Je Me Souviens

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President's Message

by: Janice Burkhart, President

Fall is upon us once again. Soon we will see Mother Nature paint the woods with brilliant yellows, reds and oranges. This act is repeated every autumn and every autumn we watch in amazement. Of course the painting only lasts for a very short time and then slowly the colors fade and the leaves begin to fall. Soon the trees are bare and look lifeless. We know, however, that everything is taking a little rest and that soon everything will be bursting with life again.

We are a little like that at the Society. Right now we are finishing up some very important projects at our new building – beautiful new, handicapped accessible bathrooms, new paint in the hallways and some of the upstairs rooms, new signage on the building and the prospect of new and improved climate controls for our library space. We are basking in the glory right now! However, our funds are getting low and we are applying for grants. We will soon take a rest and see if grant money comes our way. When and if it does, we will be ready with new projects and improvements and we will once again be engaging in projects that will improve our new building for our members.

I want to thank our members who give so much of their time and resources to the many projects in which we are engaged. We have several large gifts left to us in the estates of deceased members. We have had members do fund raising and send us the proceeds. We have had donations large and small sent with membership renewal. We have received gift cards to Lowe's, Home Depot, Staples, Sears, CVS and other nationwide companies. But best of all, we have had helping hands when we have needed them.

Thank you for your involvement and your confidence in us. AFGS members are the best!

Sincerely,
Jan Burkhart

Bienvenue - From the Editor's Desk

By: Shellee Morehead

This issue of *Je Me Souviens* has a lot to offer. Our contributors have used a variety of historically and genealogically relevant sources in their family history research: vital records, church and military records, newspapers, published histories and courthouse finds such as probate packets. The key to those articles, however, is not just the sources but also the meaningful way that the information is put into writing for us to share with you. These articles enlighten and inform us and are an excellent way to preserve and disseminate family history. These writings have expanded our knowledge of different perspectives that we can use in our own family history research.

In continuing the theme of expanding our knowledge and using new sources of information, we are also republishing an article about the use of DNA in answeringquestions about family history. We also have a new introductory article on the topic from one of the foremost forensic genealogists in the country. We hope that these articles inspire you to try something new, and apply new techniques or data to your research. Most especially, we hope that our contributor's writings will inspire you to write down that family story, organize that research, write it down and submit it to JMS to share with our members.

Keep researching, keep writing, and keep sending us those wonderful articles for JMS. While we're not perfect (see the revised back cover from the spring issue with the CORRECT information), it's your contributions that make JMS the best it can be.

Merci,
Shellee Morehead, editor.

Author's Guidelines

Je Me Souviens publishes articles of interest to members of the American French Genealogical Society and people of French Canadian and Acadian descent. Articles dealing with history and genealogy are of primary interest, although articles on related topics will be considered. Especially desirable are articles dealing with sources and techniques, i.e. "how-to guides," related to specifics of French Canadian research.

All manuscripts must be well-documented (i.e. with sources) and well-written material on French-Canadian or Acadian history, genealogy, culture or folklore, but not necessarily limited to these areas. However, there MUST be a French-Canadian connection to what you submit. They can be of any length, though we reserve the right to break down long articles into 2 or more parts.

We prefer a clear, direct conversational style. A bibliography is desirable, and documentation is necessary for genealogical and historical submissions. Please use endnotes, rather than footnotes. All articles should be single-spaced and left-justified. Do not use bold, italics or underlining for headings.

All submissions must be in electronic form. Any word processing file will be accepted but we prefer .txt, .doc, and .rtf files. All illustrations and photos should be submitted as JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) files. You may also submit printed black-and white photographs for publication. These photographs should be labeled with the submitter's name and contact information and the caption for the photo, preferably on the back. We are not responsible for loss or damage to originals and they may not be returned.

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The Wives of François-César "Frank" Brouillard

By Jeanne Boisvert

Several years ago I began a database for the Brouillards, who are my mother's ancestors. I found a lot of interesting facts and stories about many of them, as we all find when researching our family tree. The most interesting story was of François-César (Frank) Brouillard and his two wives, Olive Forcier and Aurelie Bonin. Although "Frank" is not a direct ancestor of my mother, he is, like my mother, a direct descendant of Charles Brouillard and Petronille Dany.

The information I uncovered about the life and ancestors of "Frank" was interesting in itself, but so too were the backgrounds of his two wives. He was a young man who traveled from Wisconsin to Oregon to be involved in the fur trade like his father and grandfather. Oregon was organized as a territory in 1848, and admitted into the Union in 1859. The Northwest Territory must have been appealing to a young fur trader.

François-César (Frank) Brouillard was born on the 16th of July 1837 in Littlechute Wisconsin. He was the son of Joseph Brouillard and Marie-Louise St-Marie. Joseph Brouillard was born in 1810 in Longueuil, Québec and died in 1897 in Aniwa, Milltown Township, Shawano, Langlade County, Wisconsin. Joseph Brouillard, the son of Joseph Brouillard and Josephte Hugron, married Marie-Louise St-Marie, daughter of Pierre St-Marie and Susanne Poupart on 15 February 1830 in St-Constant-de-la-Prairie, Québec. Joseph Brouillard and Marie-Louise St-Marie had 14 children, 10 boys and 4 girls. The three oldest were born in St-Constant, Laprairie, Québec and the fourth child, born in 1837, and all subsequent children were born in Wisconsin. The Green Bay and Fox River region had been explored and first settled by the French at Green Bay, in 1660. The Jesuit priest, Claude Allouez established a mission near the present site of Green Bay for the Outagamie Indians and other tribes. Allouez and

another Jesuit, Claude Dablon, noted that the rapids on the Fox River were especially difficult to negotiate. Soon thereafter the explorers Louis Joliet and Jacques Marquette would make the same observation on their way to the Mississippi River. One of the rapids they encountered, which the French called *la petite chute,* is the site of the city of Littlechute. Another, *la grande chute* is the present site of Appleton. For more than a century, the white people in the region were of French-Canadian origin and connected with the fur trade or the mission. They were largely squatters and worn-out voyageurs, whose cabins lined the Fox River miles upstream from Green Bay, Wisconsin. Many had Indian blood. In the early 19th century, immigrants began to arrive from Canada, Europe and the eastern states.

Among the early settlers were Raphael St-Marie, Moses Boudouloir, Joseph de Marche, who lived on the French road; Émile, Joseph and Adolph Brouillard; Henry, Louis and George Bissonnette; Henry, Francis and Lisaret Van de Bogert, and others in Grand Chute. Benjamin Done, a Frenchman, came from Canada before the Hollanders arrived and built the first hotel in Little Chute. He started a farm near Wrighstown and then kept a tavern. Gabriel Brunette lived above Little Chute, as early as 1840 or before; François Palladoux, a native of Soo, came about 1840-45; François Mellotte came in 1846 or before, married and lived at Little Chute; Paul Thyboux was married when he came around 1840-45; Joseph Trudell came to Little Chute, and Joseph Brouillard settled in Grand Chute; Oliver LeCourt came early and ran Meade's farm in Buchanan; Moses Poquette lived on the Buchanan side below Combined Locks in the later 1840's.
Per a document from Montréal, Canada, Joseph Brouillard was a fur trader, boatman, assigned to Fond-du-Lac for 3 years for a sum of $600.00. Joseph's application for citizenship states that he located in Wisconsin in 1813. He signed his Declaration of Citizenship on 8 October 1847 in Green Bay, Wisconsin.
Joseph Brouillard and his father and grandfather were fur traders from Montréal. Joseph traded with the Indians along the Fox River and settle in Little Chute. He became a permanent resident of the Green Bay area in 1831. His children were born in the Little Chute area. A newspaper article in 1861 stated that Joseph Brouillard was

only one of the inhabitants in the county who lost sheep to a pack of wolves.

Between 1836 and 1850 Joseph started the first flourmill in Little Chute. On 11 December 1840 he sold 40 acres for $100.00 to John Vestigend and again on 17 April 1850, sold another 40 acres in Brown County to Mark Gugenheim. On 13 November 1884 Joseph received a land grant in Langlade County of 160 acres. In the 1850 Kaulaulin Census a Brewer [Brouillard] was listed and it states that Joseph was 39 years old, a farmer from Canada. His wife Mary was 42 years old and also born in Canada. They had 8 sons and one daughter between the ages of 21 and one year old. In the 1880 census of Phlox, Milltown, Shawano County, it shows Joseph Brouillard and his wife Mary were living with a son.
When Frank settled in the Oregon Territory is not known. The first entry for François "Frank" Brouillard in the Oregon Territory was his marriage to Olive Forcier about 1860. He was 23 years old when he married so he probably had not been in the area for long. Olive Forcier was born about 1834 and was baptized on 31 January 1839. She was the legitimate daughter of Louis Forcier, farmer, and of a "woman now dead". In the marriage certificate of Louis Forcier and Catherine Canaman it reads as follows:

> *"This 28 January, 1839, in view of the dispensation of 2 bans of marriage granted by the Vicar General, and the publication of the third between Louis Forcier of Saint Hyacinthe, in Canada, and farmer of this place, on the one part, and of Catherine, Canaman by nation, on the other part, nor any impediment being discovered, we priest undersigned Missionary, have received their mutual consent of marriage and have given them the nuptial benediction in presence of Joseph Gervais and of Amable Arcouet, witnesses before whom the said groom has recognized as legitimate the following children. Louis aged 7 years, Olive aged 5 years, and Dominique, aged 3 years, whom he has had with another woman now dead. The said spouses and the witnesses did not know how to sign."*
>
> *F.N. Blanchet, priest.*

Olive Forcier was first married to Jean Gingras on 28 July 1845 at St. Paul, Marion County, Oregon. If Olive's age is correct in her father's marriage contract above, then she would have been around

11 years old when she married Jean Gingras. At her death it was stated that she died in 1863 at the age of 34 years, which would mean she was born in 1829. If this date is correct then she would have been 16 years old when she married the 43 year old Jean Gingras.

Jean Gingras was born on 15 April 1802 in Yamaska, Canada and died on 5 October 1856 in St. Paul, Marion Co., Oregon. He emigrated about 1820 and appeared in the Champoeg County, Oregon Territory census in March of 1845. At the time of his marriage to Olive he was listed as the widower of Charlotte Skealks, Striped Dress, Okanaga, who he married in 1841. Charlotte was born about 1820 and was an Okinagan Indian. Before Charlotte's marriage to Jean Gingras she was the widow of William Pion, to whom she bore a daughter, Nancy, in 1824. No record has been found of Pion's death sometime in the 1820's, yet in 1828 Charlotte bore a son Joseph to Jean Gingras and others followed. Charlotte died about 1845.

From Catholic Church records of the Pacific Northwest, Jean Gingras was called a handyman by Governor Simpson, recorded in 1828, "more interested for the service in the absence than before his superiors." All Gingras' years of service were spent at inland posts between the Rockies and the Cascades. In 1841 he rose to the position of Post Master, employed by the Hudson Bay Company at Fort Okanogan, Oregon Territory. Within a few years he retired to French Prairie, taking a claim on the river west of the Mission of St. Paul, embracing a part of Horseshoe Lake. After the death of his wife, Charlotte Okanogan, he married Olive Forcier.

There were four children listed of the union of Olive Forcier and Jean Gingras. They were: Louis-Xavier Gingras, born 1846, François Gingras, born 2 June 1849, Calliste "Collis" Gingras, born 1854 and Charles Gingras, born 1856. After the death of his mother, Olive, the nine-year-old orphan, Calliste, went to Douglas County where he grew up. Several children are recorded there, but there are no mention of her other children. Collis married Josephine Picard at Roseburg. All the children of Jean Gingras and Olive Forcier were born in St. Louis, Marion County, Oregon.

The marriage of Frank Brouillard and Olive Forcier does not appear in the Catholic Church records, Pacific Northwest, at St-Paul, Oregon and it is believed the marriage was a civil one. It is believed to have occurred about 1860. Before Olive married Frank she had a daughter, Félicité, out of wedlock with Charles Petit in March 1859.

On 10 January, 1864 in St. Paul Oregon, an agreement was made between Charles Petit, natural father, and Frank Brouillard, foster-father of Félicité, for her care, witnessed by J. F. Malo, priest.

> "It is understood, first, that the child will be put (to live) at the house of Amable Petit, grandfather of the child, as the charge of Charles Petit, father of the child. Second, that if the child is not well-treated with regard to nourishment, clothing and education Fançois Brouillard foster-father of the child will have the right to take her back with the condition that he raise her well in his turn." Signed by: François (X) Brouillard & Charles Petit, and Narcisse (X) Gingras.

On 8 February 1861 Gédéon Brouillard was born of the marriage of Frank & Olive, the godfather was Gédéon Forcier and godmother Louise, an Indian who could not sign. Gédéon died 13 July 1862 at the age of 18 months. On 5 July 1862, Rose Brouillard was born and her godfather was Alocie [sic] Forcier, and her godmother Hélène Laroque, who could not sign. Rose died in 1873 at the age of 11 in St. Louis, Oregon. It is probable that both godfathers were relatives of Olive but I could not find identify the relationship. They may have been children (half-brothers) born of her father's second marriage seeing we know the names of her brothers, Louis & Dominique.

Olive Forcier died on 28 November 1863 at St. Paul, Oregon, at the age of about 38 years old having given birth to 4 children by Jean Gingras, one by Charles Petit, and two by Frank Brouillard.

On 7 December 1865, François Brouillard married Aurelie Bonin, minor daughter of Pierre Bonin, farmer, and the late Louise Rondeau. Pierre had to give consent to the marriage because Aurelie was about 15 years old. There is a baptismal record showing the birth on 11 November 1865, of Marie Ovide, illegitimate daughter of Aurelie Bonin, born on the 5th. The

godparents were Aurelie's father Pierre Bonin and her step-mother Salomee Bonin. Frank & Aurelie were married one month after the birth. Whether Frank was the father of Marie Ovide is not known as the record states she was illegitimate.
Pierre Bonin came from Montréal in 1843 and settled on the Prairie. The Oregon City Spectator of May 14, 1846, carried the item:

> "Married: on the 4th inst. at 6 a.m. by Rev. Father DeVos, at the Catholic Church of Oregon City, Mr. Pierre Bonin of Champoeg, to Miss Louise Rondeau of the former place."

