 1878," pg. 300, Box 7.
- "Farmington Canal Boat 'Dewitt Clinton,'" pg. 180, Box 2, Folder "Transportation."

Transportation Records in the Connecticut State Archives

From lists of tavern keepers to the names of land owners along newly laid-out roads, records in the Connecticut State Archives relating to travel, highways, ferries, bridges, taverns, and other modes of transportation provide a wealth of information about the life and times of those living in Connecticut since colonial times. Reference services for the Archives are provided through the Connecticut State Library's History and Genealogy Unit, 860-757-6580, <http://libguides.ctstatelibrary.org/ht/home>. Note that before requesting items, you must read the *Rules and Procedures for Researchers Using Archival Records, Original Newspapers, and Secured Collections Materials* and then obtain an Archives Pass. See "Using Secured Collections, Archives, and Offsite Materials," <http://libguides.ctstatelibrary.org/hg/using-archival-records/rules>.

"Early General Records" and the "Connecticut Archives:"

RG 1, Early General Records, 1629-1820 consists of colonial and early state records including:

- The *Connecticut Archives* (papers of the Connecticut General Assembly to about 1820; grouped into broad topics) described at http://ctstatelibrary.org/RG001_010.html. They include:

Connecticut Archives: Travel, Highways, Ferries, Bridges, and Taverns, Series I, 1700-1788.

Connecticut Archives: Travel, Highways, Ferries, Bridges, and Taverns, Series II, 1737-1820.

- *The Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut*, 1636-1776, described at http://ctstatelibrary.org/RG001_001.html.

Also available online as Colonial Connecticut Records, <http://www.colonialct.uconn.edu/>.

- *The Public Records of the State of Connecticut*, described at http://ctstatelibrary.org/RG001_002.html. See the Introductions to volumes VIII through XI for information relating to turnpike incorporations.

More Record Groups Containing Travel-related Records:

Finding aids for many record groups are available online at <http://ctstatelibrary.org/state-archives-finding-aids/>. Hard copies of finding aids not yet online are available at the History and Genealogy reference desk.

- RG 2, Records of the General Assembly. General Assembly Papers include petitions, memorials, remonstrances, affidavits, appointments and resignations, public acts, rejected bills, reports, and other papers. They are an important resource for research on turnpike, canal, ferry, bridge, and railroad companies incorporated between 1821 and 1870. See the finding aid online at <http://ctstatelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/papers.pdf>. Examples of travel-related records include:

- General Assembly Papers, 1822, Box 2. Includes items relating to turnpikes; incorporations; schools, towns, cities,

- and boroughs; and the Farmington Canal.
 - General Assembly Papers, 1832, Box 15. Includes a petition to incorporate the Sharon & Salisbury Rail Road Company, Connecticut's first railroad.
 - RG 2:19 Railroads, 1840-1908. Annual reports and related papers of railroad companies.
 - RG 3, Records of the Judicial Department. Includes the Superior Court, County Courts, some Courts of Common Pleas, Maritime Courts, Supreme Court of Errors, several District, Municipal, and Justice Courts, and the Records of the County Coroners. See in particular Superior Court and County Court "Papers by Subject" which include sub-categories such as "taverners," "travel," and "licenses." For the finding aid, go to <http://ctstatelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/judicial.pdf>.
 - RG 5, Records of the Governors. Correspondence, memoranda, and other papers of the Governor and staff. For the finding aid, go to <http://ctstatelibrary.org/RG005.html>. See, for example:
 - Office of the Governor: Wilbur L. Cross
Box 396, Merritt Parkway.
 - Office of the Governor: Abraham Ribicoff
Box 650, Connecticut Turnpike.
 - RG 7, Records of the State Treasurer. See for example:
 - Items 225-227, Turnpike Returns, 1721-1850 (3 vols.). Include accounts of tolls collected and money expended for repairs.
 - RG 8, Records of the State Comptroller. See for example:
 - Box 192, Bills for Stratford ferry crossings, 1779-1780.
 - Boxes 203-204, Correspondence, returns of turnpikes, bridge and ferries, accounts, and a chronological list of turnpike incorporations, 1792-1832.
 - RG 41, Records of the Public Utilities Control Authority. Includes correspondence, accident reports, investigation reports, hearings, petitions, and related materials from the Railroad Commissioners, 1848-1912 (finding aid online at http://ctstatelibrary.org/RG041_001.html); Asylum Bridge Commission, 1884-91; and Inspectors, 1877-1881.
 - RG 62, Town and Borough Governments. Generally include town meeting records, tax lists, grand lists, assessment books, school records, etc. but for some towns may also include records relating to roads, highways, ferries, and bridges; highway tax rate books; tavern licenses; justice court papers; and other materials. For online finding aids, go to <http://ctstatelibrary.org/state-archives-finding-aids/> and then click on the tab "Local Government A-Z".
 - RG 89, Records of the Department of Transportation. Includes turnpike and bridge construction photographs, 1935-1989; bridge construction minutes; reports of transportation studies, State Highway Commission certificates, 1895-1931; tolls and concessions, 1947-1988; and aerial survey photos of Connecticut (for more information on aerial photos, see <http://libguides.ctstatelibrary.org/hg/aerialphotos>).
 - RG 117, Department of Motor Vehicles. Of interest are Vehicle Registration Records, 1903-1905 (Accession 1996-029) that include name of owner, residence, vehicle trade name, style, seating capacity, motive power (gasoline or steam), manufacturer, date, and certification number. For the online finding aid go to <http://ctstatelibrary.org/RG117.html>.
 - RG 135, Union Company, Hartford, Connecticut, 1801-1862. The Union Company was incorporated in 1800 to clear a channel in the Connecticut River from Hartford to Long Island Sound and subsequently collected tolls from vessels using the river. For the online finding aid, go to <http://ctstatelibrary.org/RG135.html>.
- Pictorial Collections:**
For the online finding aid, go to <http://ctstatelibrary.org/state-archives-finding-aids/> and click on the tab "Pictorial Collections A-Z: See in particular:
- PG 280, Raymond E. Baldwin Bridge Construction Photographs, 1945-1948.
 - PG 475, Construction of the Bulkeley Bridge, East Haddam Bridge, and Connecticut State Bridge, 1903-1913.
 - PG 480, Hartford Bridge Week Celebration, 1908.
- Classified Archives:** Travel-related materials include papers relating to the Bridgeport and Newtown Turnpike

Company, Windham Turnpike Company, Hadlyme Turnpike Company, Hartford and Tolland Turnpike Company, Pettipaug and Guilford Turnpike, Woodstock and Thompson Turnpike Company and the Farmington Canal; materials relating to the old Hartford bridge; letters from James Hillhouse to Capt. James Goodrich concerning paying the Irish who worked on the north half of the Farmington and Hampshire Canal; and more. These materials are not included within the State Archives' online finding aids; see the card catalog in the History and Genealogy reading room.

Atlases, Maps, and Related Materials: Atlases, gazetteers, and maps of roads, highways, railroads, rivers, and the Connecticut coastline.

