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THE BULLETIN

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Letter From The Editor

What comes to mind when you think of the Revolutionary War? For many Americans it's those highlights we were taught in school: Paul Revere, Betsy Ross, Valley Forge and the Boston Tea Party. In the first article of this issue, we invite you to examine some of the misconceptions we hear about the War of Independence. As genealogists, however, we often think of the Revolutionary War as another event in the timeline of our family. Were our ancestors Patriots? Loyalists? Did they fight at Valley Forge, or face Indian attacks on the frontier? In this issue of *The Bulletin* we have four very diverse articles written by GFO members, about their ancestors' role in the Revolutionary War, as well as a variety of articles to help with your research. The third place winner of the GFO writing contest is a compelling story about searching manuscript collections for information about a family's move to Kentucky through the Cumberland Gap.

The temperature is dropping and the days are getting shorter. It's time to curl up with a good read and focus on our genealogy.

As we go to press we were saddened to learn of the death of a valued long time GFO member, Jay Balfour. We will share information about Jay in our next issue.

Judi Scott
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Myths and Misconceptions Reconsidering the Revolutionary War:

Harvey Steele, Carol Surrency, Judi Scott

Patriotic history is often bad history. It has taught us an oversimplified (and sometimes prejudiced) view of the Revolutionary War which we find, as we look closely, is full of misconceptions. We are told that it was a simple crusade by brilliant Generals, brave patriot soldiers, and a citizenry united by an undying national spirit against a tyrannical and unbalanced king thousands of miles away. As we probe our deeper historical and genealogical sources we often find something quite different.

To say that the American Revolution itself was merely a short-lived movement rating only a few pages in the history books is to miss the mark. Not only did these political movements and battles lay the foundations for the United States, but it gave unparalleled inspiration, guidance and hope to independence movements all over the world. When we look more closely into the lives of those who sought freedom and liberty and we locate their homes, communities, and battlefields we find a strange mixture of migrants: Palatine Germans in New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia; Protestants of all types; regional Indian groups like the Iroquois, Seneca, Mohawk, and Oneida of upstate New York; Virginia Cavaliers and Hudson River Dutch, and many others. Few, except some of the city folk, like merchants and professionals, were outspoken Yankees at the beginning. For most, the Revolutionary War was a process of Becoming American. If you answered the call, whether to the local militia or to the Continental army, you were making a commitment to a new nation.

Ammunition, Artillery, and Firearm

There are many crucial historical points that have been oversimplified. One of those issues, Logistics, has many facets, including Ammunition, Artillery, and Firearms. One of the chronic problems facing the states throughout the entire war was a shortage of ammunition. The sovereignty of the individual states decentralized the responsibility for supplying munitions. Each colony sought ammunition for its own needs first and only secondly for the total war effort.

Virginia was a leader in plans for ammunition supply, starting as early as 1775. Making gunpowder was an art and a science, and the Virginia Gazette circulated a standard recipe. The result was similar to the quest

for home brew during Prohibition times. The resulting gunpowder ranged from useless to dangerous.

One man, however, Major Charles Lynch of Bedford, erected a powder mill that really was efficient, making up to fifty pounds of high quality gunpowder a day.¹ Eventually, in all the other colonies, men like Lynch were able to create gunpowder factories, but the supply usually only satisfied the individual state, and an additional outside source was required. With diplomatic intervention, France and Holland soon exported vast supplies to the colonies and the Continental armies were well-supplied.²

Another war-making problem was in creating artillery. For the first time in American history, field artillery became a necessity. This was apparent at the very beginning when the British force retreating from Lexington and Concord was saved from annihilation by only two well-placed six-pounders. Most armies had artillery, but the colonies did not.

The fact was not lost on General Washington. Artillery manufacturing commenced in the industrial Northern part of the country and the final proof of success was in the battle of Yorktown, in which dozens of well-made cannons pounded the British army, and in the sieges of Savannah and Charleston.³

Like the quest for ammunition, the organization, composition, and variety of new ordnance emerged from every colony. The Southern department, where Washington himself resided, was particularly skilled. Washington, from his experience in the French-Indian War, knew that New World battlefields, wherein only a few hundred yards separated the combatants, was ideal for short-range artillery. Heavy artillery could not travel easily in the 18th century, but Washington used small cannons in sieges near the coast and in ship against shore battery action.⁴

Of all the misconceptions about the Revolutionary War, none is so flagrant as our image of the small arms used by the Continental and militia men. Military lore at the time promoted the image of well-drilled redcoats overwhelming their opponents with a straightforward massed charge not unlike the "human wave" invasions by the North Koreans in 1960. As George Washington knew, and the British officers should have known, the

environment of the War for Independence did not allow such shenanigans. In England and Europe at the time, a combination of factors, ranging from military conservatism, romanticism (“the charge of the Light Brigade”), and industrial incapacity, resulted in some strange tactical use of rifles.