This was the first wedding to be recorded in the new Catholic Church of St. John the Evangelist, which had been dedicated in February, and was apparently an occasion of importance, because it was attended by the prominent Dr. McLoughlin, among others. Louise Rondeau died in 1851, leaving a small daughter, Aurelie. Pierre Bonin then married Rose Wagner. The baptism of their children Alonzo, Anastasie and August and the death of Rose Wagner appear in the St. Louis register. Pierre Bonin's third wife was Salome Raymond. Although Pierre & Salome did not appear to have any natural children the 1880 census shows an adopted daughter, Mary, who used the Bonin name until her marriage to Albert Dupuis.

Aurelie Bonin is believed to have married several times after the death of Frank. The date of Frank's death and of her other marriages have not been found. On her tombstone her last husband's name is Courville. Aurelie cooked for the priest near the small St. Louis Catholic Church, which is located halfway between Portland and Salem, Oregon.

Although the children of Frank Brouillard and Olive Forcier did not live to adulthood there seems to be a continuing bond between Olive's children from Jean Gingras and Frank as you will see some of them were witnesses and/or godparents to some of Frank and Aurelie Bonin's children. Frank may have raised Olive's children from her marriage to Jean Gingras as well as his children from Aurelie Bonin.

Narcisse Gingras, who signed as a witness to the document of the care of Félicité Petit, was the son of Jean Gingras and his first wife Charlotte Okanagan. Narcisse was born in 1833, married Louise Okanagan, and had two children, Marcelline and François-

Xavier. After the death of Louise he married Julie Montour in 1867; six months later she died. Like others in his family, he moved to Douglas County where the Roseburg records show his marriage to Cécile Dumont and the birth of several children. The children of Frank Brouillard and Aurelie Bonin, all born in St. Paul, Oregon are as follows:

Pierre: born 11 September, 1867. Godparents, Pierre Bonnet (Bonin) Salome Bonnet. (Father and step-mother of Aurelie).
François-Albert : born 10 September 1868, Godparents, Narcisse Gingras (step-son of Olive Frocier)& Mary Aplin.
Louise-Céline: born 5 September 1870, Godparents, Charles Bergevin & Anastasie Bonin (half-sister of Aurelie) died 16th March 1873.
Élie: born 17 August, 1872, Godparents: Alonzo Bonin (half-brother of Aurelie) & Mary Lambert.
Louis: born 18th June 1874, Godparents, Baptiste Ayotte & Josephine Raymond (may have been a relative of Pierre's 3rd wife Salome Raymond)
Élizabeth Virginia: born 19 August 1876, Godparents Augustin Bonin & Anastasie Bonin (half-brother and half-sister of Aurelie)

Élizabeth Virginia Brouillard (1876-1961) married Nazaire Kittson (1858-1945) son of Peter & Angelique Kittson about 1894 and had 13 children who were born at the Umatilla Indian Reservation. Virginia is buried next to her mother, Aurelie, in St. Louis, Oregon and Nazaire is buried next to his parents in St. Paul, Oregon.

Virginia and Nazaire spoke French in their home. Their children were only allowed to speak French at home, but required to speak English at school, so they lost most of their language. Virginia also knew the Chinook jargon. The Kittson family came from the Berthier/Sorel and Montréal areas.

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Pioneer Families of the Oregon Territory 1850

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Catholic Church Records, Pacific Northwest, St. Paul, Oregon

Roxanne Woodruff, great-granddaughter of Frank Brouillard & Aurelie Bonin

Joseph Lefebvre dit Villemure (1698 – 1769)

By Paul Vilmur

This is the story of Joseph Lefebvre dit Villemure, the fourth son of first immigrant Gabriel Lefebvre. Most of the information about Joseph in this article is from Notarial and Judicial records referenced at the end of the article. Joseph, a direct ancestor, is my 5th great-grandfather. Joseph was born on October 14, 1698 in Batiscan, Champlain County, Quebec, Canada [1]. Batiscan is a small village on the Batiscan River that feeds into the Saint Lawrence River. It is about 50 miles upriver from Quebec City. He married Marie-Jeanne Lafond dit Mongrain (1697 - 1776) on November 22, 1724 at St. François-Xavier church in Batiscan. Before his marriage, Joseph had acquired his first plot of land on the Batiscan River near his father's holdings from Louis Peros on March 3, 1718. [2] He probably did not farm the land but used it to supply wood for the community. Joseph was a wood merchant and a lieutenant in the local militia by 1741 and a captain by 1763. Local militias were necessary because the Iroquois Indians sporadically harassed the areas away from fortified towns.

First Instance of the Name Villemure

Joseph appears in the notarial records as just Joseph Lefebvre until 1736. Notary François Lepailleur of Montreal records that on June 15, 1736 a "*Joseph VALMURE dit LEFESVRE of Batiscan*" was engaged to deliver goods to Fort Michilimakinac and return with a load of furs. [3] Did he pick up the name on his way to Montreal, perhaps passing through the Seigneurie de Villemur (now Berthier County) or had he already acquired the name back in Batiscan because of his father's possible connection to Alexander Berthier, the second Seigneur de Villemur? Alexander Berthier captained the Bellechasse Militia in which Gabriel Lefebvre could have served during the Indian campaigns of 1686-1687. Joseph's trip to

Montreal appears to have been an extended family enterprise to generate revenue by transporting furs to Montreal.

The Fur Trade

A short digression is necessary here to discuss the fur trade business in New France. The French-Canadian government kept very tight control of the fur trade. They only allowed licensed fur merchants to engage in the fur business. These fur merchants were allowed to let contracts to hire other merchants called "merchant voyageurs" to trade merchandise for furs at the remote Western forts. The fur merchants also let contracts to hire men to transport these goods to the Forts and to bring back the furs. These men were called "*garçon voyageurs*" or just "*voyageurs*". They were paid in furs. Licensed notaries wrote down all these contracts so we have a record of them today. There were also free-lance fur traders called "*couriers du bois*" who were considered outlaws by the government. If caught they could be condemned to France's ship galleys [4].

Joseph and Companions Fur Voyages

In the summer of 1736, Joseph Lefebvre dit Villemure along with his brother Pierre and 7 other colleagues from Batiscan traveled to Montreal to hire out as voyageurs. [13] Six of these colleagues, François Lafond, Jacques Baril, Pierre and François Perigny, and Pierre and François Cossetwere all related to Joseph by marriages among his other brothers and sisters.

Joseph Lefebvre's younger brother Charles had left Batiscan and was married in Montreal in 1730. In association with Claude Caron and Pierre Hertel, (Sr. de Moncouirs), Charles became a licensed fur dealer. Brother Pierre Lefebvre was hired by Charles Lefebvre and associates in June of 1736 as a voyageur to Fort Michilimackinac (where Mackinaw City exits today at the top of Lower Michigan). This association also hired the son of the current Seigneur de Villemur, Pierre Lestage Jr., aged 21 years. [5]

Brother Joseph along with his brother -in -law François Lafond and the two Cossett brothers were hired by Jean Trottier-Deruisseaux for the Hurtebize and Deruisseaux Association. These trips to the Western forts were done by large canoe convoys. Approximately 73 men were hired for the June 1736 convoy to

Fort Michilimackinac. It is assumed that the men hired by the individual fur brokers went together in the same or paired canoes. There were 8 men hired by Charles Lefebvre including Pierre Lefebvre and Pierre Lestage, probably traveling in two canoes, while Joseph and his companions were in another group. This trip from Montreal to Fort Michilimackinac was around 550 to 600 miles, first west from Montreal on the Ottawa river, then on the Mattawa River to Lake Nipissing, across Lake Nipissing to the French Channel into Lake Huron. Finally, they went across Lake Huron to Fort Michilimackinac. This trip probably took 2 to 3 weeks each way [5].

In the following year, Joseph made one more fur trading trip west this time to Fort Ponchartrain (now Detroit, MI) [6]. This appears to end Joseph's fur trading adventures. In any case, he now appears in all notarial records as Joseph Lefebvre dit Villemure. Joseph and Jean-Baptiste were the only sons of Gabriel to use the surname Lefebvre dit Villemure; the male descendants of Jean-Baptiste did not keep the Villemure name. After this, Joseph lived the rest of his life in the Batiscan area where he continued to buy and sell land. He traveled occasionally to Yamachiche for family events because a son and a daughter had moved there. Between 1725 and 1742 Joseph and Marie-Jeanne had 4 sons and 6 daughters [1].

Joseph in the Court of Trois-Rivieres

There were four judicial courts established In French Canada during the French regime. They were at Quebec, Montmagny, Trois-Rivieres and Montreal. The Trois-Rivieres court covered the Seignory of Batiscan which was presided over by a judge appointed by the King. A clerk of the court kept the records. Although Joseph possibly had more contact with the courts only three instances have been found.

The first was on 5 September 1741. Apparently, one of Joseph's men in the Batiscan militia was caught working during the Sunday church service. Joseph was sworn-in as a witness. The offender, Germain Magnan was fined 3 *livres* payable to the church at Ste-Genevieve-de-Batiscan [7].

The second and third instances recorded concerned a dispute which started on 8 August 1747 and went on to 22 March 1748 between Joseph and Michel Rivard. The original complaint could not be found. Whatever the dispute was (apparently, it was a violation of a contract to exchange goods), Joseph lost his case. Joseph was ordered by the court to supply the goods. He appealed this sentence on 31 October 1747 but lost again. He was reprimanded by the court for a frivolous appeal, ordered to pay court costs, replace the original goods and in addition ordered to supply Michel Rivard 12 bushels of corn, 100 pounds of bacon and a spring pig. Michel returned to the court in March of the next year with the complaint that the bacon received was spoiled. The court then ordered Joseph to replace the spoiled bacon and to submit the bacon to examination by an appointee of the court before delivery. Joseph also had to pay court costs again [7].

The Marriage and Death of Daughter Josephine

The first child of Joseph to move from the Batiscan area was daughter Josephine. She was born on August 27, 1725 in Batiscan. Josephine married Charles Lesieur dit Desaulniers on February 10, 1749 at Ste-Genevieve-de-Batiscan. Charles was a resident of Yamachiche, born about 1726. Charles parents were Jean-Baptiste Lesieur dit Desualniers and Elisabeth Rivard. Jean-Baptiste and family had moved from the Batiscan area to Yamachiche between 1715 and 1717.

After their marriage, Charles and Josephine returned to Yamachiche. (Yamachiche was 30 miles up river from Batiscan.) Even though Joseph Lefebvre dit Villemure remained a resident in the Batiscan area all his life, he was no stranger to Yamachiche. He was in Yamachiche for the baptism of at least three of his Desaulniers grandchildren in 1750, 1753 and 1754 [1]. Joseph also was granted and leased land in Yamachiche in 1753 and 1755. Then in 1756 tragedy struck this family. First Charles died suddenly on February 12, 1756 [1]. Josephine was pregnant at this time with their fifth child. After the funeral of Charles Lesieur, Joseph took his pregnant daughter and her 3 young children back to live with him at Ste-Genevieve-de-Batiscan. The child Marguerite was born there on March 30, 1756. This child died on May 21, 1756 followed by her mother on May 31, 1756. Since

their deaths are so close together they both may have died from the same disease[1].

On June 15, 1756, Joseph Lefebvre dit Villemure was appointed guardian to the three orphaned Desaulniers children still living.[8] They were Josephine, age 4, Louise, age 2, Antoine age 1. As part of settling of the estate, an inventory of all possessions was taken. On June 23, 1756 an estate sale was held with the proceeds held by Joseph for the benefit of Charles and Josephine's children. Joseph would live to give his ward (grand daughter Josephine) away in marriage in September 1767. The estate inventory below reveals the type of possessions a typical lower-middle class French-Canadian family would have. Most of the wealth was tied up in farm animals and farm equipment. The home furnishings and the amount of clothes are very meager. After subtracting out the debts and funeral bills, the remaining estate came to around $7000 in today's dollars. Note that a François Villemure is owed some $300 for funeral expenses and the reception after the funeral. This possibly was François-Alexis Villemure who was Josephine's younger brother but also could be Joseph Lefebvre dit Villemure Jr. who had moved to Yamachiche in 1754 and stayed there until 1758.

The Desaulniers Estate Inventory

The inventory of possessions gave an estimate of each item's worth. In some cases the item description was not translatable either because the word is now obsolete, it was badly misspelled or it could not be discerned because of illegible handwriting; but the worth assigned is still listed. The worth was listed in *livres* and *sols*. There were 20 *sols* per *livres*. The *livre* was equivalent to the British pound sterling although there was no *livre* coin but a number of coins were used of varying value as listed below:

1 *portugaise* (gold coin) = 48 *livres*
1 *louis d'or* (gold coin) = 24 *livres*
1 *pistole d'Espagne* (gold coin) = 21 *livres*, 10 *sols*
1 *gros écu* (silver coin) = 6 *livres*, 12 *sols*
1 *petit écu* (silver coin) = 3 *livres*, 6 *sols*

Individual *sol* coins were usually made of copper except for the *sol marqués* which was a silver-copper alloy. The worth of the *livre* had been estimated at 20 cents based on an 1880 gold price of $20.67 an ounce. Since gold is now over $800 an ounce, the *livre* is around $8 in today's money.

The complete inventory listing is below [9]. It was rearranged from the original French document, to group items according to their use. This gives us some idea of what a lower middle class French Canadian family owned in 1756. The dollar amount at the bottom of the table is in today's money.