Online Digital Collections,

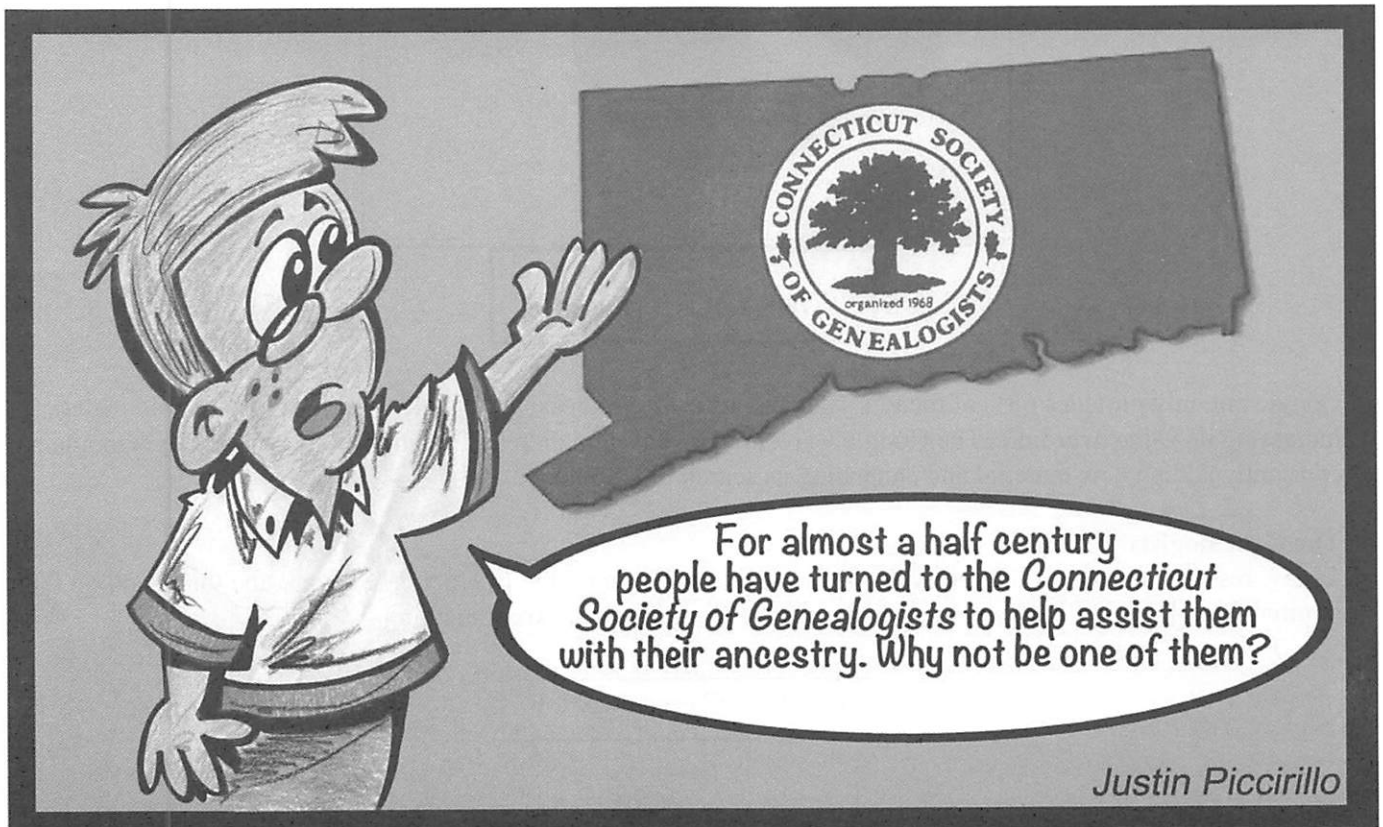
<http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/>.

Travel-related collections include:

Aerial Photographs, <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/landingpage/collection/p4005coll10>.

Farmington Canal -- the full "Map of the Farmington Canal," certified by engineer Henry Farnam on July 1, 1828 and by a majority of the Commissioners to Survey and Lay Out the Farmington Canal in May 1837. The full plan is in sixteen sections (numbered 2-17) depicting the Farmington Canal from New Haven north to the Massachusetts border. <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p4005coll11/id/518>, Merritt Parkway Construction, <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/landingpage/collection/p128501coll4> WPA Architectural Survey - Census of Old Buildings in Connecticut, <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/landingpage/collection/p4005coll7> (which includes pictures of old taverns).

Heritage Humor by Justin Piccirillo



GOOGLE Marches On

by R.G. Tomlinson CSG #55L

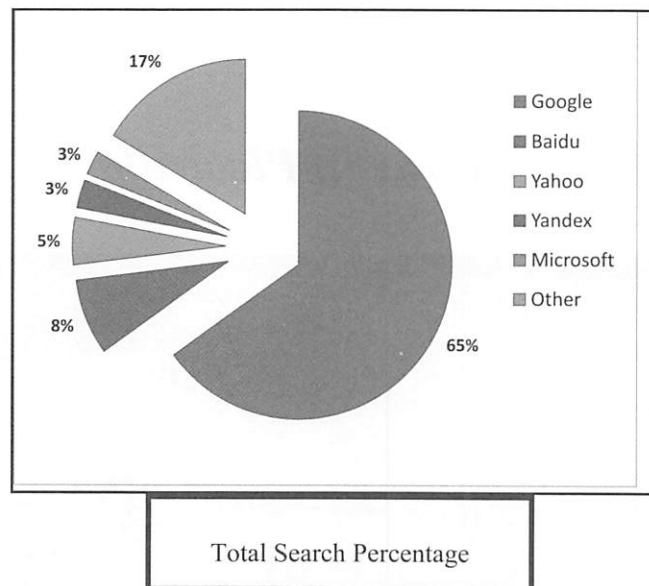


What Did We Do Before Google?

For genealogists and family historians, the world changed in 1998 when it became possible to search the Internet using Google. Nothing has had such a wide-ranging impact on how we find genealogical information. Books, libraries, archives, charts, vital records, land records, census, probates, wills, correspondence, microfilms, etc. still provide some of the data we need to build our family trees. Increasingly, these appear as digitized records on the Internet and Google is the premier gateway to find them.

The 800-Pound Gorilla

Google is not the only search engine on the Internet, but it is the dominant one.



Google not only provides 65% of today's searches, its lead is increasing. Google continues to add more material, increasing its value over time. The Google web crawler visits and indexes 20 billion websites per day. Google is constantly adding new material and enhancing its search functionality.

The Genealogists' Friend

Today, research on one of our ancestors is very likely to begin on the Internet. We have come to depend on the familiar Google query by typing key words into the Google search box something like:

"John Smith" genealogy CT

The query instructs Google to search the Internet for John Smith. Putting the quote marks around the name tells Google that I want documents with just that name and not all the millions of documents which happen to contain

the name John and the name Smith somewhere in the document. Inside the quotes, the space between John and Smith is just a space. Outside the quotes, a space means something different. It is the AND command in Boolean algebra. It tells Google that in addition to “John Smith”, I want documents that contain the words *genealogy* and *CT*.

Google Changes

The AND is only one of several commands that Google recognizes, but just what these commands mean, and how they are used, has changed with time. These changes occur without any announcement or fanfare. They are just incorporated into the way Google searches.

A good example of the dynamic, evolving nature of Google is the story of the death of the tilde ~. For the first five years of Google search, this obscure symbol was the darling of savvy genealogists. In mathematics, the tilde is the symbol for “approximately” and that is what it did in Google searches. Putting the tilde in front of a key word in the Google search box instructed Google to include synonyms of this word in its search. In 2008, the first edition of Dan Lynch’s first edition of *Google Your Family Tree* said of the tilde: “This operator is especially useful for genealogy research because it can direct Google to find pages with a surname and/or place name, but only those that have something to do with genealogy. As a result, Google will filter out pages not meeting this criteria and leave only pages directly related to your research interests.”

Putting the keyword entry ~*genealogy* in the search box produced results that included *family, family history, genealogy, roots, surname, vital records, etc.* But now the tilde is dead, left behind in the advance of search technology. Sometime in 2013, Google stopped recognizing it. However, while the symbol is now meaningless to Google searches, the functionality isn’t really lost. It has simply moved to the AND function. You may have noticed that if you enter a keyword with a space in front of it [which Google takes as the AND command], you get results for synonyms ... just like you used to do with the tilde.