Although superior rifled barrels had been used by gunsmiths in the Old World since the sixteenth century, they were first manufactured in quantity by Germans, who quickly saw the advantage in accuracy of rifled barrels over smoothbore weapons.

German immigrants first introduced rifles (with spiraling and grooves). In Pennsylvania, more rifled barrel weapons were produced than in England and Europe. Redcoats had smoothbores and colonists were well-supplied with the latest in rifle-barreled weapons. Muskets were accurate to a range of eighty yards, whereas the new rifles were accurate to 240 yards.⁵

In the first years of the Revolution, muskets (the obsolete weapon) were used almost exclusively because: (1) they could use coarser powder; (2) standard not special cartridges could be used; and (3) muskets came complete with bayonets whereas the new rifles did not.⁶

In the first years of the Revolution, muskets were predominantly used, but, by the late 1770s, the new rifle was being issued to sharpshooters in Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. By then, the image of the short-range musket was no longer the trademark of the Continental soldier.⁷

Was Yorktown the final battle of the American Revolution?

Many textbooks and some history accounts list Cornwallis’s surrender of his 7,000 troops to George Washington at Yorktown, Virginia on October 17, 1781 the end of the Revolutionary War. The British prime minister was quoted as saying, “Oh God, it is all over!” But was it? When King George heard the news, he said, “I have no doubt, when men are a little recovered of the shock felt by the bad news, they will find the necessity of carrying on the war, though the mode of it may require alterations.”

George Washington was also concerned. General Henry Clinton was the commander of the British army in North America, not Cornwallis, and there were four times as many soldiers in the colonies as had surrendered. Washington pushed congress to “continue preparation for military operations”. Failure to do so, he said, would “expose us to the most disgraceful disasters” and “prolong the casualties.”

Finally in August, 1782, word came that the crown would consider recognizing the thirteen colonies as independent and on November 30, 1782; a preliminary peace treaty was signed. Was this the end? Washington was still unconvinced. War continued to rage between Loyalists and Patriots in the southern backcountry and frontiersmen battled the Indians, who were supported by the British. As many as 365 Americans were killed in fighting after Yorktown, more than in the battles of Lexington, Concord, Bunker Hill, Quebec, and Yorktown combined. However, Britain was too distracted by problems with the French and other colonies around the world to continue her focus on America. An official treaty, the Treaty of Paris, was concluded on September 3, 1783. Even then, problems continued in some areas.

War is messy and so is history. It takes time and study to understand events. So, when did the war actually end?⁸

Do not Fire until you see the whites of their Eyes

Israel Putnam, (or someone) so the story goes, gave this command at the battle of Bunker Hill. Our courageous forefathers obeyed, held their ground, and withheld fire until they could see their enemy’s eyes - so the story goes. Dispositions of those participating in the battle recount American officers issuing many commands: “Fire low.” “Aim at their waistbands.” “Pick off the commanders.” “Aim at the handsome coats.” “Powder must not be wasted.” And “Wait until you see the whites of their eyes.” The “whites of their eyes” command was not new to the American Revolution. It was a figure of speech used by officers in the 1700s to hold fire until commanded. In the dust and smoke of the battlefield, the whites of someone’s eyes might not be visible unless the enemy was within five yards or less and to wait that long would be suicide. The Patriots wouldn’t have time to reload before being impaled with a bayonet. Why has this story become a legendary Revolutionary War tale? Somehow, the glory of war is more appealing when equated with tales of personal courage.⁹

Paul Revere

“Now listen my children and you shall hear of the midnight ride of Paul Revere”. Most Americans are familiar with Henry Wadsworth Longfellow’s poem detailing the account of Revere’s ride to warn of the British advance on Lexington and Concord. It is one of the best known exploits of the Revolutionary War, thanks to Longfellow, but does Paul Revere deserve such heroic credit? Before the poem, published in 1861, Revere was known as a patriotic man, but not a main character in the Revolution.