		Est. Worth	
Item French	**Item English**	**Livres**	**Sols**
Found in Out Buildings			
une pairie de boeuf arfuignus	a pair of oxen	140.00	
deux autre vache	two other cows	80.00	
un vache letture	a milk cow	50.00	
une chariu garnay	furnished carriage	40.00	0
une cap de caimelot	an [unknown]	30.00	
un cochon malle	a sick pig	24.00	
une pouliche	a carriage horse	20.00	10
un cheval	one horse	20.00	
deux pe[??] Agneaux	two lambs	20.00	
une calliche vielle	one old wagon	18.00	
deux trups	two [unknown] farm animals	18.00	
une harnois de cheval complet	a complete horse harness	16.00	
un veaux	a calf	15.00	
un cariollis lisée chausse et mindre	hunting bells [??]	12.00	
deux ribis de fer	two iron [unknown]	12.00	
un tresse lissé	a shiny woven basket	10.00	
une charelle à sis boire	drinking trough	8.00	
une proche	a pick ax	4.00	
un forge un morteaux et un pairie de tenait	a forge hammer and a pair of tongs	3.00	
une grosse haihe	a large ax	3.00	
un porte de paille cintre	a straw rack	3.00	
une pelee a fau	a sickle	2.00	
un traquer	a trap	2.00	
une aiguhe a cheval	a horse spur	2.00	
une je moindre	[unknown]	2.00	

un barique vielle	an old barrel	1.00	
une bray a broget	a sling	1.00	5
un petit marteaurs a faux	a small hammer	1.00	
un vielle barique	an old barrel	1.00	
une pairie moufle	a pair of block & tackle	1.00	
TOTALS		**559.00**	**15**
		$4472	
Found in the Kitchen			
un fusil lules	a rifle	18.00	
un buffet rau sa fessure	a cupboard	15.00	
une grand a marmitte	a large cooking pot	5.00	
une grand poele a frire	a large frying pan	5.00	
un baril cerelé a fer	an iron cask of cereal	5.00	
trois poche toile du pays	three burlap sacks	4.00	10
une vielle a caloire de caisse	an old heat box [?]	3.00	
une vielle caffette	an old ribbon case	3.00	
un plagae de salle aux foutiegre	some kind of shelf [?]	3.00	
douse minots de ble	two bushels of corn	3.00	
deux potre terre a vin pottet fayastue	two earthenware jugs of wine	3.00	15
deux foi a flangread	two powder horns [?]	3.00	
un minot mauvais poire	a bushel of bad peas	2.00	
une lantoine	a lantern	2.00	
un parte dine de fer blanc	a tinplate dinner plate	2.00	10
une vielle traitu a petrere	an old churn	2.00	
une grils a rater	cooking grill	2.00	20
onze cuelliere de tri	eleven assorted spoons	2.00	
quatre boutritte terre	four earthenware bottles	2.00	
six vielle chases	six old chairs	2.00	10
un sas a sasser	a flour sifter	1.00	
un demi minot	a half bushel basket	1.00	
six fourchete a fer	six iron forks	1.00	
un coluie de porte	sliding door [?]	1.00	10
deux pialleur forelieu tannees	two tanned [unknown]	1.00	10
un coulais de fer blanc	a tinplate broad bladed knife		10
un gobelu a fer blanc	a tinplate cup		10
TOTALS		**91.00**	**105**
		$770.00	
Sleeping Area & Furnishings			
un lit de plume couvert da laisus avec son travers	a feather bed	20.00	

une courtepointe de deogart doire	a bedspread ...	12.00	
une couverte line verte a doire	a green linen blanket from the dowry	12.00	
onze assiell de lin	eleven linen [unknown]	12.00	
cing haipin je	five hair [unknown]	10.00	
une pairie de drap toille du pays	a pair of burlap sheets	8.00	
un boiet a filler	a girls tin box	6.00	
deux pailau toille elie pays	two burlap mattresses	6.00	
un coffre bois de pin	a wooden pine chest	5.00	
une vielle courtepointe	one old bedspread	5.00	
paire lores drape	two cloth sheets	4.00	
une couchette	a cot	3.00	
une vielle caffette	an old ribbon case	3.00	
une je moyenne	bed warmer	3.00	
un vent de bois	one woodwind	2.00	
un traiurs de lit	a bed accessory of some sort	1.00	10
un boit a enfan	a child's box	1.00	10
un petit mirroir a cadru varni	a little mirror	1.00	
une image et papisnt marbre	a picture and marble [unknown]	1.00	
deux vielle peaux a han	two old hides	1.00	10
un maiman salle	playing cards [?]		10
TOTALS		**116.00**	**40**
		$944.00	
Clothes & Related Items			
une cap de caimelot	[unknown]	30.00	
un maisletis closse de foye	a fireplace screen	10.00	
cing haipin je	five hair [unknown]	10.00	
trois chemises toille du pays	three burlap shirts	10.00	
une robe de cag	a gown	8.00	
quatre lonsure de mouton	four sheep skins	8.00	
un jupon calminde a fleur	a flowered [unknown] petticoat	6.00	
un jupon coittou a fleur	a flowered cotton petticoat	6.00	
une je habits une sou caumngre	a coat	5.00	
deux mentetels de cottoir	two cotton bonnets	5.00	
un jupon flanelle a fleur	a flannel petticoat	4.00	
un battin or bassin de lin	a basin of flax	3.00	
un plot de lin	a plug of flax	3.00	
une vielle faux amienebien	an old false [unknown]	3.00	
une vielle caffette	an old ribbon case	3.00	
un jupon de coittou au spo	a lavender cotton petticoat	2.00	

une pairie ban a femme linse du pays	a pair of linen wash cloths	2.00	10
cinq fornuete toille or toitre du pays	five burlap patterns	2.00	
deux meseore de fil	two measures of thread	2.00	
un sautoir?	a neckerchief	1.00	10
trois vielle feucille	three old felt hats [?]	1.00	
un cosse chollet	a thimble		15
TOTALS		**124.00**	**35**
		$1006	
Debts			
a Pierre Massé	To Pierre Massé	43.00	
au François Villemure pour frais mortuire, lumineu, droits	To François Villemure for funeral expenses	39.00	
a Monseir Jean Toimaniour	To Mr. Jean Toimonoir	38.00	9
au François Villemure pour du tant de sis gayes	To François Villemure for the after funeral reception	25.00	
a Antione Gelinas	To Antoine Gelinas	19.00	10
Pour frais d'arbittre et temoins	For cost of referees and witnesses	4.00	
a François Collard	To François Collard	3.00	
a Jacques Bourguinville	To Jacques Bourguinville	3.00	
au curé de Yamachiche	To the parish priest of Yamachiche	3.00	
a la fabrique de Yamachiche	To the Yamachiche factory	3.00	
a la veiue Pierre Desaulniers	To the young Pierre Desaulniers	3.00	
au nomé minsorf	To the name Minsorf	1.00	10
TOTALS		184.00	29
		$1483	
TOTAL ASSETS		$8675	
TOTAL DEBTS		$1483	
REMAINING ESTATE VALUE		**$7192**	

The Final Transactions

A search through the notary transactions late in Joseph Lefebvre dit Villemure's life indicates why there was no need to

have an estate inventory after his death. Joseph had 6 children living at the time of his death (four had died previous to his death).

Genevieve (1727 – 1809) married Jean-Baptiste Rivard dit Feuilleverte on 8 Jan 1752

Joseph (1729 – 1785) married Marie-Anne Pappilau dite Perigny on 7 Jan 1753 (my ancestor)

Marie-Jeanne (1735 – 1811) married François Cosset on 20 July 1762

François-Alexis (1738 – 1792) married Anne-Catherine Lefebvre (a 1st cousin) on 20 Jan 1765

Jean-Baptiste (1738 – 1810) married Elisabeth Pappilau dite Perigny (date & place unknown)

Louis-Didace (1742 – 1813) married Genevieve Veillet on 30 Apr 1764

According to custom, upon Joseph's death, his wife Jeanne would inherit half of his estate and the rest would be split among the 6 living children. Since most of the estate worth was in land, the splitting of half of landholdings into sixths was not practical. In situations like this, it is usual for other arrangements to be made, as was the case here.

First, on November 3, 1766, the five brothers and sisters sell to Joseph Jr. their portions of the inheritance that they would have received on the death of their father Joseph Sr. At this same time Joseph Sr. gives to his son Joseph a land holding 480 x 4000 feet that was not a part of the inheritance. So, Joseph Jr. is now the principle land inheritor of the Joseph Lefebvre dit Villemure estate [10].

Joseph Jr's wife, Marie-Anne Papillau, dies in 1767[1]. Since Joseph Jr is planning to remarry early in 1768, on November 24, 1767, he gives up all rights of inheritance to his brother Jean-Baptiste. This was possibly to prevent conflict with the other siblings over his new wife getting part of their former inheritance.

With the acceptance of these rights, Jean-Baptiste agrees to be the provider and caregiver to his parents in their old age[11].

One other strange thing, on March 31, 1769, Jean-Baptiste and his wife sign an agreement to return to his parents any possessions given to them by Joseph and Jeanne that they cannot make use of. The reason for this may have been the impending death of Joseph prompted Jean-Baptiste to return material possessions to the estate to be shared by all brothers and sisters. [12]

Joseph died five months later on September 6, 1769. Joseph's wife Jeanne Lafond would continue to be cared for by son Jean-Baptiste until her death on July 17, 1776. Jean-Baptiste would later follow his brother Joseph Jr. to Terrebonne (about 12 miles North of Montreal) around 1800[1].

References

[1] All births, marriages and deaths are read from microfilm images of the parish registers of Batiscan, Ste-Genevieve de Batiscan and Yamachiche. Images are available on line for free at http://search.labs.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.html#c=1321742;t=browsable;w=0;p=collectionDetails

[2] Notary François TROTAIN - #302, 3 Mar 1718.

[3] Notary François Lepailleur - #1315, 15 Jun 1736, *Inventaire des Greffes des Notaires de la Régime Française,* www.quintinpublications.com.

[4] Marcel TRUDEL, *Introduction to New France*, Quintin Publications, 1997, pp. 195-199.

[5] Notary François Lepailleur contracts the summer of 1736.

[6] Notary François Lepailleur - #1667, 11 May 1727.

[7] Bibliothétique et Archives Nationales accessed at http://pistard.banq.qc.ca/unite_chercheurs/recherche_simple Get desired proceeding by typing proceeding date or parties full name in the "*mot*" box.

[8] Notary Jean LEPROUST - #802, 15 Jun 1756, FHL microfilm #1,430,732.

[9] Notary Elie RIGAUD - #292, 23 Jun 1756. *Trois-Rivières area: Hyacinthe Olivier Presse 1735-1746, Élie Rigaud 1750-1778*, www.quintinpublications.com.

[10] Notary Nicolas DUCLOS - #1297, 3 Nov 1766, *Batiscan area: Nicolas Duclos 1731-1769,* www.quintinpublications.com.

[11] Notary Nicolas DUCLOS - #1455, 24 Nov 1767.

[12] Notary Nicolas DUCLOS - #1612, 31 Mar 1769.

[13] The Joseph Lefevre and companions Montreal voyages come from the book, "Inventaire des Griffes des Notaries du Régime Français", Volume XXVII, Ministere des Affaires Culturelles, Québec, 1976.

About the Author

Paul Vilmur is a long time AFGS member and frequent *Je Me Souviens* contributor.

La Guerre: The Québécois in the War of the Rebellion

By Robert Grandchamp

They came to a new land seeking what many had sought before them. They gathered along the banks of the quick flowing Blackstone River in northern Rhode Island. This was a group of people that had fled their homeland to escape starvation and economic strife. In close-knit family groups, these people were able to maintain a unique cultural identity that had remained constant for near three centuries. In their new home they found work by the thousands in the many mills and mill towns that dotted the Blackstone, and its tributaries. While struggling to find a place in the society new homes, they would rise to support their new nation in time of crisis; some would give the supreme sacrifice to provide freedom to others. This group of people was the Québécois.

The Québécois originated in the Saint Lawrence Valley of Quebec. Theirs was primarily a pastoral society, supplying their mother country with much needed natural resources. This continued for one hundred years, until 1759. In that year, New France was lost forever with their defeat on the Plains of Abraham.[i]

With defeat assured, the French formally surrendered all of their territory in the New World to Great Britain with the signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1763. In addition to conveying the land to the British, it guaranteed to the Québécois their right to religious freedom, and to maintain their language and culture. The results of this treaty would echo many years later in a small corner of New England.[ii]

The Québécois continued to grow in population, as well as to maintain the culture guaranteed to them under the 1763 Treaty, by 1861 over seven hundred thousand Québécois could trace their roots to the original settlers in the 1600's. By the mid-1860 however a new threat loomed upon the horizon. A new form of blight began to appear in the vital wheat crop in the valley. This

destroyed several years of wheat production, sending the Québécois into extreme poverty as well as starvation.[iii] At this point it became obvious to them that they must leave their homeland or face utter defeat.

There had always been a Québécois presence in the United States, since the Revolution; indeed Moses Hazen's Canadian Battalion had helped to secure American Independence. Immigration soon became a regular occurrence, as Québécois left Canada in search of economic opportunity in the United States. They settled primarily in small ghettos in northern New England, but by the mid 1800's had begun to establish themselves in southern New England. These people were called "Les Habitants" by their fellow Québécois: the first settlers.[iv]

The Civil War was the first test of the newly arrived settlers. The war had a direct impact upon the Québécois, because the cotton from which many of the mills flourished came from the hands of southern slaves. Rhode Island was quick to respond to the call to arms; sending the first group of men south on April 18, 1861. Throughout the summer, the state raised the Third Regiment. The Third was unique because it contained many Irishmen in its ranks. These new immigrants rose up in defence of their new country and spent four years fighting the war in the back swamps of South Carolina.[v]

By the fall of 1861, the situation was desperate for the Union as they lost battle after battle. As such, Rhode Island raised the Fourth Regiment. This would be the first unit raised in the hinterland of Rhode Island; a 100 man company was recruited from the thriving city of Woonsocket, where many of the Québécois lived. The Fourth was also the first unit to offer large bounties for joining the service.

Although the wages in the factories were large, the Québécois were still underpaid. These large bounties would give them a reason to join the service. In the Fourth, the bounty was 125 dollars at the end of four years of service. This was the main inspiration for fifty Québécois to join the Fourth. Only a year later, Rhode Island would be forced to pay up to four hundred dollars for men to join the Seventh Regiment. Although patriotism still ran high, men were not going to lay down their lives for such a small amount of funds. The native Rhode Islanders who joined the

Fourth were not always welcome the new recruits. Private George H. Allen, a nativist soldier wrote, "We received a number of recruit, among whom were several bounty jumpers, mostly French Canadians. These men enlisting for the purpose of desertion at the first opportunity, sowed the seeds of discord upon well tilled ground, as it were, and infected many of the discontented with their plans of desertion."[vi]

Initially assigned to the defenses of Washington, the regiment went on to fight in North Carolina, Maryland, and Virginia. The Québécois often performed their duties under adverse conditions; both in combat and in camp. Because they were immigrants, like the many Irish and Germans in the Army of the Potomac, they often faced discrimination by their comrades. During the 1862 campaigns, the Fourth fought in five savage battles, and lost hundreds to disease and battle wounds.