If you want to limit a search to exactly the keyword in the search box, you need to use the PLUS sign. Now your search looks like this:

“John Smith”+genealogy CT

Now Google will find documents with just the word *genealogy*, and not the documents with all the synonyms.

Filtering Google Search Results

Most genealogical Google searches produce an uncomfortable number of results which may stretch for pages and pages. Research suggests that most users don’t look beyond the first two pages. This is not a good tactic for genealogists because that valued tidbit you’re looking for may be buried in the fifth reference on page 16.

The standard approach for genealogists is to examine some of the results from the first search and conduct a new search which excludes terms that produce unwanted results. This is done by using the MINUS sign in front of the key word. Google reads this as the Boolean operator NOT.

It is amusing, but frustrating, to receive search responses that cheerfully proclaim to have found the address and phone number of your 17th century ancestor. These results can usually be avoided by entering *-address* among your key word entries.

The Advanced Data Form

There are many more ways to narrow and focus the results of your search and Google has created a way to include them all in “Advanced Search.” Click on the button to the right of the search box and it will bring up a convenient form.

Here is an example of using the form to do a focused search for the Rev. Dr. Gershom Bulkeley, sometime minister of Wethersfield, CT.

Google

Advanced Search

Find pages with...

all these words:

this exact word or phrase:

any of these words:

none of these words:

numbers ranging from: to

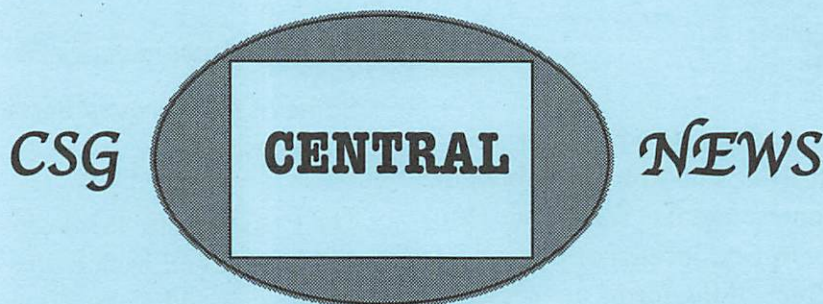
When the search is activated, the form will populate the search box with key words that could have been entered manually.

Wethersfield CT Rev. OR Dr. "Gershom Bulkeley" -address 1650..1700

The entries instruct Google to find references for *Gershom Bulkeley* AND *Wethersfield* AND *Connecticut* with the terms *Dr.* OR *Rev.*, excluding any results that have the word *address* AND including any that contain a date between 1650 and 1700.

Even this narrow search produced 325 hits, but since I have been researching this name for a long time, most of these references are already known to me. Using the boxes on the lower part of the search form, I can limit the results to include only those that were recently added ... e.g., past year, past month, past week, past 24 hours.

Continued on page 25



The logo features the text "CSG" on the left, "CENTRAL" in a white box inside a dark oval in the center, and "NEWS" on the right.

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.

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. Members are reminded to invite their friends and watch this space and/or the CSG website for updated information.

*There will be no program in December 2015
or January 2016*

20 February - Genealogical Problem Solving

Open Forum - Each attendee (as time permits) will present one genealogical problem. The group will give its suggestions for possible solutions.

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

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Cost: FREE

Please pre-register by noon on Friday, February 19th so we may plan appropriately.

19 March - The LDS Website: New Changes

Abound! The topic will discuss the many upcoming changes and what we should know when utilizing the website, ordering films, etc.

Speaker: Barbara Prymas

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

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Cost: FREE

Please pre-register by noon on Friday, March 18th so we may plan appropriately.

16-17 April - Join us in Massachusetts this weekend for the Massachusetts Genealogical Council Seminar. **See flyer on the inside back cover or go to program@massgencouncil.org for speakers, topics, location and registration fees. Questions should be directed to the Massachusetts Genealogical Council.**

21 May - CSG 48th Annual Meeting.

Watch Connecticut Genealogy News or the CSG website at www.csginc.org for updates on this event.

Location: Connecticut Historical Society, One Elizabeth Street, Hartford, CT 06105.

Time: 11 a.m. Registration

11:30 a.m. Welcome, Business Meeting

Noon: Luncheon

1 p.m. Presentation by the Connecticut Historical Society Executive Director Jody Blankenship and Chief Curator Ilene Frank

2 p.m. Tour of CHS Research Center & Museum

Cost: TBA

Pre-registration by Friday, 13 May 2016, is required so we can plan appropriately.

Reminder: The Literary Awards presentation has been moved to our Family History Seminar in October.

**Watch for updates and more programs
on our website at www.csginc.org
under Events!**

CSG NEWS

29th Literary Awards Contest will begin receiving entries in March 2016. Entry forms for both the Literary Awards Contest and the “Tell Your Family Story” Essay Contest are located on pages 15 & 16 of this issue. Copies of the forms are accepted. All entries will be due in the CSG office no later than 15 August 2016. Awards will be presented at CSG’s Annual Family History Seminar on 15 October 2016. Visit the CSG website at www.csginc.org or contact the CSG office at 860-569-0002 or csginc@csginc.org for contest rules or more information.

CSG Annual Appeal

You should have received the Annual Appeal donation request in the mail by now. Thank you to all who have donated to this fund drive in the past and please consider donating again. It is only with the support of our members that we can continue to provide the many services and publications that we do.

The many benefits members appreciate:

- ✓ Access to Connecticut state and town records via your CSG membership card.
 - ✓ *The Connecticut Nutmegger* where you’ll find transcripts of original sources such as bible, church, vital and court records and well-researched and documented genealogical articles.
 - ✓ *Connecticut Genealogy News* that features articles on genealogical resources in Connecticut, how-to articles, reviews of genealogy related books and information about CSG activities.
- Plus, as a member you may submit up to 3 queries per issue.
- ✓ An office and library where members are served by helpful staff. You’ll find printed genealogies and reference resources, our Ancestry Service (a unique collection of Ancestor Charts submitted by members) and access to databases such as:

iCONN.org that includes HeritageQuest.

Some of the Ancestry Service is already up on the website!

- ✓ The CSG website that keeps you up-to-date and includes all back issues of *The Connecticut Nutmegger* and *Connecticut Genealogy News* magazine.
- ✓ 50% Discount off the World Subscription of FindMyPast.com. Contact the CSG office for more details.
- ✓ 5% Discount off the subscription price of the Hartford Public Library’s *Connecticut Explored* magazine.
- ✓ Interesting programs that educate, entertain and foster camaraderie, to regional genealogical resource centers and more!

CSG Books For Sale

CSG has many books just donated that are now for sale at extremely reduced prices. Check out the list at www.csginc.org under Books. You may order right online; however, please contact the CSG Office first to make sure that the book is still in stock. In many cases, we only have one copy, because the books are donated.

About the Cover

This winter scene in Danielson, Connecticut, reminds us that what we see with a warm glow of nostalgia may really have been a scene of hardship for our colonial ancestors.

The Reverend Dr. Gershom Bulkeley of Wethersfield included the following entries in his 1699 diary. “Wednesday, October 31_ I was very ill of a fever & cold which held a week. Wednesday, November 20, _ Strange warm weather for Ye most part all this month until this day & then very cold. Thursday, November 21, _ This night snow about 3 inches thick. Thursday, November 29, _ A freezing rain that glazed the ground so that a man could hardly go.”

Source: Google Images

Entry Form For

LITERARY AWARDS CONTEST OCTOBER 2016
TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL LITERARY AWARDS CONTEST

Sponsored by

CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, Inc.

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Title of Publication

Category (Circle one): GENEALOGY FAMILY HISTORY 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)

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. We encourage you to photocopy this Entry Form and pass it on.