When the Massachusetts Provincial Congress re-

quested first hand reports three days after the event, Paul's version differed considerably from Longfellow's poem. Dr. Joseph Warren requested he ride to Lexington with a message for Samuel Adams and John Hancock that a "number of soldiers appeared to be heading their way." He was "put across" the Charles River where he "got a horse" and, avoiding British officers on the road, proceeded to Lexington where he "alarmed Mr. Adams and Col. Hancock." He also mentioned William Dawes, a second messenger sent along an alternate route. The most chilling part of the evening, according to Revere, occurred when he and two others headed from Lexington to Concord with the warning. He did not get far before being captured by the British. In the deposition, he talked at length about five threats by the officers to kill him, several times offering to "blow your brains out." In the end, they took his horse and released him, leaving him to walk back to Lexington on foot. In his obituary, in 1818, no mention was made of Paul Revere's ride.

The nineteenth century is known as the age of Romanticism and Longfellow made full use of poetic license when he created his poem. Although it is filled with distortions, several are of consequence: (1) Longfellow makes no mention of Paul's detention by British officers. Obviously, this would show that the British were already there, thus lessening the drama of the night's events. The very beat of the meter that Longfellow used sounds like that of a galloping horse racing to warn everyone. (2) Additional dramatic effect comes with spreading the "alarm through every Middlesex village and farm." Paul Revere did not even reach Concord, the destination of the British troops, although others did. There were, in fact, a number of people who rode out that night from Lexington to alert the county side. Captain John Trull of Tewksbury fired three shots from his bedroom window upon getting the news and the commander in Dracut, on the New Hampshire border, heard the shots and mustered his militia several hours before the dawn fight at Lexington. (3) Less effective than gun shots was the "lantern aloft in the old north church" story which takes up more than half of the poem. For sixteen lines, Paul waits "impatient and ready to ride" until he spots two lights. We now know that whoever was waiting to receive the signal, it was not Paul Revere and, by the time the lights appeared, it was too late to be of great use. (4) Only two bit players appear in Longfellow's poem, the horse and the person charged with lighting the lantern. In fact, Historian David Hackett has reconstructed the event showing that more than 100 individuals were involved in spreading the alarm. As the British column approached Lexington, bells and shots rang out. The countryside was informed and ready.¹⁰

Did the Continental Army Win the War?

Approximately 100,000 men served in the Continental Army. About twice that amount were members of local militia groups during the war. There are some that thought the militia was not effective during the Revolutionary War; even George Washington himself said to "... place any dependence on Militia is assuredly resting on a broken staff."¹¹ To be sure there were occasions when the militia did not stand firm in the face of the British army. At Camden, South Carolina in 1780, the militia men put down their weapons and fled, contributing to one of the worst defeats of the war. But surely, the war would not have been won without them.

It was the local militia that protected and defended the frontier from the Indians who joined forces with the British. Without the militia would Washington have won at Trenton? Most of the southern Continental troops were captured when the British took control of Charleston, South Carolina. It's likely the Americans would not have succeeded at King's Mountain and Cowpens without the militia. The "Overmountain men" were instrumental in driving Cornwallis from North Carolina, with the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. As Cornwallis said in 1781, "I will not say much in praise of the militia, but the list of British officers and soldiers killed and wounded by them...proves but too fatally they are not wholly contemptible."¹²

(Endnotes)

- 1 Donald Reynolds, Ammunition Supply in Revolutionary Virginia, *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 73, No. 1 (Jan. 1965)
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- 3 Jac Weller, Revolutionary War Artillery in the South, *The Georgia Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 46, No. 3 (September 1962)
- 4 Weller 1962: 252-254
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- 6 York 1979: 305-305
- 7 York 1979: 307
- 8 Ray Raphael. *Founding Myths*. (New York: MJF Books, 2004). Chap. 12
- 9 Ibid., Chap. 9
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- 11 "Myths of the American Revolution", *Smithsonian.com*. (<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history>: accessed 25 October, 2011) p 3.
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Feature Articles

DAR Research

Joan MacInnes Hunter

On the last day of April 1890 at its general meeting in Lexington, Kentucky, the Sons of the American Revolution voted to exclude women from membership. Twenty-one weeks later, on 11 October 1890, a small group of irritated, but determined women founded the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, often called DAR, is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history and securing America's future through better education. Simply stated, its mission, then and now, is to promote historic preservation, education, and patriotism. The founding Daughters would be pleased to know that their fledgling organization presently has 170,000 members in about 3,000 chapters in all fifty states and Washington, DC, and international chapters in Australia, Austria, The Bahamas, Bermuda, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Spain, and United Kingdom. Things have changed since the founders first met in homes and hotel rooms. The Daughters now own a spacious building, really three buildings joined together, which occupies an entire city block in Washington, D. C., not far from the White House. It is one of the world's largest buildings of its kind owned and maintained exclusively by women.