As the regiment recovered along the banks of the Rappahannock River in Falmouth, Virginia, some of the Québécois had simply had it with army life; they were going home to Quebec. The men received civilian clothing from friends in Rhode Island and simply walked out of camp. This was the exception, rather than the rule, and many Québécois stayed behind and performed their duty.[vii]

The most famous Québécois to serve in the Civil War was Private Calixa Lavallée. He was nineteen in the summer of 1861 and had emigrated from Québec searching for a better life. A musician by training, he saw the army as a way to improve his skills. He enlisted on September 17, 1861. Although proud of his heritage, the recruiting officer made an error and placed his name upon the rolls as "LeValley." Lavallee was ordered to join the regimental band and became its leader; this position required him to be very fluent in English, as on the smoke filled battlefield, the musicians would be the only audible sound to be heard. The young leader fought in the battles of Roanoke, New Berne, Fort Macon, South Mountain, and Antietam. On October 3, 1862 after a year in the army he was discharged when the Fourth's band was broken up. After leaving the army he traveled routinely between Canada and the United States, conducting and performing over sixty original musicals. His most famous, and the one for which he is best remembered for today is "O Canada," the Canadian National

Anthem. This Québécois, who served under the flag of Rhode Island, left both of his nations with a lasting gift.[viii]

While the majority of Québécois served in the Fourth Rhode Island, they were represented in each Rhode Island regiment. Two important examples are those of Corporal Joseph Marcoux and Private Augustus Joyeaux of the Seventh Regiment. Marcoux was one of the few Québécois to actually attain a rank. During the sanguine Battle of Fredericksburg, the young soldier was shot in the jugular as spurts of his blood spilled onto the United States flag that he swore to defend. During the Battle of Spotsylvania on May 12, 1864, Private Joyeaux, after being shot in the hand, yelled out in broken English he would rather die as a Québécois then to lose his hand as an American. These are but a few of the rich, detailed stories of the Québécois serving in the Civil War.[ix]

Because of a language barrier, and not having many family members to write to in the United States, few of the Québécois left any record of their service during the Civil War. One of the few who did however was Remi Tremblay who wrote *Un Revenant,* or "One came back." Although a work of fiction, Tremblay's narrative was based on his experiences in the Union Army. He enlisted in the spring of 1864 in the Fourteenth United States Infantry; a Regular unit raised at Fort Adams in Newport. Tremblay would fight in the horrific Overland Campaign and would be imprisoned after being captured at Petersburg. In 1884 Tremblay wrote his narrative, and published it in his native French. Tremblay retells his story of the war through Eugene, a young Québécois who experiences what Tremblay did. The author remained in the United States, moving to New York and Vermont where he worked in the mills. *Un Revenant,* which has only recently been translated into English, is one of the most realistic, gripping accounts of the war.[x]

Although they wanted to serve their new country, they faced discrimination like many immigrants. Unlike Germans and the Irish however, the performance of the Québécois in the Civil War was never erased by the memories of desertion and poor performance. Nearly 30,000 fought for their adopted country, while thousands died for a land they were not welcome in.

Note: It is impossible when going through Civil War records oftentimes to determine which soldiers were Québécois and which were Americans. An example is Corporal George Proulx of the Seventh Rhode Island. The official history of the regiment gives his name as "George Prue," but tells us he is a Canadian. As names were often Anglicized by the recruiting officer; care should always be taken to check to see if the soldier was born in Canada; if he was and has a Quebecois sounding last name, most likely he was a Quebecois. The Rhode Island State Archives maintains the original listing of Rhode Island Volunteers that is available for searches.

About the Author

Robert Grandchamp is an historian who specializes in Rhode Island Civil War history. He has written several articles and books including one about the Seventh Rhode Island Infantry.

Notes

[i] Gerald Joseph Doiron, *The French-Canadian Migration to Rhode Island.* (NP, 1959), 1-10. These people are more commonly referred to as the "French-Canadians," however they prefer to be called the Québécois. As such this term is used in the work.

[ii] Dyke Hendrickson, *Quiet presence: dramatic, first-person accounts: the true stories of Franco-Americans in New England.* (Portland, M.E.: G. Gannet Publishing, 1980) 10-15.

[iii] Gerald J. Brault, *The French-Canadian Heritage in New England.* (Hanover, N.H.: University of New England Press, 1986) 52-57.

[iv] Brault, *French-Canadian Heritage,* 52-57. Allan S. Everest, *Moses Hazen and the Canadian Refugees in the American Revolution.* (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1976)

[v] Frederic Denison, *Shot and Shell: The Third Rhode Island in the Rebellion, 1861-1865.* (Providence: J.A & R.A. Reid, 1876), 17-26.

[vi] George H. Allen, *Forty-Six Months in the Fourth Rhode Island Volunteers.* (Providence: J.A. & R.A. Reid, 1887) *Revised Register of Rhode Island Volunteers: Volume I.* (Providence: E.L. Freeman, 1894), 243-323.Scituate, Rhode Island Bounty Records, Scituate Town Hall. This author has identified fifty based on the names of the recruits in the *Revised Register.*

[vii] Allen, *Forty-Six Months,* 1-189.

[viii] *Revised Register,* 288. Brian Smith, "Calixa Lavallee: Civil War Musician & Composer of the Canadian National Anthem." *Military Images,* July/August 2006, 24. Rene Chartrand, "O Canada: Canada's National Anthem Composed by Calixa Lavallee, 4th Rhode Island Infantry Regiment, 1861-1865. *Military Collector and Historian,* Fall 2001, 110.

[ix] William H. Hopkins, *The Seventh Rhode Island Volunteers in the Civil War: 1862-1865.* (Providence: Snow and Farnum 1903), 394.

[x] Remi Tremblay, *Un Revenant.* (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, 1980)

Everything you Ever Wanted to Know About Your Family Photographs

By David Mishkin

So your mother, father, aunt, uncle just unloaded a shoebox full of family photographs on you because of your interest in the family history. You have finished identifying the relatives as well as possible and now have no idea how to store the photographs for future generations. You realize that some of them are in great shape but some are fading, some are sticking to each other and some photographs have mold on them....Yuck!

What is a genealogist to do now? It is a good idea as a first step to be able to identify the most common types of photographic processes. This will help confirm the period of time the photographs were made of that member of your family.

I have worked with several genealogists to help identify their photographs. On one occasion, a positive identification of a salt print allowed us to determine that this photograph was of the researcher's great-grandmother, whereas most of her family believed it was their grandmother. On another occasion, the identification allowed us to learn the proper orientation of an image. This allowed the researcher to conclude that this was in fact the house his grandfather was born in.

Photographic Identification

In the beginning...Ah! But where is the beginning? Did photography start in the year 1,000 AD when Alhazen described the principal of the "Camera Obscura" - a drawing aid meaning a dark chamber. 500 years later, Leonardo da Vinci described the same device and operated one outside his studio in Florence. Or should we consider the beginning in the 1560's when lenses were fitted to the Camera Obscura, allowing an image to be sharply

focused on a piece of ground glass and allowed the operator to trace a picture on a thin sheet of drawing paper laid over the glass.

Daguerreotypes

Most authorities will agree that the first practical form of photography was encouraged through the experiments and developments (no pun intended) of Louis Jacques Mande Daguerre. Although William Henry Fox Talbot had been working on a process that recorded a negative image, Daguerre was the first to publicize his results and the discovery of the photographic process is attributed to Daguerre. The daguerreotype, popular from 1839-1860, was produced on a metal support of thin copper, with a highly polished mirror-like coating of silver. They are sealed in glass to protect the plate from atmospheric and physical damage. In America, daguerreotypes were most often placed in small hinged cases made of wood with a leather or paper covering. The daguerreotypes distinguishing features are its highly polished silver support and its quality of appearing as a negative, or a positive depending upon the angle of viewing and the direction from which light falls upon it.

Due to limitations and difficulties of producing a large plate, daguerreotypes were rarely made any larger than 6 ½ to 8 ½ inches, known as whole-plate size. The most common size produced was sixth-plate size and measured 2 ½ by 3 ¼. It is estimated that by 1853 as many as three million daguerreotypes were made in the United States alone.

Another advance in photographic history was the use of gold toning. In this process, the silver image was partially converted to gold by treatment in a solution containing gold chloride. This process was first applied to paper prints in 1847. It changed the image tone on a silver paper from reddish-brown to purple and significantly improved the stability of the silver image. Most prints that are in excellent condition today, are that way because they have been toned.

Ambrotypes

In 1851, Frederick Scott Archer announced his wet plate collodion process. Collodion is celluose nitrate (or cotton) dissolved in ether and alcohol. In order to provide the most

sensitive film (fastest), the plate had to be exposed while still wet, hence its name. This system provided a transparent negative and although through other methods this negative image could be made positive (as in the ambrotype), its most significant contribution was the use as a transparent negative. The use of the wet-plate negatives to produce positive images on albumen paper truly altered the course of photography, but the most popular use of this was the ambrotype. By backing the collodion negative with a dark material the image appeared as a positive. In some examples, dark purple, blue or red glass was used as a support, thus eliminating the need for a backing. Ambrotypes were presented in mounts and cases in the same fashion as daguerreotypes and because of this they are commonly mistake for daguerreotypes. It is a simple matter to distinguish between the two since ambrotypes appear as positives at all angles of viewing as opposed to the daguerreotype which is truly visible as a positive only at certain lighting angles.

Ambrotypes were most popular from 1851-1880.

Tintypes

The idea of using a thin sheet of iron with a surface coated with a black varnish as a support instead of glass with a dark backing was patented by Hamilton Smith in 1856. This process would be more properly called ferrotype, since there is no tin in it at all. This expensive and easily handled form of photography was a particular favorite of traveling photographers from the time of its introduction in 1854 to as late as the 1930's. They were made in the millions and are very commonly found today. America was the favorite place of production. Early tintypes were cased like daguerreotypes and ambrotypes. It is very difficult to tell an ambrotype from a tintype when it is under glass in a case. Uncased tintypes are readily identified by the thin metallic plate holding the positive image. Occasionally tintypes are found on plates that are brown or red instead of black. Most tintypes were varnished to protect the surface from abrasion and atmospheric attack. They were made in a variety of sizes from the most common format being 2½ x 3½ inches, the same size as the carte de visite paper prints.

Other Lesser Known Processes

The next 40 years in photographic history became experimental with many new processes and techniques being used. Because there were far less of these photographs produced, it is not as necessary to elaborate on these processes as with the more major contributions.

Crayon Portraits

Crayon portraits were made from the 1860's through the turn of the 20th century. A weak photographic image was used as the basis for the extensive handwork with charcoal or pastels. They were usually life sized and were neutral black images on a matte-surfaced paper as the underlying photographic 'sketch.'

Carbon Prints

In 1839 Mungo Ponton discovered a new process based on the light sensitivity of bichromates. When added to gelatin, bichromates render the coating insoluble upon exposure to light. In other words, wherever light touched the coating, that part of the emulsion would not dissolve away. Carbon black was one of the first pigments used, hence the name - carbon prints. Sometimes pigments were chosen for their ability to mimic albumen print image colors. The beauty and durability of carbon prints was undisputed, but they were too time-consuming and difficult to challenge the silver papers.

Platinum Prints (Platinotypes)

A platinum print, or platinotype, consists of finely divided platinum metal and are exceptionally stable. The process came into use around 1880 and was popular until about 1930. These prints have a matte surface; most have a steely-gray image color, although some variations of the process produced browner image hues.

Cyanotypes

The cyanotype, or 'blueprint' process, was another of astronomer Sir John Hershel's contributions to photography. Although the process dates back to the 1840's, it was used rather infrequently until the 1880's. Like the platinotype, the cyanotype has a matte surface and its process is based on the light sensitivity

of iron salts. The image stability of cyanotypes is good, though not as stable as the platinotype. Cyanotypes fade when exposed to light, but the lost image density is regained in large measure during storage in the dark. Gelatin and collodion printing-out papers became popular in the mid 1800's, replacing albumen paper as the dominant photographic printing material. These papers were the forerunners of our modern photographic papers. They no longer had to be coated by the photographer and were coated on long continuous rolls with much greater sensitivity to light. These papers offered a wide range of surfaces, image colors and contrasts and their image stability was superior. Sales of slow developing-out papers increased dramatically in the last three or four years of the 19th century, led by an ever-increasing number of amateurs.

Conservation & Preservation of 19th Century Photographs

Since the early 19th century, photographs have provided a historical record and a source of information about their times. For this reason, art galleries, museums, archives, libraries and historical societies as well as government, business and private individuals all have an interest in the preservation and restoration of photographs. Through the years there has been very little factual information published on this subject. As a result, while there are some conservators who know a great deal about photographic conservation, there are many custodians of collections who have little knowledge or experience with photographic materials and how they effect the lifetime of the photographic image. In addition, they have no knowledge of the techniques and procedures that can be used to protect or restore old photographs. Photographic conservation is a relatively new field that started gaining popularity only within the past decade. The field of photographic conservation is still in its infancy as a separate area of study. In 1982 there were perhaps as few as only 24 professional photographic conservators in the world.

Black and white photographs, when properly processed and stored, are both stable and permanent. Generally, these two requirements have not been applied to many historic photographs, causing deterioration. There are four major forms of photographic deterioration which can be categorized as follows: Environmental, Chemical, Physical and Biological deterioration.