Entry Form for

LITERARY AWARDS CONTEST OCTOBER 2016

“TELL YOUR FAMILY STORY” ESSAY CONTEST

Twenty-Ninth 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

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? _____

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 _____

Facebook and Your Family Tree

by Diane LeMay, CSG # 7571

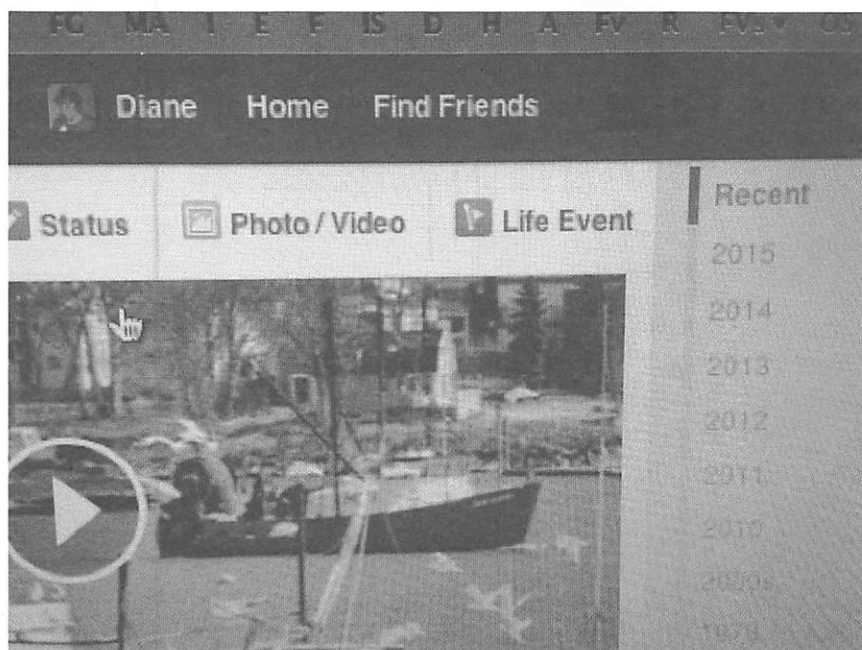
Historical societies, libraries, family associations, genealogy conferences, The Connecticut Society of Genealogists, the list goes on and on. They all have pages on the internet and/or Facebook.

Launched in 2004 initially for use by college students, Facebook has grown to nearly 1.2 billion active users worldwide, as reported after its first quarter of this year. It is a free site and one of the best ways online to connect with a genealogy-related group or anyone over the minimum age requirement of 13. Users are able to stay in touch with anyone wherever they are in the world as long as there is Internet access. Families are able to create a “closed” group page, where new members are invited to join by an existing member. Family members can this way be kept up on events, reunions, family recipes, birthdays, anniversaries, deaths, changes in addresses, etc. Cousins are able to keep in touch, upload and share photos and videos, announce weddings and births.



“After registering to use the site, users can create a user profile add other users as “friends,” exchange messages, post status updates and photos, share videos and receive notifications when others update their profiles. Additionally, users may join common-interest user groups, organized by workplace, school or college, or other characteristics, and categorize their friends into lists such as “People From Work” or “Close Friends.”

---- Wikipedia



As in anything, Facebook has its own terminology. The words Link and Page are already familiar to you if you have any internet experience. A Facebook Friend is a contact. A Post is a bit of information that you enter for all your friends to see, also called your Status. When you post something, whether an update, genealogy-related link, photo, whatever, it will show up on your Timeline, as well as on your Friends’ News Feeds. There is also a way to send messages privately to anyone on Facebook.

You will get a notification(s) in the heading next to “Find Friends” when someone sends a Friend Request,

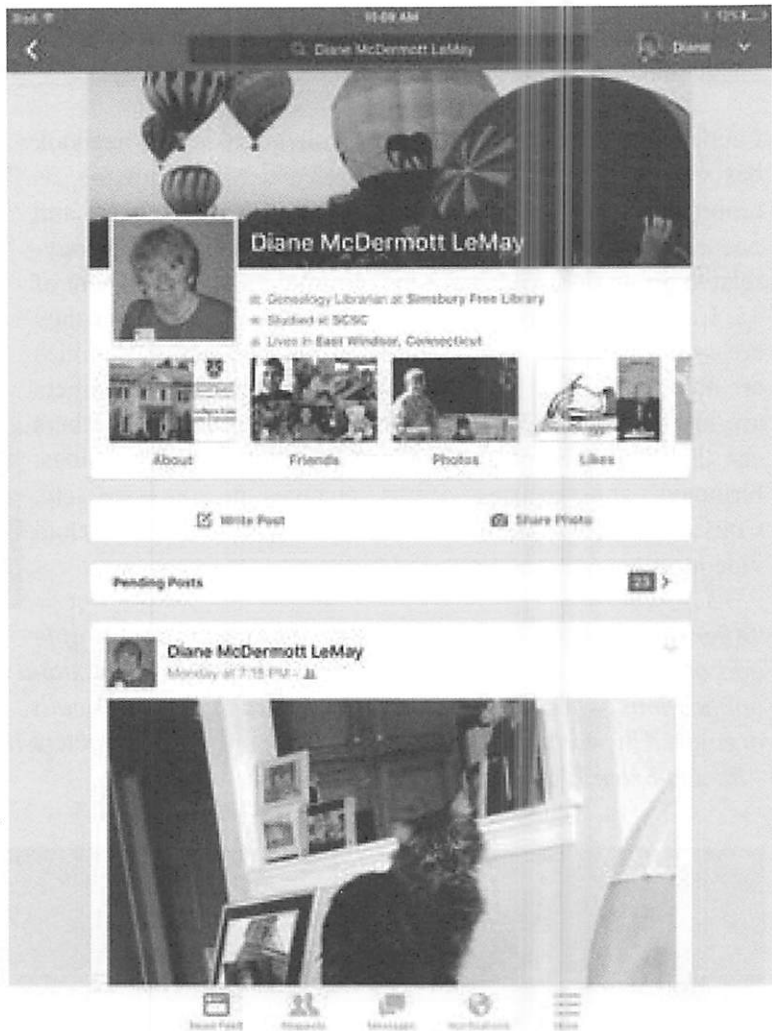
When you create a basic page, be sure to include details like a profile picture, your maiden name and other surnames in your ancestral lines, birthday, occupation and the schools you attended if you'd like to make it easier for former classmates to reconnect and distant "new" cousins to find you. However, keep in mind a few guidelines for your own safety.

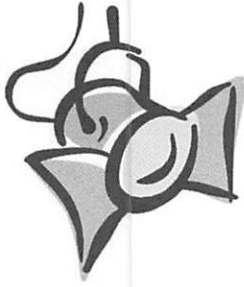
1. For obvious reasons, information should not be entered in your Status, such as when you are leaving for a vacation, insults, or any words or news you wouldn't want to get around. News travels even faster than ever on social media sites.

2. Carefully consider each and every item in the Privacy Settings. You are given options regarding who is able to view your page, profile, posts, photos, etc.

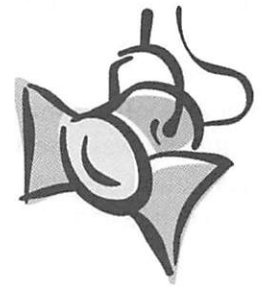
After you join Facebook, search "Connecticut Society of Genealogists," and then click "Like." You'll get CSG posts keeping you updated on news, events, and many links to genealogy-related groups, repositories, etc.

I joined Facebook right after I retired. I enjoy this wonderful site, full of current news from my family and friends, and I find it is more convenient than my email to access every day. It is very easy to click "Like" or post a quick comment. I think of it as holding up my part of the conversation. More and more of my friends and family, "60 somethings," "70 somethings," and even "80 somethings" are joining Facebook and other social media sites. If you have any questions or want to learn more about navigating your way on Facebook, there are quite a few helpful books available. I find the "Dummies" series especially helpful.





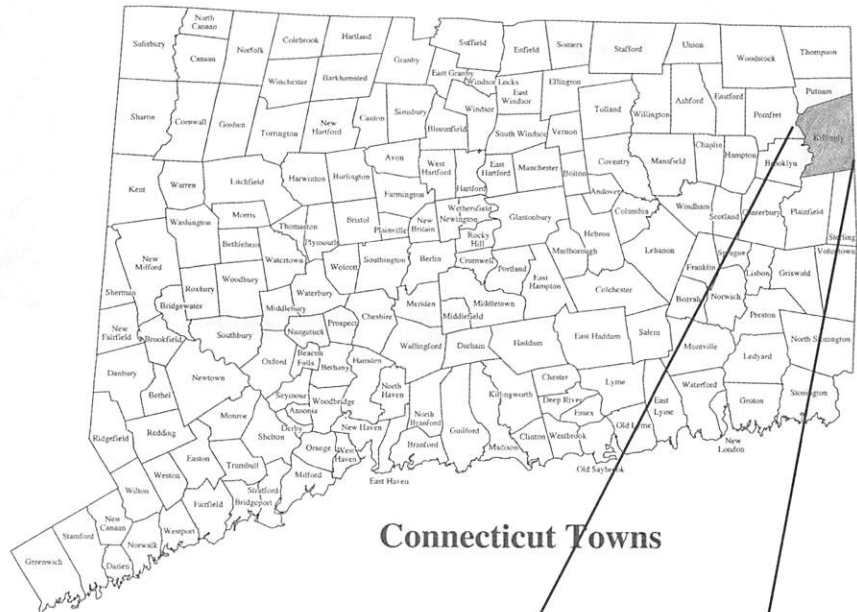
Spotlight on Connecticut Towns & Cities



Spotlight on Killingly

by Margaret M. Weaver
Killingly Municipal Historian

The Town of Killingly, situated in Windham County in Northeast Connecticut, was incorporated in 1708. It originally extended from Plainfield on the south to the Massachusetts border on the north. It is bordered by Rhode Island on the east. A large tract of land in Killingly, south of Whetstone Brook, was owned by proprietors from Plainfield but was not laid out for a number of years. Killingly is the “mother town” of Thompson (inc. 1785) and much of Putnam (inc. 1855).



Connecticut Towns

Killingly

Richard Evans, Sr. and Jr., of Rehoboth, the town’s earliest known white arrived about 1693 and settled in what is now part of the town of Putnam. At the closest established town was Woodstock, which was then part of Massachusetts. inhabitant Peter Aspinwall and his Leavens’ stepsons moved to the eastern Quinebaug River by the early 1700s. It wasn’t long until a number Massachusetts families began settling in “Aspinock” as that region was called: members of the Cady family; John Allyn of Middleborough and his sons, who were Mayflower descendants through their mother, Mary (Howland); James Danielson of Block Island, who had served in the war against the Narragansetts; the Whitmores; William Price; John and Samuel Winter; David Church (the first town clerk); Sampson Howe; Ebenezer McKee (later spelled Kee, Kies etc.); Isaac Cutler; Ephraim Warren; and many others.

settlers, time, the Woodstock side of the of

In 1711, non-resident land-owner John Chandler sold a 1600-acre tract known as the Chestnut Hill Purchase to a group of Massachusetts men who divided it in the English fashion with homelots, woodlots, and meadow lots. Proprietors were as follows: Eleazer Bateman, Thomas Goold, Nathaniel Lawrence and Samuel Goold of Charleston; Ebenezer Brooks and Thomas Richardson of Woburn; Ebenezer Knight and Thomas Bateman of Concord. Genealogically speaking, Killingly became a “stopping place” for many of these families and, after a few generations, descendants migrated to New York, northern New England, and points west.

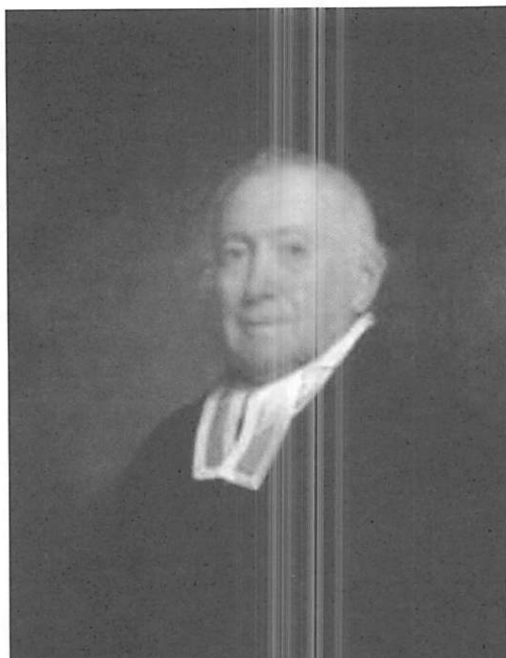
The forming of a church in 1715, with John Fisk as pastor, encouraged other families to settle in this town. By 1730, the northern section of Killingly had grown to have enough settlers as to warrant a second church society, Thompson Society. Fortunately for genealogists, good records exist for both societies for their early years.

Baptists began to find many followers, particularly in the eastern portion of Killingly, unfortunately, their records no longer exist.

Because of its proximity to Boston, and family ties to the area, Killingly was greatly impacted during the early years of the Revolution. Nineteenth Century Windham County historian Ellen Larned noted that more than 140 men marched from the town to the Lexington Alarm. Of course, others also served in the coming years. Those hoping to join the DAR should look at this list of Killingly men for possible ancestors.

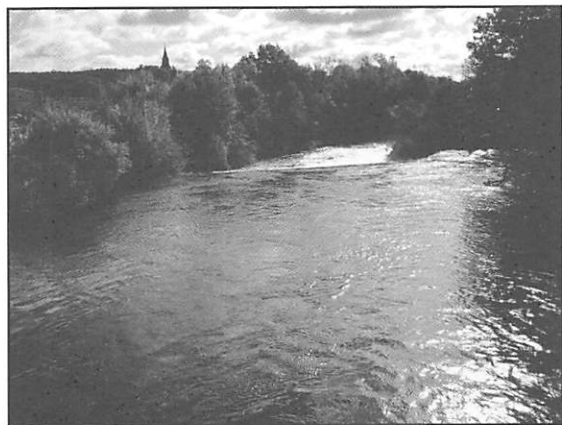
During the 18th century the economic ties were more with Providence and Boston than with the greater Hartford area. Those searching for ancestors and working on family trees for Killingly individuals should always keep in mind that there was also a flow of families back and forth across the Rhode Island border.

Following the Revolution, Thompson fractioned off from Killingly and was incorporated as a separate town in 1785 with its southern boundary located in what is now Putnam. The 1790 U. S. Census can help tremendously when searching ancestors from this period.



Manasseh Cutler

Killingly native-son Manassah Cutler, was co-author of the Northwest Ordinance and, following the opening of these new western lands, many Killingly inhabitants began migrating to Ohio and points west. Historian Ellen Larned noted that, fortunately, the Industrial Revolution's positive impact on the area stemmed the flow.



Quinebaug River

The opening of the first cotton mill in Pawtucket, RI, brought many changes and families to Killingly in the beginning of the 19th century. The potential waterpower from the rivers and brooks spurred the way for the construction of a number of small cotton mills.