Environmental Deterioration

The most common form of deterioration also happens to be the easiest to control. By far, the single most serious cause of deterioration is excessive humidity and is quickly followed by extremes in temperature, which are both forms of Environmental deterioration. The "ideal" humidity for photographs should be 50% relative humidity ±5% and the temperature should be 68°F ±2°F. These are quite rigid specifications, especially in the northern parts of the United States and may be beyond the means of most owners of photographs. The most practical system for environmental control would be an air conditioned room in the summer and the use of electric heat in that room in the winter. There is one additional controlled environment that a genealogist once asked me about and which I thought was such a wonderful idea, that this is where I now store all of my family photographs. Most banks have 'safe' deposit storage boxes that are not only very secure, but are kept in an environment which is close to ideal. Perhaps the most devastating conditions for photograph storage would be cyclic heat and humidity such as you would find in an attic. Controlled humidity and temperature would help prevent curled prints, mold growth, fungus, foxing (blotchy, reddish-brown stains on prints or mounts), negatives sticking to containers or themselves and photographs sticking to glass frames. Obviously, the worst places to store photographic materials would be in an attic or basement, yet this is where 60-70% of all personal photographs are kept. Are you guilty???

In addition to humidity and temperature under the environmental list, air contamination would be the third most significant type of environmental deterioration. One of the serious problems in preservation is the relatively large quantity of oxidizing gases in the atmosphere in certain areas. Large cities must contend with coal-burning industries, gasoline and diesel engines and oil and gas-burning systems. High pollution also exists in areas where paints, printing inks, lacquers, enamels, varnishes and cosmetics are being used. Near the seacoast, very small amounts of airborne salts may infiltrate into storage areas which not only accelerates chemical degradation, but also encourages the growth of microorganisms.

Chemical Deterioration

The second most common form of deterioration is chemical degradation. The two kinds of chemical degradation that are most frequently observed are image fading (discoloration) and stains. The black image that is most commonly a silver product, will turn a yellowish-brown with inadequate processing techniques. This occurs most often when fixer is left in the print or film because of insufficient washing. The job of the fixer in the photographic process is to reduce the unexposed silver to a salt product that can be washed away. When the fixer is not removed, it acts like a bleach to the silver and, in effect, reduces or removes the silver. It acts on the highlight (lightest) areas first and thus reduces the contrast n the print. When fixer is not removed from the print, it causes the silver to appear as if it is 'fading.' This probelem can be improved by the restoration process that will be explained in a later section. The second type of chemical degradation is created by insufficient fixation. During the later half of the 19th century, photographers were not aware of the consequences of inadequate processing. Additionally, they did not have the monitoring devices we have today to let us know when the chemicals were no longer useful. Consequently, at times photographers were using fixers that were exhausted (used up) and this created dark stains on the prints. When the unexposed silver is not removed from the print by fixing it, the silver gradually darkens the more it is exposed to light.

Physical Deterioration

The third most common form of photographic deterioration is physical deterioration. This form is most prevalent in photographs that have been poorly stored. Some examples of physical deterioration are holes, scratches and spots that are caused from the abrasion of one material against another. Brittle matte board or photographs can snap and create losses in the image area. Glass plates, when not handled properly, can chip or break. Water can be a terrorist against a friendly photograph. I have seen collections totally destroyed from flooded basements, burst water pipes, spillages and have seen many photographs that have stuck to the glass from a frame due to excessive moisture.

Biological Deterioration

Biological deterioration is the fourth form of photographic deterioration. Photographic materials contain ingredients - such as gelatin and cellulose in paper - that are real treats to insects and rodents. The best preventative is to follow good housekeeping practices. Any windows that might be left open should have screening to protect against insects; they are attracted to funus and may damage the emulsion layer. Insects will actually chew away pieces of prints and even containers, especially when they are moist. Another method of protecting processed photographic materials from biological attack is to seal them in envelopes such as the Kodak storage envelopes for processed film.

Preservation

One of the most important factors affecting the preservation of photographs is the storage and display conditions to which they are subjected. This includes the material in which they are enclosed, the area in which they are stored and the manner in which they are displayed.

Processed negatives, slides and prints should be enclosed in special envelopes, sleeve file folders, or albums to protect them from dirt and physical damage and to facilitate identification and handling. Certain paper and plastic enclosures are satisfactory, provided the temperature and relative humidity are within the previously discussed safe tolerances. However, these materials are porous and do not protect against environmental effects. The paper used should be chemically stable and have a slightly rough or matte surface to prevent sticking.

Photographic preservation has become a highly technical field of study. Although it is not necessary to know or understand the specifications of the proper paper to use, it will provide a better understanding of the necessity to use proper materials to protect your photographs. Paper that will be in direct contact with a photograph should have an alpha cellulose content in excess of 87%, be free of groundwood, contain neutral or alkaline sizing chemicals, have a pH between 7.0 and 9.5 for black and white materials with a 2% alkaline reserve, and be void of waxers, plasticizers, or other ingredients that may transfer to photographic materials during storage.

The following are a list of storage materials that are safe to use for archival storage. However, it is important to note that at times manufacturers may change their formulation without notification and this may change the product's archival properties. Slide mount holders, lower left. Photo corner mounts for albums, center and lower right.

PAPER ENVELOPES are made from the highest quality paper and are proven to be the most satisfactory system for enclosing photographic materials. These should be acid-free, high alpha-cellulose papers that are buffered against changes in pH. Two very critical aspects of paper envelopes are the position of the glued seam and the adhesive used to seal it. Avoid envelopes with the seam down the center and avoid seals using animal or vegetable glues.

KODAK STORAGE ENVELOPES are heat-sealable, made of aluminum foil that has been coated with polyethylene on the inside and laminated to a paper on the outside.

CELLULOSE ACETATE SLEEVES are transparent enclosures that provide a way to view and handle photographs without removing them from the enclosures.

FOLDERS are single fold seamless holders, very much like manila file folders, but they are made from archival materials. They are also available in triacetate, polyester or polypropylene.

INTERLEAVES can be made from either paper or plastic sheets that are used to separate individual photographs from coming into direct contact with each other.

ALBUMS are not usually suitable for long-term storage unless they are fabricated with materials that make them safe for this purpose. Albums tend to be the most popular storage medium. Archival storage albums, although more expensive than conventional albums, are available at most archival suppliers and dealers.

Plastics are one of the safest materials to use in direct contact with photographs. However, some plastics contain additives to strengthen plastics or make them more pliable, etc. Only the following plastics have been considered safe to use in association with photographs: Polyester, Mylar, Polypropylene, Polyethylene, Tyvek and Cellulose Triacetate.

A number of materials often used in the storage of negatives and prints are detrimental to the photographic image and its support. Among the materials known to be detrimental to photographs are wood and wood products such as plywood, hardboard, chipboard, low-grade paper, glassines and strawboard. There are also some concerns with the use of chlorinated, nitrated formaldehyde-based plastics, lacquers, enamels and materials that contain plasticizers. Other items that may be detrimental to processed photographic materials while they are in storage including rubber, rubber cement, Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) and hygroscopic adhesives or those containing iron, copper, sulfur or other impurities. Pressure sensitive tapes and mounting materials, as well as acid inks and porous tip marking pens that use water-base dyes should also be avoided. Adhesives that should be avoided are starch paste, animal glue, rubber cement, shellac and contact cement.

When photographs deteriorate or are damaged, there is frequently a strong desire on the part of the owners to restore them to their original appearance and condition. There are many physical and chemical treatments that can be utilized to improve the aesthetic, informational and physical strength of an aged photograph. However, there are many factors that may limit their effectiveness. In fact, owners should be aware that almost any treatment of an original photograph carries with it a potential to do as much harm as good. Photographs of great cultural, historic, aesthetic, collectible or even just sentimental value should never be treated by amateurs. Only within this past decade has the science of professional photographic conservation come into its own right. Photographic conservators are developing many ways of reviving and reclaiming deteriorated photographic images.

The five forms of photographic restorations include: Electronic restoration, Chemical restoration, Physical restoration, Airbrush restoration and Copying.

Electronic Restoration

Because of today's technology, the newest form of restoration is electronic restoration, more properly called Electronic Imaging Enhancement (or EIE). In this system, the picture to be restored is scanned and the electronic signals are

digitized and projected onto a computer monitor screen. The operator decides what restoration processes are needed and inputs this into the computer. The operator is able to remove blemishes in the photograph such as scratches or stains, etc. Although the technology has been realized, the commercial use is not quite ready to make it a practical form. The key item in the system is a sensor onto which the picture is imaged. While it has adequate resolving power, it is not as good as that of a good photograph. Progress is being made, however, into producing better sensors with better resolution. A principal problem with EIE is the cost of the equipment. System costs are so high that to produce an image the user would find the costs to be prohibitive. Therefore it is not practical at this time to consider this form of restoration for the average person's use.

Chemical Restoration

Chemical restoration of black and white photographs is based on redevelopment or bleaching and redevelopment. A badly faded black and white photograph may have an image that is barely visible. Technically, what has happened is that the metallic silver in the image has been oxidized to form a colorless silver compound. If the faded photograph is redeveloped in a black and white developer, the silver salts in the faded areas will be reconverted to silver metal and the resulting image may be a considerable improvement over the faded original. A more effective chemical restoration procedure is to bleach the faded image and then redevelop. There are a couple of serious reservations about using the bleach and redevelopment procedure. First and foremost is the possibility of causing degradation of the old emulsion to the extent that the photograph is irreversibly damaged. Second, bleach and redevelopment irreversibly changes the original. You should never allow any work to be done on your photograph that cannot be undone. Only Photographic Conservators should be allowed to work on an original photograph.

Physical Restoration

The next restoration topic is the use of Physical restoration methods. Only one physical restoration method has been fully developed and this is based on Neutron Activation, which has

provided very good results from faded images. This technique is non-destructive and so reversibility is not a problem. This procedure is a rather complicated interaction of several techniques: neutron irradiation, autoradiography and photography. Thus, though it is a restoration procedure that is highly recommended, it is not a readily available method and so has never seen widespread application. Another physical restoration technique is the use of X-Ray fluorescence. The idea here is to scan the photograph with a beam of X-Rays and make a photograph of the X-Ray fluorescence of the silver atoms or ions in the photograph. Again, while this is a non-destructive method, the equipment needed for this is elaborate and actually not yet fully developed.

Copying

By far, the least expensive restoration is the photographic copying and duplication technique. The duplication process makes it possible to generate corrections and changes to original transparent materials such as negatives and positives. Tone reproduction can actually be improved by reducing or increasing the contrast in the duplicate. Copying is particularly helpful in lightening stains or enhancing faded prints, daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, albumen and salt prints. Family photographs have unknown or undertermined stability. A copy negative and print from a reliable lab could have archival stability if that is specified. Finally, copying provides a way of producing reprints in quantities. Photographic copies could also be considered an insurance policy to provide the protection for loss or deterioration of your precious family photographs.

Airbrush Restoration

The last form of restoration is the Airbrush Restoration and costs for this vary according to the amount of work that is required. This technique requires the skill of an artist and a paintbrush that 'atomizes' the paint. There are several steps that are required for this process and a brief explanation will give you an understanding as to what is involved in this most common form of photographic restoration work. A copy print is made and used as a work print because work should never be done to the original. The first step is to reduce major dark areas with a photographic bleach. This cleans

up the highlights and opens up, or lightens, the darkest areas where detail is still important. After the work print has been rewashed and dried, adding densities to small areas will be the next step. This is particularly useful to photographs that have fine cracks. Then the darker densities such as spots or other cracks can be lightened with wax-based opaques. Larger areas may require several applications to build up the proper density. Next step is to consider adding shading to sections such as facial features, as well as adding highlights to those areas. The artist may need to add highlights and shading to clothing, backgrounds, hair or any object that has lost some detail. Different techniques may be utilized to remove or even add a background, combine one photograph with another, open up a closed eye, repair teeth, remove an object or person from a photograph, etc. Almost anything can be accomplished with an airbrush restoration if the artist is well qualified. Keep in mind, however, that the more airbrush work that is done, the less the finished piece will look like a photograph.

Preserving our photographs is like preserving our history. Those that are able to trace their family history for several generations are very fortunate. To have the ability to see from whom we are descended gives us a unique vision of our heritage. How fortunate are those who have family photographs. For historic value or for sharing memories, let us make a commitment to pass our photographs on to future generations. The only way that this will be possible is to take care of what we have today.

About the Author

David Mishkin is a photographic restoration consultant and can be found on the web at http:\www.justblackandwhite.com. He will be giving a workshop on Photo Preservation at the Library in October 2009.

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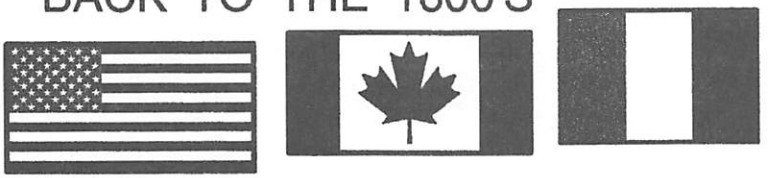
FAMILY TREE

BACK TO THE 1600'S



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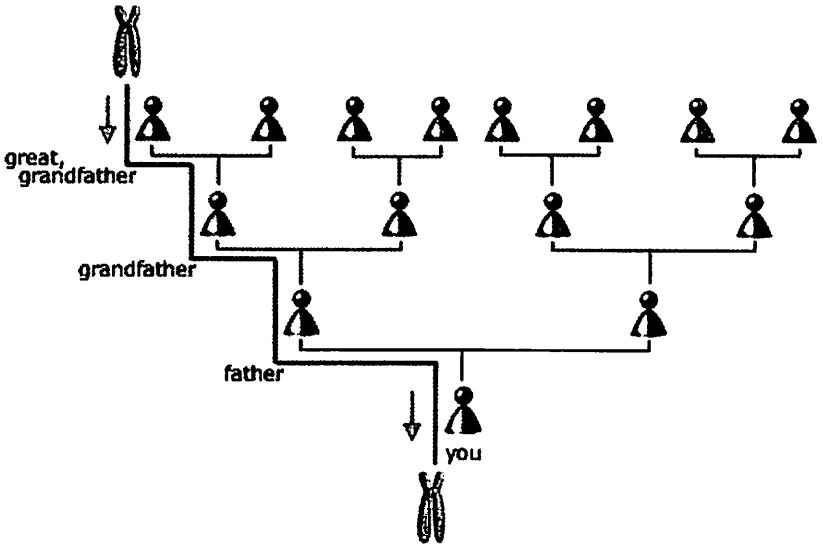

great,
grandfather
grandfather
father
you

Your DNA Autobiography

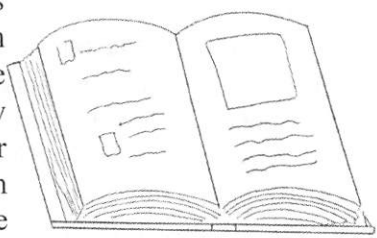
By Colleen Fitzpatrick, PhD

Genealogists are familiar with the value of reference materials such as biographies and online databases. A will or probate record, for example, can provide detailed information that is important in researching a family tree. However, written records are not always accurate. Census records can contain misspelled names, mistaken family relationships and wrong ages.