In fact, in 1836 Killingly was the greatest cotton-manufacturing town in Connecticut. This economic development in Killingly and other towns in eastern Connecticut fostered the opening of the railroad through the region. The railroad arrived in 1840 and trains regularly stopped in Danielsonville and Dayville when travelling from Worcester to Norwich and New London.

The railroad not only facilitated the flow of raw materials and finished goods, it made travel from one mill to the other relatively easy. Unfortunately, this movement makes it more difficult to trace ancestors who lived in Killingly and eastern Connecticut. In addition, there are almost no recorded Killingly births from 1800-1850 so church and census records become extremely important.

By the 1850's, a business district had grown up around the factories and railroad, so the Borough of Danielsonville was chartered in 1854 to provide services that the town could not. From 1854 to 1899, the Borough of Danielsonville included the factory village on the west side of the Quinebaug River. When looking for ancestors whom you feel are connected to Danielson, also try the Brooklyn census and vital records.

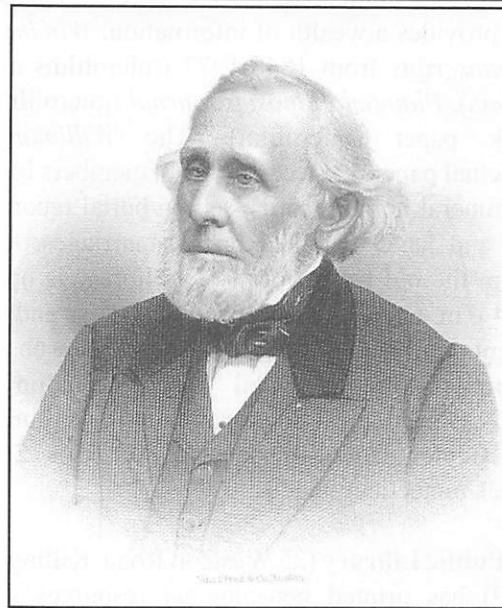
In 1855, the town of Putnam was incorporated and land east of the Quinebaug River in Killingly was taken from the mother town and became part of the new one. When looking for ancestors from Putnam, don't forget to check Killingly, Thompson, and Pomfret vital and church records.

The first textile workers were generally individuals from other Connecticut, Rhode Island or Massachusetts towns. Following the advent of the railroad, the Irish and a few French-Canadians arrived. However, particularly after the Civil War, many French-Canadian families came to work in the local mills. The ethnic and religious demographics quickly began to change since many were Catholic. Later in the 19th century, Polish and other Eastern Europeans arrived seeking work. Entries in the Killingly vital records for the second half of the 19th century provide a wealth of information for genealogists. St. James Church in Danielson and St. Joseph Church in the Dayville section of Killingly were the early places of worship for the Catholic families.

During the 20th century, Powdrell and Alexander manufactured curtains in six factories within the town. By the 1950s, these ceased operations and the economic base began to change from textile manufacturing. The completion of the northern extension of what was then the Connecticut Turnpike system paved the way for Knox Glass to move to Killingly. It was not long before an industrial park was established. In the late 1960's, the completion of the "Connector" to the Massachusetts Turnpike (now I-395) laid the foundation for new economic growth. Early in this century, the former Knox Glass site became the home of Killingly Commons shopping complex.

Noted Individuals

Killingly is home to a number of noted individuals including Manassah Cutler, co-author of the Northwest Ordinance; Mary Dixon Kies, the first U. S. woman to be granted a patent in her own right in 1809; Charles L. Tiffany, the co-founder of Tiffany & Co. in New York City; artist Francis Alexander; sculptor, Henry Dexter; U.S. Commissioners of Education William Torrey Harris and Sidney P. Marland, Jr.; and world champion boxer Lou Brouillard.



Editor's Note: According to FindAGrave.com, Leonard Ballou started the first cotton manufacture in Killingly, Connecticut in 1825. Along with his father-in-law, Jabez Amsbury, he purchased a mill privilege on the Five-Mile River in Killingly, which eventually became Ballouville.



Resources for Genealogical Research

The Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. (196 Main Street, Danielson, Connecticut) has resources for Killingly and the towns of northeastern Connecticut. In addition, its holdings include volumes from Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, New York and some other states. There is a Mayflower section and collections of Native American and African American books and materials are available. Books are also available for French-Canadian research. The Hale Cemetery collection

is available for a number of towns. The newspaper collection provides a wealth of information: *Windham County Transcripts* from 1848-1977 (microfilms and actual papers), *Plainfield/Moosup Journal* (microfilm), Woodstock paper (microfilm), The *Willimantic Journal* (actual papers). Over the years, members have compiled funeral home records, sexton/burial records, obituaries and have extracted births, marriages, and deaths from the old newspapers. The library is open 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays and by appointment. Call 860-779-7250, or access the website www.killinglyhistory.org. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical Center should be sent to P.O. Box 265, Danielson, Connecticut 06329.

Killingly Public Library (25 Westcott Road, Killingly, CT 06239) has printed genealogical resources and has copies of the *Windham County Transcript* on microfilm. For additional information call 860-779-5383, or access www.killinglypubliclibrary.org. The library is closed Sunday and Monday. Current hours are Tuesday-Thursday 9:30 am.-7:00 p.m.; Friday, 9:30 a.m. -5:30 p.m.; Saturday 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Killingly Town Clerk's Office (172 Main Street, Killingly, Connecticut 06239) has vital records from the early 1700's and land records from the town's incorporation in 1708. We have found that in a number

of instances for research in the 1700s, the land records provide the needed proof of parentage and document migrations. Town Hall hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tuesday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. and Friday, 8 a.m.-12 noon. The town clerk's office may be reached by calling 860-779-5307. The Killingly website is www.killinglyct.org.

About the author: Margaret Weaver, the mother of three adult children, has been doing genealogical and land record research in Killingly and northeast Connecticut since 1971. She has been Killingly's Municipal Historian since 1987. She is the co-author of a chronology of Killingly produced during the Bicentennial---*Miles of Millstreams*---and is the author of two editions of *Perspectives of Putnam*. Margaret currently writes a weekly "Killingly at 300" column for the Villager Newspapers. In addition, she is secretary for the Killingly-Brooklyn Interfaith Council and is an organist at St. Joseph's Church in Dayville.

Thanks to Killingly Historical Society member Natalie Coolidge for help with the photos.

Editor's Note: See *Connecticut Genealogy News*, Volume 8 (Summer 2014):2, page 7, for "Resources at the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society" by Marilyn Labbe, Director.

WHICH WAR'S WHICH

Not quite sure about what war your ancestor could have been involved with or if you know what war, when it was fought? These dates, from the Iowa Genealogical Society Newsletter of February 1990 may give a clue:

War	War Dates	Likely Birth Years to Participate
Bacon's Rebellion	1676	1626-1656
Intercolonial Wars	1689-1765	1639-1743
Pontiac's Rebellion	1763-1765	1713-1743
American Revolution	1775-1783	1720-1763
Indian Wars	1790-1811	1740-1891
War of 1812	1812-1815	1762-1794
Blackhawk War	1832	1762-1812
Mexican War	1846-1848	1796-1828
Civil War	1861-1865	1806-1845
Spanish American War	1898	1848-1880

In Praise of the Connecticut Digital Library

by Denise Kennedy, CSG # 19979

Imagine that your mother has given you a large family Bible. Its overall size is 10 inches by 12 inches by 5 inches; it weighs about fifteen pounds. She says your father brought it home a long time ago, but she is not sure where it came from. This is believable because your father was always bringing home something he had gotten in trade for fixing a television set or moving furniture for an elderly acquaintance. One time he brought home a bicycle; another time, a transistor radio. Apparently, somewhere, somehow, sometime, your father was given a large Bible, one that had been published in about 1850.