DNA is a relatively new tool for genealogists. A DNA test can tell you if two people are related, and provide an estimate of how far in the past their common ancestor lived. It cannot tell the exact relationship, or the name of that common ancestor. However, DNA is never "wrong", so that it can be used to confirm information provided by written materials. DNA and written documentation complement each other very well.

But just what *is* DNA?

DNA is the *biochemical* equivalent of your autobiography. If someone reads your autobiography, he will know all about your life. In analogy, if someone could "read" your DNA, he'd know all about your *biochemistry*.



A book is written using symbols we call letters of the alphabet. In English, there are 26 letters that are grouped together in words to convey meaning. DNA is composed of four letters of a biochemical alphabet known as adenine (A), guanine (G), thymine (T) and cytosine (C). The letters of this bio-alphabet are actually large molecules that combine to form words that convey meaning in a biochemical sense.

Just as an autobiography may be divided into sections called chapters, DNA is divided into sections called "chromosomes". And just as each chapter tells a different part of your life story, each chromosome tells a part of your biochemical story.

The analogy between a book and DNA breaks down here. If a typo appears in a chapter, a reader will usually not be prevented from making sense out of the text. A book need have only one copy of each chapter. But a typo or mutation in a chromosome can be fatal to an organism. Fortunately, chromosomes come in pairs, so that if there is a mutation in one member of the pair that endangers the well-being of the organism, it has a second chance for survival if the other chromsome of the pair is healthy.

Mutations can be useful to genealogists, however. When a book is copied, either by hand or by retyping it with a typewriter or into a word processor, copy-errors are made. Likewise, when a cell divides and DNA must copy itself so that the two daughter cells each has her own copy of the genome, a typo might occur causing a copy to differ from the original. Fortunately, just as the spell-check of a word processor corrects most of the typos in a text, DNA has a biochemical "spell-check" that compares the copied DNA with the original, and in most cases repairs any mutations.

However, spell-checkers are not foolproof, and sometimes typos do make it into the copied version of a text. For example, a spell-checker will not catch the use of *block* in the place of *black*. If a mistake is left uncorrected, it will be present in any future copies of the manuscript.

DNA is the same way. Occasionally a typo or a mutation gets past the genetic spell-checker, resulting in a mutation that is not repaired. If the cell that carries the mutation is a sperm or an egg cell, and the sperm or egg cell is involved in fertilization, and the fertilized egg results in a child, the child will have that mutation. Once the mutation is present, the mistake will be copied as if it were part of the original genome and the mutation will be carried forward by future generations of the family.

The more copies that are made of a manuscript, the higher the probability that errors will occur. Likewise, the greater the number

of generations that pass in a family, the more likely mutations will occur in the family's genome.

In the reverse sense, noticing a mutation in a certain family line can give you an idea of how many generations had to pass for it to appear. This provides an estimate of how long ago the person with the mutation shared a common ancestor with other family members who do not have the mutation. This is the key to genetic genealogy, since genealogists have to start with information they have about their family in the present, and work backwards to deduce information about their family in the past.

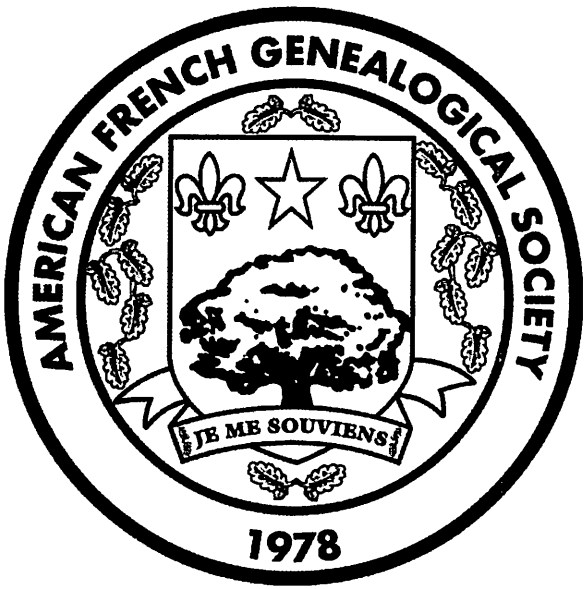
This is similar to the method scholars use to compare old manuscripts. To assess how many original versions of a manuscript existed, they don't compare text, they compare typos. Each time a scribe copied a manuscript, he added his characteristic mistakes to the text. The next scribe copied these mistakes not knowing they were errors, adding his own typos to the text, and so on down the manuscript generations. Manuscripts that share the same copy errors came from the same original version. If two manuscripts are almost identical, probably not many generations have passed since their common manuscript ancestor. If two manuscripts are somewhat the same, but have several differences, they probably had a common ancestor in the more distant past. If two manuscripts have a large number of differences, they probably do not have a common manuscript ancestor.

Likewise, in genetic genealogy, if two people have the same DNA profile (called haplotype), they likely share a common ancestor in the recent past. If two people are close, but not exact matches, they probably share a common ancestor in the more remote past. If two people have many differences, they do not share a common ancestor, at least in a genealogical sense.

In this way, mutations are useful is sorting out which people with the same surname are related, and can provide an estimate of how long ago their common ancestor was around. Occasionally, genetic genealogy reveals a so-called non-paternity event, where two family members are not genetically related due to an adoption, a name change, or an illegitimacy. Even so, when combined with geographical and historical information, genetic genealogy can lead you down exciting new paths in your search for your family story.

About the Author

Colleen Fitzpatrick, Ph.D., is the author of two of the best-selling books in genealogy. *Forensic Genealogy* has been widely recognized for its innovative forensic science approach to genealogical research. She has been featured on NPR's Talk of the Nation radio program (July 2005), and has written cover articles for Internet Genealogy (June 2006), Family Tree Magazine (April 2006) and Family Chronicle (October 2005). Colleen writes a regular column for Ancestry magazine. She can be reached through her website: http://www.forensicgenealogy.info/



Family Tree DNA and Genetic Genealogy

By Susan C. Meates

[This article is reprinted from Spring 2008 in preparation for the upcoming Genetic Genealogy workshop at the AFGS Library in November 2009]

The Beginning

The new discipline of DNA testing for genealogy, called Genetic Genealogy, was pioneered by Family Tree DNA, of Houston, Texas. In 2000, a genealogist, Bennett Greenspan, wondered if some Nitz's located in Argentina were related to his family tree. Having read about DNA testing for scientific endeavors, he approached Dr. Michael Hammer at the University of Arizona. Dr. Hammer is a molecular biologist who utilizes DNA testing for research and population studies. Intrigued with Bennett's genealogical problem, the two men designed a proof of concept to test the application of these scientific tests to genealogical problems. The pilot project was successful, and Family Tree DNA was launched.

Family Tree DNA provides DNA testing for genealogists. A test kit is sent in the mail consisting of three small brushes and three vials of a preservative fluid. To properly prepare a sample to send to the lab, you take each brush, one at a time, and rub the brush repeatedly against the inside of your mouth, and then put the tip of the brush into a vial. This process is easy, painless, and takes hardly any time. The vials are placed in the return envelope provided and mailed back to Houston.

Each test kit has a unique serial number, which is assigned when a test kit is ordered. This serial number appears on each vial. When the test kit arrives in Houston, an email is sent to notify the participant that their kit has arrived. These test kits are grouped

together, hundreds arriving each day, and then sent to the University of Arizona where the lab will perform the tests ordered.

An important part of the process is the separation of the person's name and the DNA sample. The test vials with the sample have only a serial number, and this is all the information that is provided to the lab. At Family Tree DNA, their database connects the person's name to the serial number, but they do not have access to the sample. This extra level of security protects the DNA samples.

At the lab, the sample goes through a variety of steps depending on the test ordered, and the test results are electronically returned to Family Tree DNA who then matches the result by serial number and notifies the participant that their results are ready. A web page, called a Personal Page, is created at the Family Tree DNA web site for the participant who logs into this page with their serial number and a password. Once at their Personal Page, their journey of discovery begins with a variety of selections to click to learn more about their ancestry, origins, and to find others to whom they match.

From the beginning just 7 years ago in 2000, Family Tree DNA has grown dramatically and has provided testing services to people in 179 countries. Every day, hundreds of genealogists around the world are discovering the power of DNA testing and how the results can help them with their genealogy research.

The Benefits

DNA testing for genealogy can be used by anyone interested in family history research. You do not need a background in science or any special knowledge. The knowledge you have acquired working on your family history research, combined with learning about this new source of information, will enable you to effectively use DNA testing for your family history research.

It is important to point out that DNA testing is not a substitute for family history research. DNA testing is another tool available for the genealogist and is used in conjunction with your family history research.

This new tool provides information that can not be uncovered from the paper records. The information from DNA testing can also provide new information and clues to help with your research.

Here are just a few of the benefits that can be achieved:

- Validate research
- Find any mistaken connections in your research
- Determine which family trees are related
- Bridge gaps in the paper records
- Confirm variants
- Find unknown variants
- Sort out multiple families found in the same location
- Discover information which may solve research problems, and/or resolve brick walls
- Get clues regarding migrations
- Confirm suspected events, such as illegitimacy and adoption
- Discover information to define the major branches of the tree going back to the origin of the surname
- Discover information about the evolution of the surname
- Discover clues regarding the origin of the surname
- Combine results with research in early records to determine the number of points of origin for the surname
- Get clues to help your research

How Does It Work?

Scientists have discovered two areas of DNA that are passed on to children, typically unchanged. For males, a section of the Y chromosome is passed from father to son. For females, mtDNA is passed from the mother to both the sons and daughters, though only the daughters pass on the mtDNA.

These areas of DNA that are passed on to the each generation unchanged are unique. At conception, most of our DNA is a mix of our two parents, and our parents are a mix of their parents. Scientists call this process recombination. These unique areas, on the Y chromosome for men, and mtDNA for both women

and men, do not go through the shuffling at conception. Therefore, these small sections of DNA provide us with a window to the past. This small portion of DNA is passed down to each succeeding generation. For a male, his father, his grandfather, and his great grandfather would all have an identical or very close result if this area of the Y chromosome were tested for each of them. For mtDNA, a son or daughter, the mother and the mother's mother would all have the same result.

Types of DNA Tests for genealogy research:

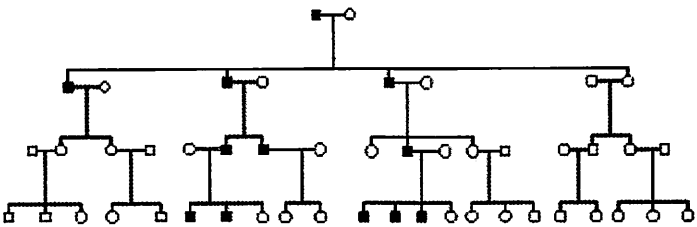
Y-DNA	A section of the Y chromosome is passed from father to son, typically unchanged. By testing this section, you would discover information about the direct male line, which is the man's father, his father, and back in time. You must be male to take this test.
mtDNA	A mtDNA test provides information about the direct female line, which is your mother, her mother, and back in time. Both males and females inherit mtDNA, though only females pass on mtDNA. Both males and females can take this test.

DNA, deoxyribonucleic acid, is the chemical inside the nucleus of all cells that carries the genetic instructions for making living organisms. Much of the DNA is termed 'Junk DNA' and has no known function. Within the nucleus of each cell, each of us has 23 pairs of chromosomes. Chromosomes are long segments of DNA, which contain genes and Junk DNA. A gene is the basic unit of heredity.

One set of 23 chromosomes is inherited from the father, and one set is inherited from the mother. The 23rd chromosome is also known as the sex chromosome. The child receives an X chromosome from the mother, and either an X or a Y chromosome from the father. A child with XX is a girl, and a child with XY is a boy.

A section of the Y chromosome is passed from father to son, typically unchanged. While the Y chromosome carries some genes, there is also a significant amount of DNA located between these genes. This section of the Y chromosome is in the area scientists call Junk DNA, since it has no known function. In the chart below, the squares are males, and the circles are females. All the squares which are black show the path of the Y chromosome down the male line of the family tree.

Y Chromosome Inheritance

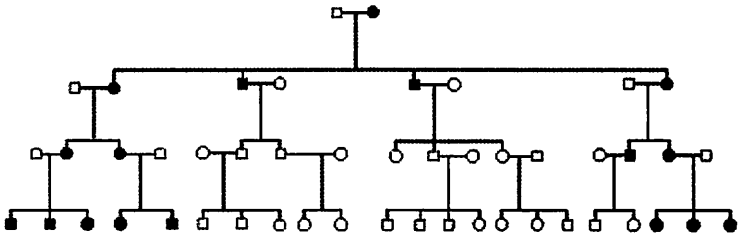


The black squares show all the males who inherited the same section of the Y chromosome from the male ancestor. From a male at the bottom, whose square is black, looking back up his family tree, following the Y chromosome, is called the "direct male line". The direct male line starts with a male, and is his father, his father, and on up the family tree.

mtDNA is inherited by both males and females, though only females pass on mtDNA. mtDNA are the circular DNA contained inside the mitochondria, which are small organelles which reside in all our cells and provide the power to the cell.

The chart below shows the path of mtDNA through the generations. The males are squares and the females are circles. A solid square or circle shows that the mtDNA of the ancestor was inherited by this person.

mtDNA Inheritance



mtDNA follows the direct female line. Your mtDNA was inherited from your mother, who inherited the mtDNA from her mother, who inherited from her mother, and so forth. Both males and females inherit mtDNA, and only females pass on mtDNA.

Testing Y-DNA from a male would provide information about the direct male line. Testing your mtDNA would tell you about your direct female line.

Example Results

The result from a Y-DNA test is a string of numbers, which is a count of short repeats of DNA at locations on the Y chromosome called markers. The markers tested are those in the section of the Y chromosome that is passed from father to son, typically unchanged. By comparing the result of two men, you can determine if they had a common ancestor, and approximately when the common ancestor occurred.

Below are two results from a Y-DNA test:

12 22 15 10 13 15 11 14 11 12 11 28 15 8 9 8 11 24 16 20 29
12 14 15 15
12 22 15 10 13 15 11 14 11 12 11 28 15 8 9 8 11 24 16 20 29
12 14 15 15

In the example above, two men took a 25 marker Y-DNA test at Family Tree DNA. Each man belongs to a different family tree, and they both share the same surname. Their 25 marker Y-DNA test result is an exact match, which is also called a 25/25 match. The Y-DNA evidence tells us that the men had a common ancestor. Sharing the same surname tells us that these two men share a common ancestor since the adoption of surnames. These two family trees connect at some point in time, since the adoption of surnames. Each man, on his web page at Family Tree DNA has a small symbol they can click, that will bring up a screen that estimates the time frame of the common ancestor.

The test results also provide the major population group for the direct male line. These population groups are known as haplogroups, and date back thousands of years. All men in a haplogroup would share a common ancestor. The haplogroup for the above result is I1a, and the description from the vendor's web site about this haplogroup is the following:

"The I1a lineage likely has its roots in northern France. Today it is found most frequently within Viking / Scandinavian populations in northwest Europe and has since spread down into Central and Eastern Europe, where it is found at low frequencies." (Description copyright Family Tree DNA.)

Although the haplogroup is not relevant to genealogy research, often the results are interesting, and tell you about the distant origins of the direct male line.

Testing mtDNA does not have as many genealogical applications as testing Y-DNA. The surname for married females changes with each generation, and mtDNA mutates at a slower rate than Y-DNA, therefore providing a longer time frame for the common ancestor.

An mtDNA test will provide information about your direct female line. The test result also provides information about the distant origin of your direct female line. The test result is compared to a standard, called the Cambridge Reference Sequence. This reference standard is the first mtDNA sequenced. Sample mtDNA results are shown below.

Haplogroup	HVR1 Mutations	HVR2 Mutations
K	16145A 16224C 16311C 16519C	73G 150T 152C 195C 263G 315.1C 497T 523- 524-
U5a1*	16192T 16256T 16270T 16399G	73G 263G 309.1C 315.1C
H	16304C	152C 263G 315.1C 456T

Since mtDNA mutates at a slower rate than Y-DNA, only exact matches should be investigated. In addition, both Hyper-Variable Region 1 (HVR1) and Hyper-Variable Region 2 (HRV2) should be tested and match for genealogy applications.

The haplogroup is the major population group of your direct female ancestor. This is also known as the Daughter of Eve, or Clan Mother. For each haplogroup, Family Tree DNA supplies information about the origin of that haplogroup.

For example, the description for haplogroup K is as follows: "Haplogroup K is found through Europe, and contains multiple closely related lineages indicating a recent population expansion. The origin of haplogroup K dates to approximately 16,000 years ago, and it has been suggested that individuals with this haplogroup took part in the pre-Neolithic expansion following the Last Glacial Maximum."
(Description copyright Family Tree DNA.)

Matches on HVR1 are those where the time frame of the common ancestor could be thousands of years ago. For genealogy applications, both HVR1 and HVR2 should be tested.

There are genealogical applications for mtDNA testing. For example, your family tree may have a male ancestor who had two wives, and you can't find the documents to tell you who was the mother of the 3rd child, who was a girl. By following the female line of the various female children from the first and second wife, and testing the mtDNA of descendents and comparing the

result to the mtDNA result of a descendent of the 3rd child, you would be able to determine which wife was the mother of the 3rd child.

DNA Testing for Genealogy

Genetic genealogy is the application of DNA testing for family history research. Who is tested, and which test is selected, depends on the information you want to uncover. The application of Genetic genealogy to your family history research is very similar to your approach to your research. For example, for your family history research you may decide to look for a census entry for your grandparents as your next step. In applying DNA testing to your family history research, you would also select an objective, which is the information you want to uncover.

DNA testing has a wide variety of applications or objectives, depending on the genealogy research problem or the information to uncover.

It is also important to understand that DNA testing will **NOT** provide all the answers. If DNA testing shows that two people are related, the results will not tell you exactly when they were related, or the name of the common ancestor. A DNA test wouldn't tell you exactly where an ancestor lived, though the test results might provide clues for a geographic area. For this reason, DNA testing is combined with your family history research to get further information from the test results.

One of the most exciting elements of DNA testing for genealogy is that often the test results will provide information that cannot be uncovered from other sources. For example, you may not be able to find any paper records to determine if two males in two different households with the same surnames in the census are related. To find out if these two males were related, you would test one or more direct male descendents from each of these households.

DNA testing for genealogy has a wide variety of applications, depending on the genealogy research problem or the information to uncover. The objective could be to determine if two people with the same surname are related, or the objective could be a more complex application to determine the surname of an

adopted ancestor where no paper records could be found, and it is suspected that he is the son of the widow next door who died.

How Many Y-DNA Markers to Test

The first choice for a Y-DNA test is the number of markers to test. Twelve to 67 markers are offered. At Family Tree DNA, you can upgrade your test to additional markers. For example, you can start at 12 markers, and then later upgrade to either 25 or 37 or 67 markers.

Each test kit includes 25 years of storage. This makes upgrades easy, as well as ordering other tests, such as mtDNA or advanced Y-DNA tests. In addition, your sample is available for future scientific advances. This is very beneficial when there are limited living males for your family tree, especially elderly males, so they can leave a legacy for future genealogists.

Twelve markers are best at identifying those to whom you are **not** related. When you have a match at 12 markers, you usually want to upgrade to reduce the time frame to the common ancestor, and determine if you are related in a genealogical time frame.

A simple guideline is: More markers provide more information, as well as reduce the estimated time frame to the common ancestor.

Tests of 12 markers or below are considered low resolution. Tests for 25 markers or above are considered high resolution.

It is usually more cost effective to order a high resolution test initially, instead of starting with a low resolution test and upgrading later.

To receive genealogically useful information, a high resolution test should be conducted.

For Y-DNA, Family Tree DNA also offers a variety of advanced tests, ranging from a SNP test to confirm your haplogroup or major population group, to a test that will determine if you could be immune from the plague, if it occurred today.

Y-DNA Surname Projects

Y-DNA testing is organized based on the surname. If two people have the same or variant surname, and their Y-DNA is a match or a close match at 25 or more markers, then without any documentation, you would know that these two people are related since the adoption of surnames. A more precise time frame can be estimated based on the closeness of the match.

The adoption of heredity surnames occurred in different locations at different times. The process took centuries, and during this time the form of the surnames often changed, and variants arose.

Y-DNA testing will identify which family trees for a surname are related. This information is quite valuable. For example, you may be trying to make a connection to the ancestral country. If your surname has two different Y-DNA results, and all the trees with your result go back to one location, then you would want to focus your research in that geographic area.

Identifying the related variant surnames can also be very beneficial. For example, previously unidentified variants may be found, which, when you review the census records with these variants, you are able to find your ancestors, and overcome your brick wall.

To get started with Y-DNA testing, you would want to determine if there is an existing Surname Project for the surname. Testing with an existing project simplifies the comparison of results. To determine if a Surname Project exists, go to the Family Tree DNA home page, shown at the end of this article, and enter your surname in the Project search facility in the upper right.

As a participant, your results include a certificate and report in the mail, and a Personal Page is created at the Family Tree DNA website. On your Personal Page, you can click selections, and view results and information. One selection is Y-DNA Matches. Clicking this selection will show those whom you match or are a close match. The person's name and email are shown. In addition, if they up loaded a Gedcom of their family tree, a symbol appears to the right of their name. The FTDNATiP symbol is also shown for matches. Clicking this symbol generates a report comparing you to the match using a proprietary algorithm. A report is generated that shows the probability of when the common ancestor

occurred. This tool is very valuable to determine whether to search for documentation supporting the relationship.

Another selection is titled Haplogroup. This selection will tell you the major population group, known as Haplogroup, and provide a description of the Haplogroup as well as showing the matches in the Haplogroup database and where they are located.

The selection Recent Ancestral Origins provides information about the origin and migration of the ancestors of those whom you match.

Family Tree DNA customers also have an opportunity to join the Genographic Project, by clicking on a selection on their Personal Page. This project is sponsored by National Geographic and has two components. One component is to test indigenous peoples around the world to trace the journey of human kind out of Africa. The second component is public participation, where you join and participate in a real time scientific project. There is a small fee to join the Genographic Project. Once you join, a Personal Page is created at the Genographic site filled with maps and educational material about the distant history and migration of your ancestor.

If a Surname Project has not been established for your surname of interest then you can easily start a Surname Project. Testing under the umbrella of a Surname Project provides discount pricing. Therefore, starting a Surname Project would reduce the cost of testing. If you do not want to start a Surname Project, perhaps one of your fellow researchers would be interested. Otherwise, you can test outside a Surname Project, and could later join a project when one is established for your surname.

If you are considering starting a Surname Project, Family Tree DNA supplies assistance, educational materials, help interpreting results, and guidance. Included with a Surname Project are a set of administrator tools and reports that make managing the project and interpreting results easy.

Application: Confirm your Family Tree

One application for DNA testing is to confirm your family tree. This step involves confirming your research utilizing Y-DNA. Two distant direct line males would be selected to test. Assuming that your family history research is correct, you would

expect the two results to match or be a close match. If you have any suspicions or areas of weak documentation, you would want to make sure at least one participant was a descendent from the weak branch. If your family tree has a lot of breadth, or goes back several centuries, you would probably want to test three or four males representing the major branches to achieve a comprehensive DNA review of your family history research.

There is one weakness in your family history research that DNA testing to confirm your family tree may not catch. If there are other families in a geographic area with the same surname, and you connect your family tree to the wrong family, the DNA testing may not catch this situation, if the males are related by a different ancestor. For example, 3 brothers immigrate to the US in the 1700's. They each have sons called William. You family tree shows the son William of the 3rd brother as your ancestor, when the correct ancestor is the son William of the 1st brother. Since the brothers were related, they would all have the same or close Y-DNA results, and so would their male descendents. Therefore, your DNA testing to validate your family tree would still have matches, even though from the research you selected the wrong William. If you test at 37 or 67 markers this problem of a mistaken connection can often be identified.

Application: Determine If Two People Are Related

DNA testing can be used to determine if two people are related through their direct male line, or related through their direct female line. To determine if two people are related through the direct male line, one or more males from each family tree would take a Y-DNA test. Typically, you would want to test two males in each family tree. The step of testing the second male is to validate the result of the first male, and establish the Ancestral Result for the family tree. Assuming the two results match or are a close match, then any extramarital event or unknown adoption in the family tree has been eliminated for the branches tested.

Testing two males in your family tree provides a result that can be used for multiple applications.

It is always possible that hidden in a branch you do not test is an extramarital event or unknown adoption. If you do not have any clues in the paper records that any of these types of events could have occurred, such as being unable to find a birth, or a married couple living apart, then it probably is not worth further testing. The only way to confirm for 100% certainty that there was no extramarital or unknown adoption in the living male line of your tree is to test every living male descendent. This is usually not done.

To compare two family trees to see if they are related along the direct male line, you would select two males from each family tree to test. For example, consider the situation where in a census entry you have two males living next door to each other with the same surname, and you have been wondering if they are related. Determining with DNA testing whether these two families are related might be a clue to help sift through the immigration records or a clue to help find the ancestral homeland.

If either of the family trees only have one living direct descent male today, then you would only be able to test one male from that family tree.

A close match can occur because a mutation occurs for one of the markers, which are the locations tested on the Y chromosome. A mutation simply indicates a change. Family Tree DNA estimates that a mutation for a marker occurs about once every 250 generations. A mutation can occur at any time. You may find a living descendent who has a mutation, or the mutation might have occurred several generations ago. There is a methodology that can be used to determine exactly where the mutation occurred.

Below are the Ancestral Results for the two family trees being compared:

15 23 15 10 15 16 13 13 11 14 12 30 16 8 9 11 11 26 15 20 29 11 11 14 16
13 24 14 11 11 14 12 12 12 14 13 30 16 9 10 11 11 25 15 18 30 15 15 17 17

When comparing the result from each family tree to each other – they are clearly not related. Only 5 of the numbers match

between the two results, and to be related, we are looking for an exact, 25/25 match or close match, 23/25, 24/25.

If you had no further information than two families with the same surname living next to each other in the 1880 census, it probably would not be surprising that the results do not match.

On the other hand, if you had strong documentary evidence that the two families were related, and then the two results don't match, it is time to review the family history research, as well as review the two family trees to make sure that the two persons who were tested are distantly related, so that one extramarital event or adoption would not impact both of their results. For example, if the founder of a family tree had multiple sons then each participant tested would ideally be from a different son. If you test two participants from one son, and that son was adopted, then the results would match for the two participants, but would not reflect the founders result.

Today

As the pioneer who brought DNA testing for genealogy to the mainstream, Family Tree DNA provides a variety of tests to help with your genealogy research, as well as tests to explore your distant origin or to learn more about your ancestry. As new scientific discoveries occur, Family Tree DNA brings new tests to market.

The easiest way to learn more about DNA testing for genealogy is to take a test. The first step is to decide whether you want to test your direct male line or your direct female line. If you are female, and want to learn about your direct male line, you would have your father, brother, uncle or other male relative in the direct male line take the test. Both males and females can take the mtDNA test to learn about your direct female line. Family Tree DNA provides education material, consultation and email support to understand your results.

To learn more about DNA testing for genealogy, be sure to subscribe to the free educational newsletter provided by Family Tree DNA. The link to subscribe or read past issues is shown below.