When I was a much younger person, my mother gifted such a Bible to me. The name imprinted in gold on the cover of the Bible was Denis Ryan. Despite that fact, I thought of that Bible as my father's. Of course, this made no sense. My father was Italian and had an Italian surname. Denis Ryan is certainly not an Italian name, and there are no Ryans in the family. No one seemed to know who Denis Ryan was, and the Bible's origin remained a mystery.

Years went by. Whenever I moved, the Bible went with me. Occasionally, I would leaf through it, admiring its lovely colored frontispiece and many beautiful, tissue-protected, full-page engravings depicting Bible stories. My favorite was "The Departure of Rebekah." I found some interesting bookmarks (I especially liked the ivory one crocheted in the shape of a cross), but it was years before I discovered the family record page between the Old and New Testaments. I soon learned that this is where such pages are often found in such Bibles and that family Bible records typically consist of birth, marriage, and death pages.

Unfortunately, the birth and marriage pages of this particular Bible had been removed and only one page, entitled "Family Record," remained. The reverse of this leaf was labeled "Miscellaneous Memoranda." Someone had written "Died" on the top of the family record page, followed by five dates, each on its own line. One date appeared to have been written in a different hand and was the only date indicating a death in the twentieth century. The problem was that there were no names associated with any of those death dates. Further down the page, there was more information: "Father Aug. 26 -1881" and "Mother Sept. 6 -1874." Who were these people? Whose father and mother were they? My curiosity was peaked.

Enter the Connecticut Digital Library, which is billed as "Connecticut's re-search engine."¹ The library, also known as iCONN, provides the citizens of our state with "online access to essential library and information resources."² It is

easily accessed at www.iconn.org. All you need is a library card from any public library in Connecticut in order to access all of its contents. iCONN has scores of resources, including popular magazines, book recommendations, Connecticut History Online (CHO), and genealogy resources (HeritageQuest), just to name a few.

It was access to iCONN's historical newspapers, however, that eventually helped me solve the mystery of the Denis Ryan Bible. I had seven death dates and I hoped to find one or more death notices in newspapers and somehow connect them to one another. I searched the historical *Hartford Courant* (1764-1922) and, using the advanced search page, I entered a date range and a document type (obituary). I started with the death date listed for "Father," and searched through August 30, 1881, thinking that a death or funeral notice would most likely occur within four days of a death. The search produced eleven results, one from page 2 of the August 27, 1881, edition of the *Hartford Daily Courant*. The death notices that day included the following: "RYAN--In this city, Aug. 26, Dennis Ryan, aged 61. Funeral from his late residence, 33 Spruce St., tomorrow (Sunday) afternoon at 3 1/2 o'clock."³ Perhaps "my" Bible once belonged to this man, a man who was born about 1820 and lived on Spruce Street in Hartford.

A subsequent search using the dates September 6, 1874 (the death date listed in the Bible) through September 10, 1874 brought forth even more information. Again, I used a date range and selected "obituary" for the document type (see photograph). The September 7, 1874 *Hartford Daily Courant* had a death notice for Johanna, wife of Dennis Ryan, 33 Spruce Street, Hartford. One curious thing: she died in Rockaway Beach, Long Island. The notice indicated that information about the funeral would follow.⁴ Part of the mystery was solved. "Father" and "Mother" were Dennis and Johanna Ryan, but I wanted to know more.

I was curious about the out-of-state death, but I also wanted to determine the identities of the others on the page if I could, so I made that my next task. I conducted similar date range/document searches for all of the dates listed and got mixed results: the three earliest death dates (1847, 1851, and another for 1851) yielded no results that seemed applicable to the now-established Ryan name. The February 3, 1887 date was better: one Michael J. Ryan, of Hartford, aged 33, was listed in the obituaries of the February 5, 1887 *Hartford Daily Courant*.⁵ Still, I had no proof of connection. However, the death of a Mrs. Patrick McCarthy that occurred on October 15, 1918 was reported on page 12 of the October 16, 1918 *Hartford Courant*: "Mrs. Annie Josephine (Ryan)

McCarthy, wife of Patrick McCarthy . . . *daughter of the late Dennis and Johanna (Welch) Ryan*" [emphasis mine].
6 Mrs. McCarthy's home address, church affiliation, and the names of her six children were given in that obituary. One of those children was my grandfather!

The Denis Ryan Bible, then, had actually belonged to my great-great grandfather. Thanks to the Connecticut Digital Library, I discovered names, addresses, and dates that enabled me to conduct further research through iCONN as well as other resources, both electronic and print. By locating and analyzing death certificates; newspaper articles; yearbooks; city directories; and probate, census, marriage, and immigration records, I have learned a great deal about my family members and the lives they led. I have determined the identities of the majority of the people on that family records page, and now I have a real connection to my Bible.

Sources

- ¹ iCONN.org - Connecticut's Re-search Engine. Connecticut State Library, n.d. Web. 23 Jan. 2015.
- ² "About iCONN." iCONN.org - Connecticut's Re-search Engine. Connecticut State Library, n.d. Web. 23 Jan. 2015.
- ³ Obituary 1 -- no title. (1881, Aug 27). *Hartford Daily Courant* (1840-1887) Retrieved from <http://search.proquest.com/docview/554186545?accountid=39138>.
- ⁴ Obituary 2 -- no title. (1874, Sep 07). *Hartford Daily Courant* (1840-1887) Retrieved from <http://search.proquest.com/docview/553839644?accountid=39138>.
- ⁵ Obituary 1 -- no title. (1887, Feb 05). *Hartford Daily Courant* (1840-1887) Retrieved from <http://search.proquest.com/docview/554298789?accountid=39138>.
- ⁶ Obituary 3 -- no title. (1918, Oct 16). *The Hartford Courant* (1887-1922) Retrieved from <http://search.proquest.com/docview/554298789?accountid=39138>.

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

General Fund

Anonymous

11028 Marilyn Davis

3709L Edwin W. Strickland II

Computer Fund

08856 Donald J. Marshall

Annual Appeal

15948 Frank L. Calkins

07851 William C. Sullivan

Google, continued from page 12

Now I see only a handful of results, and I can read the more recent entries without paging through stuff I have seen before.

Old paths and legends of the New England border; Connecticut ...

https://archive.org/stream/.../oldpathslegendso00abbott_djvu.txt ▾

Governor Winthrop's Mill, 1650, New London, Conn. House ; the WaVCS ' toll the knell 01
Gershom Bulkeley of Xew London and **Wethersfield**, Rev. Phineas ...

Gershom Bulkeley manuscripts - Subject Guides - LibGuides

uchc.libguides.com/content.php?pid=165165&sid=3072168 ▾

... public health. Scientific manuscripts belonging to **Gershom Bulkeley**, 1636- 1713. ...

Gershom Bulkeley (1635-1713) was born in Concord, MA and educated at Harvard, class of 1655. He moved to **Connecticut** in the 1660s where he served as physician and cleric, first in New London and then in Hartford/ **Wethersfield**.

Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society - Access Genealogy

www.accessgenealogy.com/connecticut/collections-connecticut-historical-society.htm ▾

Collections of the **Connecticut** Historical Society: Volume 1. **Rev. Thomas ... Letter from Governor Winthrop Respecting the Charter of Connecticut, 1662** · The ... by **Gershom Bulkeley, 1689** · Their Majesties Colony of **Connecticut Vindicated** , ...

I see that something has recently been added in archive.org. Something is going on with the Bulkeley manuscripts in the University of Connecticut Health Center library and something has happened with the Connecticut Historical Society. This doesn't necessarily mean that new material was added ... any recent activity such as digitizing, cataloging, etc., can lead to a hit. However, I need to check these out.