DNA testing for genealogy is a very powerful tool, and we are just at the beginning of this emerging discipline. It was only a few years ago that DNA testing for genealogy was first introduced. Each year since then, new and expanded tests have been introduced as the scientists make more discoveries. Each new test provides additional information for genealogists.

Through DNA testing, people have learned information that could not be uncovered from other sources. A DNA test could supply the answer to break through a brick wall. You can begin your journey of discovery by ordering a test kit today.

Family Tree DNA
http://www.FamilyTreeDNA.com

Free monthly educational newsletter from Family Tree DNA
http://www.familytreeDNA.com/fgregister.asp

Past Issues of the Family Tree DNA newsletter
http://www.familytreeDNA.com/facts_genes.asp?act=past

Genographic Project:
http://www5.nationalgeographic.com/genographic/index.html

About the Author

Susan Meates, a retired executive, is the Chaiman of the Advisory Panel on DNA for the Guild of One Name Studies, and a DNA project coordinator.

Frank Buteau, Yukon Prospector

By George Buteau

François Zotique Buteau was born in St. Anselme, Dorchester County, QC on July 29, 1856, the sixteenth of nineteen children born to Jacques Buteauand Hermine Plante. The St. Anselme parish register contains the following baptismal record:

> The twenty ninth of July one thousand eight hundred fifty six, we pastor of this parish signed below, have baptized François Zotique born today of the legitimate marriage of Jacques Buteau and Hermine Plante of this parish. The godfather was Anselme Buteau who signed below and the godmother was Selina Roy who signed below.
> Signed: Anselme Buteau Sélina Roy B. Bernier, priest, pastor

Agricultural land in the province of Québec had become overworked during the first two centuries after the founding of New France in 1608 and could no longer support the increasing population by the middle of the 19th century. Jobs in the cities were scarce and the wages were very low. In order to survive, individuals and families began to seek work with decent salaries outside of the French Canadian province. Hundreds of thousands of Québecois left for the United States during the second half of the 19th century and the first quarter of the 20th century. Many found factory work in New England mill towns but others, not satisfied with millwork, sought other forms of employment. The various gold rushes in the United States and in western Canada attracted many French-Canadians seeking adventure and a different way of life.

Like several of his siblings, François Buteau immigrated to the United States seeking a better way of life. He probably started using Frank as his first name soon after entering his newly-adopted country where English was the spoken language. Frank and my

great-grandfather, Damase Buteau (See: *Je Me Souviens*, Winter, 1989, pages 15-20), were 5th cousins and most likely never knew of each other. In 1877, Frank settled in Lewiston, Maine where he remained for two years before moving to Merrill, Wisconsin. He left Wisconsin in 1882 for Portland, Oregon and then moved to Seattle, Washington the same year. He lived in British Columbia from 1883 until he left for Juneau, Alaska from Victoria, British Columbia in January 1886.

In August, 1886, after working for the Treadwell Mine to make enough money to support his prospecting, Frank and twenty-one companions traveled by ship to Dyea, Alaska, which is located where the Taiya River and Taiya Inlet meet on the south side of the Chilkoot Pass. Dyea is presently in the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park. During the Klondike Gold Rush years, prospectors disembarked at Dyea and traveled the Chilkoot Trail over the Mountains on their way to the gold fields in the Yukon, 500 miles away.

Frank Buteau wrote an account of his life as a prospector for gold in an article that he titled "My Experiences in the World." This was among fifteen stories included in a compendium first published in the early 20th century in "Sourdough Sagas - Journals, memoirs, tales and recollections of the earliest Alaskan gold miners, 1883-1923."

Frank and his companions traveled the Yukon River to the mouths of the Stewart and Klondike rivers and arrived at the Fortymile River during October 1886 where gold had been discovered the preceding month. He and two French-Canadian companions, Louis Cotey and French Joe, built a crude cabin on a small island, about a mile from the mouth of the Fortymile River. The island was called "The Sixteen Liars' Island" named for the sixteen men who spent the winter of 1886-1887 there telling stories while living in three huts. They survived on the few provisions they had brought with them and by hunting for game. Frank and his fellow miners prospected along the Fortymile River where gold could be panned from the gravel only during the short summers. This was the only time of year when water was available in large

enough quantities needed for the sluice and rocker boxes used to trap the gold. In the summer of 1887, Frank earned $3000 prospecting for gold and having made more money than any of the other miners on the Fortymile River by fall of that year, was declared "King of the Forty Mile." Frank was one of the first miners to adopt hydraulic mining techniques developed in California.

In the spring of 1890 when Frank and a partner went down to Forty Mile (the community is usually spelled "Forty Mile" or "Forty-Mile" unlike the river's name of "Fortymile") to get some provisions, Frank married a native woman. Over the winter of 1892-1893, Frank and several other miners traveled out of Alaska to the U.S. northwest for provisions returning in May, 1893. During their crossing of the Chilkoot track on their return, Frank and three other French-Canadians, Corbeil, Laroche and François Roy ingeniously installed a sail on their sled to accelerate their descents and wore skates to facilitate the crossing of lakes. During his absence, Frank's wife, Mary, had been busy all winter making clothing including mittens, moccasins, parkas and was considered by the residents as one of the most skilled workers making clothes in the country. Frank and his wife mined during the spring and summer of 1893 returning to Forty Mile in August and finally building the house that they had been planning to build for several years. In the summer of 1894, Frank's wife returned from a visit with her family bringing her nephew, Fred Kokrine, who lived with them as an adopted son, Fred Buteau, until his death in 1911 at age 19.

Prospecting was a difficult life. Food had been scarce and fresh vegetables and fruit were almost unattainable for gold miners in the Yukon. Diseases such as scurvy caused bad health and even death. Frank claimed in his writings that, to his knowledge, no miner along the Fortymile River ever prospected more than $3000 in gold in a year, so no one apparently got rich prospecting there.

Slowly, miners made the transition from mining to a settled life. Frank Buteau, always a rover as a young man, eventually settled down. In December 1898, he bought property in Klondike City and

earned his living as a blacksmith. Frank ran the following advertisement in the October 25, 1899 issue of the Dawson City, Yukon newspaper The Klondike Nugget:

> "Frank Buteau's own make of miner's picks for sale at A.C. Co. or Frank
> Buteau's blacksmith shop, Klondike City; thirteen years experience. $5.00
> without handle. $6 with handle. Name stamped on every pick."

Frank was described around that time as "a small nervous dark-complexioned man with a moustache and thick, dark eyebrows." (For photo of Frank in Dawson around 1897 see: http://vilda.alaska.edu/cdm4/item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/cdmg11&CISOPTR=1751&REC=1).

Frank, his wife Marie, and adopted nephew, Fred (Kokrine) Buteau were living in Dawson City, Yukon when the Canadian census was recorded in 1901. The family moved to Fairbanks, Alaska sometime before 1910 since Frank, his wife Mary and their two adopted children were in Fairbanks for the 1910 U.S. Census. In that census document, Mary was listed as a member of the Athabasca tribe and the two children were also listed as natives though the names of their tribes were illegible in the document. In the 1915-1916 Alaska-Yukon Gazetteer, Frank was a blacksmith living on Second Avenue in Fairbanks and in the 1923-1924 issue of the same directory, he was a blacksmith with the Northern Commercial Company of Alaska. The population of Fairbanks in the latter year was around 1200.

During his years of deprivation as a miner in the Yukon, Frank had become a "Jack of all trades" which would serve him well in Fairbanks. The following article in the September 19, 1913 issue of the The Fairbanks Daily News-Miner newspaper illustrates this:

> Frank Buteau Has Finished Putting Down Well at Eagle Hall

At Eagle hall on Fifth avenue, a feat has been accomplished which in the opinion of most of the members of the local aerie, could not be accomplished. Frank Buteau was the man who did what all others thought could not be done namely to sink a well and drain all of the water of the cellar into it.

At the time the well was started, there was over four feet of seepage water in the cellar at Eagle hall. The sump was bailed out repeatedly but that kind of work did no good as a means of lowering the water so other means had to be resorted to. When Mr. Buteau first broached his plan of sinking a well to thawed ground, the Eagles laughed at him, but he finally persuaded them to let him try his plan. If it did not work, he was to receive nothing for his work, but if it did he was to be paid for his labors.

Needless to say the plan worked beautifully and there is now a fine well of water at the hall. The plan for draining the sump is to let the water go through a valve in the pipe and go into the depths of the earth. This is easily accomplished as the sump is quickly emptied after the valve is opened.

Frank was a member of the Yukon Order Of Pioneers (YOOP), an organization that was established on December 1, 1894, in old Forty-Mile Camp, Yukon Territory. Any miner who had settled in Alaska/Yukon by 1888 qualified for membership. Frank Buteau was a founding member having arrived in 1886 and was elected the first warden in the Forty-Mile lodge (To see photo of Frank Buteau and "Yukon Order of Pioneers 40 Mile 1895" go to: http://vilda.alaska.edu/cdm4/item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/cdmg21&CISOPTR=1148&REC=11&DMTHUMB=1). In later years Frank occasionally acted as an unofficial spokesperson for the YOOP as evidenced in the following letter to the editor of the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner published in the newspaper on June 14, 1932:

Fairbanks, Alaska
13 June, 1932

Editor of News-Miner
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Sir:

In one of your recent issues Mr. Pozza called attention to the part played by the members of the Yukon Pioneers in the upbuilding of our city and indeed of the entire Territory. As one of the earliest residents of this part of Alaska, may I venture to add my word?

Alaska had been known to the world at large as a region of perpetual ice and snow, when I landed at Juneau in January of 1886. During the summer of 1886, I with twenty others faced that land of hardships and during 1887 we took out between fifty and sixty thousand dollars of gold in the interior of Alaska. It was the Yukon Pioneers who discovered gold in the interior of Alaska, and it was they who made some of the first discoveries in the Northwest Territory of Canada. The people who are in interior Alaska today are here because of the efforts of the Yukon Pioneers in opening up the country. In 1886 a Catholic church was built at Holy Cross. Today we have churches, schools, highways, colleges, and a permanent population. To the pioneer Judge James Wickersham we owe our home rule, our railroad, and our courthouse. All these results have come from the good work done by the Yukon Pioneers. We enjoy law and order and have marshals to catch criminals and arrest bootleggers. Our young folk have schools and colleges and most of the advantages that in the pioneer days could only be had thousands of miles from this Arctic land.

The Yukon Pioneers are the original cause of these changed conditions and as Mr. Pozza said, it is but fitting that they should have a place in the corner stone of the new Federal building. If anyone has a complaint to make as to life in the interior of Alaska, let him lay it on the Yukon Pioneers, and if anyone has a flower to plant to cheer them in their declining years, let him plant it before they shall have passed away.

Respectfully,

Frank Buteau

In 1908, Frank and Mary had adopted 4-year old Lucy, a native child. Lucy was married to Theodore Morton on May 13, 1925. She committed suicide only four years later on November 4, 1929. The November 5, 1929 issue of the The Fairbanks Daily News-Miner newspaper carried the following story on page 1:

MRS. MORTON SHOOTS SELF MONDAY NIGHT

Mrs. Lucy Morton, 25 years of age, ended her life last night by shooting herself with a bullet from a 7.65 mm automatic pistol. The shot entered the right temple, probably causing instantaneous death.

The body was found about 11:15 p.m. by Frank Buteau when he returned home from a meeting of the Pioneers of Alaska. He immediately summoned authorities, to whom it was plain that the act was one of suicide.

...

Theodore Morton, husband of the young woman, had left the house at about the same time as Mr. Buteau, whose adopted daughter Mrs. Morton was. He said his wife had seemed particularly happy that day but recollected that as he started out of the door she had called him back to say good-bye. However, he had noticed nothing that might lead him to believe that anything untoward was about to happen.

...

Mrs. Morton was 25 years old on February 14 last, having been born in Kaltag in 1904. At the age of four years she came to Fairbanks and has lived here continuously since.

She attended the local grade and high schools graduating from the latter with the class of 1924. Following her graduation from high school she attended the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines. On May 13, 1925, she was married to Mr. Morton.

Exactly when in 1911 or where adopted son Fred died are unknown. Following are two brief pieces about him that appeared in the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner on Monday, August 22 and Friday, August 26, 1910:

Fred Buteau who is suffering from spinal trouble is slightly better and has been removed to his home from St. Joseph's hospital.

FRED BUTEAU ABLE TO MAKE USE OF HIS LEGS

For the first time in many weeks, Fred Buteau, who has been partially paralyzed, was yesterday able to walk about with the aid of a couple of canes. Buteau was recently moved from the hospital. It is intended to send him to the Carlisle Indian School within a week or two.

Frank Buteau died July 4, 1937 in Fairbanks, Alaska and is buried in the Pioneer section of the Clay Street Cemetery in Fairbanks. Frank and Mary's adopted daughter, Lucy, is buried in the Arctic Brotherhood section of the Clay Street Cemetery. Clay Street Cemetery was opened in 1903 and became the resting place for the founders of Fairbanks. The cemetery was closed in 1938 as it approached capacity. Frank's wife, Mary, who was born in May, 1856 in Alaska, has left no record to indicate when she died or where she is buried. In the 1920 United States Census Frank, Mary and Lucy Buteau were living in Fairbanks so she died after January 1920. Since Mary was not mentioned in the newspaper article about Lucy's suicide in 1929, it is assumed that she was no longer living.

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About the Author

George Buteau is a long-time member of AFGS and a frequent contributor to JMS.

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Single Marriage - One marriage to search.
Marriages of parents will also be counted as additional single marriages and billed as such.

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Five Generation Ancestral Chart - Standard five generation ancestral chart of 31 ancestors with 8 marriages found. The last column of names will give parents' names only: no marriages as they will start a new five generation chart.

Your name, street, city, state, zip code, and member number if you are an AFGS member

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After receiving your request, we will start as soon as possible on your research. Currently, our staff is very busy with a record number of searches to perform, so please be patient. We will then notify you by mail of our findings and bill you in advance for the research performed using the applicable rates listed below.

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After receiving our report and billing statement, return the top portion with a check payable to AFGS. Upon receipt, we will forward your requested research.

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Nous parlons Français

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