Google Marches On

Google offers many other helpful services. It continuously adds new material, so return periodically, even though you had searched earlier. Click the **Images** or **Books** tabs at the top of the page. Google will show you results related to what you entered in the search box. **Images** may include pictures of people, documents or gravestones, etc. **Books** will show books which contain relevant material. Google adds an increasing number of rare, old books, many of which have been digitized and are readable on-line.

It will always be desirable to go to libraries and archives to complete your research, but Google has increasingly made genealogical research a pastime that can often be done in your pajamas. Happy hunting!

Instructions for Writing Queries

The purpose of the Query is to bring together those members who are interested in the same line of ancestry. Each membership number is allowed only three queries total per issue. Please submit all three on one 8 1/2 x 11 sheet of plain white paper or email them to csginc@csginc.org.

All Queries should be written like the SAMPLE QUERY. When two members make contact as a result of query, matters can be fully discussed between them. If unable to give complete description of the person about whom you are inquiring, start with his/her son or daughter, about whom you can give a good description - then ask for that person's ancestry.

1. State full name of person about whom you want information - "John Smith."
2. Identify that person by giving the parentage; place & date of birth; place and date of death; place and date of marriage - if possible - "... s [son] of Joseph and Ethel Smith b Hartford CT 12JAN1900 d there 20FEB1968 m "16MAY1921."
3. Name spouse with his/her parentage; place & date of birth; place & date of death - "Mary JONES dau of Daniel & Doris (BROWN) b Windsor CT 2FEB1901 d Hartford CT 16JUN1972."
4. Maiden names of women should be in parenthesis when used with marriage surnames.
5. Ask your question as to what you want - "Want anc of John and Mary" - Always place question at the end.
6. Never abbreviate names of person or towns. Do not use periods after abbreviations. Only use the standard abbreviations.
7. All dates should be written with day of month; month (3-letter abbreviation); year with no spaces between - "12JAN1911" or "JAN1911."

8. List only one person and spouse in one query; no children needed for positive identification.
9. Be sure to give state as well as city, unless same city has been mentioned previously in same query.
10. Please include your membership number, name and your preferred contact information (mailing and/or email addresses are preferred) at the bottom of last query and send them to: Queries, CSG, Inc., P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033-0435.
11. Queries are published in *Connecticut Genealogy News*. Submissions must be received no later than January 25th for the Spring Issue; April 10th for the Summer Issue; July 25th for the Fall Issue and September 25th for the Winter Issue.

SAMPLE QUERY

John SMITH s of Joseph & Ethel (WILLIAMS) b Hartford, CT, 12JAN1900, d there 20FEB1968, m there 16MAY1921, Mary JONES dau Daniel & Doris (BROWN) b Windsor CT 2FEB1901, d Hartford, 16JUN1972. Want anc of John & Mary.

Queries

Members may submit up to three queries per issue of Connecticut Genealogy News. Queries may be submitted by mail or email. Send to Attention Queries, CSG, Inc., P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033 or email csginc@csginc.org and type "Queries" in the subject line. Please contact the CSG office with any questions you may have.

William **FAIRFIELD** b JUL1788 Woodstock, Windham, CT, d 29MAY1861, Urbana, Steuben, NY; m Steuben, NY, Catherine **BAKER**, b 14JUN1789, Tioga, Tioga, PA, d 19JAN1867, Pulteney, Steuben NY. Seeking md and anc of William **FAIRFIELD**.

*Jane McEwen, CSG # 12872
16 Wildwood Place
Queensbury, NY 12804
janemce@aol.com*

Joseph J. and Ann (**KLIMAS**) **SAVAIKIS** of Waterbury, CT. They came from Lithuania. Seeking desc of both.

*Florence Hawkins, CSG # 19360
25 Raymond Street
East Hartford, CT 06118*

Isaac Cowles **CULVER** (& wife), b 24APR1795 or 27APR1795, Castleton, VT, d 20JUN1881 at res of son, Fred Culver, bur No. Ridge Cem, Cambria, on 30JUN1881. Married Mariah "Maria" **MEAD(E)** Culver 9JAN1820 in Castleton, who was b 19MAY1799 in New Haven, CT; d 11FEB1881 at res of son Fred Culver, bur No.

Ridge Cem, 14FEB1881. Family legend says her name was Mariah Allen, a relative of Ethan Allen; have not been able to verify. 1850 res as of 1850 census for both was Cambria. 1860 res Mariah with J. Longcoy family and daughter Louise; 1860 res for Isaac unknown. 1867 Isaac in Cooperopolis, farmer, w/son Francis. 1870 Isaac resident: Lockwood Ward 4, Niagara, NY, and 1870 Maria living w/son Fred. 1871 Isaac boards in Lockport, book agent, living on Pavillion. 1872 Isaac in Copperopolis, CA w/Francis. 1875 Isaac and Maria both living in Cambria w/son Fred. 1880 census shows her living w/son Fred Culver and widowed (but Isaac did not die until 1881); 1880 res for Isaac unknown. Seeking any and all info.

Caleb William **RAYMOND** (& wife), b 1784 NY, d 1863 Niagara Co; bur First Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Lewiston, NY. 1830 & 1840 US Census shows him in Lewiston; 1850 shows him as a tavern keeper; family history says he was owner of the Frontier Hotel. Married Sophronia **SMITH**, b 19MAY1795, Surry, Cheshire, NH, d 3NOV1875 or 21NOV1875, Niagara Co; buried First Pres Church Cem. Seeking any and all info.

Azubah **SKINNER** Smith (mother of Sophronia Smith Raymond) born 1768 or 1770), d 1858, bur First Pres Church Cem. Married 19JAN1794, Bolton, CT to Cushman Thomas **SMITH**, b 12SEP1769, Surry, NH. He was a counterfeiter who ran away (according to History of Surry) and was never heard from again. Have not been able to obtain info on his death. Assume Azubah went to live with daughter and son-in-law after abandonment by husband. Seeking any and all info.

*Dorothy Haskell, CSG # 20336
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April 2016

Date of Seminar

- Saturday, April 16, 2016
- Sunday, April 17, 2016
- You may attend one or both days

Location

- Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, Marlborough, Massachusetts. Routes 495/20
- Arrangements will be made to pick up attendees at the Westborough Commuter Rail Station
- Hotel rooms are available at the Courtyard under the MGC rate for \$134 per night plus tax

Included

- Printed Syllabus
- Continental Breakfast
- Lunch
- Raffle prizes
- Free Parking
- Luncheon Topic Tables (reserved on arrival at the seminar)

Price

- \$75 for Saturday
- \$85 for Sunday

Speakers

Saturday

Pam Eagleson (Obituaries in Genealogical Research and Their Role in American Culture)

Diane Gravel (Internet Genealogy: Separating the Trash from the Treasure)

Polly Fitzgerald Kimmitt (Identifying and Repatriating our Military Dead)

David Lambert (Workshop: Military Records: Revolution through for Civil War)

Barbara Mathews (Getting All Sherlock: Using Your Sources as Evidence)

Rhonda McClure (Using your Computer for Genealogical Analysis)

Marian Pierre-Louise (Looking After the Poor: Finding Your Ancestors in New England Poverty Records)

Diane Rapaport (Finding Your Ancestors in Court Records)

Margaret Sullivan (A Needle in a Haystack: A Case Study in Identifying 19th Century Ancestors)

Helen Ullmann (Workshop: Using FamilySearch Effectively)

Sunday

Ce Ce Moore, the genetic genealogist (4 lectures on how to use DNA for genealogical research)

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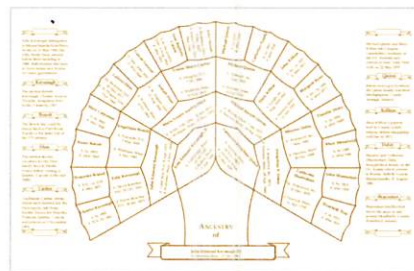
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