Six years after organizing, DAR established a library in its small office space in downtown Washington's commercial district for the purpose of providing reference material for the genealogists verifying applications and for the preservation of historic documents. Not long after, the general public was granted access to the materials, thereby expanding the library's purpose to include providing genealogical services to non-members. Early in 1910 the offices and the Library moved to Memorial Continental Hall, the National Society's new building. The Library moved again to space in Constitutional Hall in 1929, but returned to the converted auditorium of Memorial Constitution Hall in 1949 where it is today.¹

As the largest lineage society in the United States, genealogical research and preservation of genealogical records play an important part in the Library's collection. The basic collection policy remains the same today as it

did when the Library opened in 1896.

... the field covered by the collection is that part of America represented by local history (state, county, town, and church), genealogies, biographies and vital records. Histories of all kinds relating to the American Revolution, including military and civil records are desired, everything in fact that will assist in throwing light upon the men of the Revolutionary period, including their family lines as well as their service, and connect them with their descendants of the present day.²

Revolutionary War Collection

Although the Library's collection covers four centuries of American history, it is known and respected by scholars, researchers, and family historians for the depth and breadth of its Revolutionary War collection. Since its founding the DAR has collected and published information about the American Revolution. Drawing upon its unique collection of Revolutionary War materials, the DAR has published *Forgotten Patriots, African American and American Indian Patriots of the Revolution War: A Guide to Service, Sources and Studies*.³ This work identifies over 6,600 names of African Americans and American Indians who contributed to American Independence. In the spring of 2011, DAR published another one-of-a-kind book, *America's Women in the Revolutionary Era 1760-1790: A History Through Bibliography*.⁴ This three-volume set is the product of almost two decades of work by DAR Library researchers attempting to locate every relevant published resource about women and girls in the Revolutionary era, including books, articles, dissertations and online documents and is designed to lead researchers to material already published. It also allows historians to identify those aspects of the Revolutionary War era that have been lightly treated or not treated at all. Both these encyclopedic and unique books were made possible by the DAR Library's tremendous collection of Revolutionary War material.

During economically lean years most libraries cut—often drastically—book and periodical budgets. These budgets rarely return to what they were previously.

Thus collections become stagnant, new works aren't purchased, and lost books aren't replaced. But the DAR Library's unique acquisition system allows for a steady infusion of new material. Although the book budget has been reduced in lean times, generous DAR members and chapters continue donate books to the Library or purchase books and subscriptions posted on the Library's Wish List. Last year Daughters donated about 2,100 books or periodical subscriptions in addition to the 1,600 books purchased. That unwavering dedication has allowed the DAR Library to keep apace of the flood of new books in our areas of specialization; Daughters around the country serve as scouts for new materials, which will enrich the holdings of the DAR Library.

Family Histories Collection

Since the first books went on the shelves, DAR members have been donating family histories. There are now thousands on the shelves with new ones coming in all the time. Granted, some of earlier ones are of uneven quality, many with no citations, and range from two pages to two volumes, but overall, most are fairly well done. And, the two-page, un-sourced genealogy is priceless if it provides the necessary clues to break through a brick wall. Recent contributions tend to be more professional as more and more genealogists and family historians realize the importance of citing sources, using good sources, and presenting quality work. It is important to note that many of these genealogies were printed in small quantities and a number of the family genealogies found on the shelves of the DAR Library are one of a kind and cannot be found anywhere else, even at the Library of Congress.

Genealogical Records Committee Collection

The DAR Library is home to another unique collection; one which is well known to professional genealogists, family historians, and to DAR members, but perhaps not as well known to the general public. In 1913 the Genealogical Records Committee was established, its purpose to collect, preserve, and increase the holdings of unpublished source materials in the DAR Library. For about ninety-eight years Daughters from all over the country transcribed unpublished genealogical material found in courthouses, cemeteries, town halls, and in family attics. They submitted the typed material to their state chairman, who sent it on to National headquarters where it was bound and placed on the library shelves. The complete set of almost 20,000 volumes of the Genealogical Records Committee, or GRC reports, can be found only at the DAR Library.

The information in these typescript volumes was transcribed from church, county, town, cemetery, and family records; however, Bible records and

cemetery record transcriptions dominate the collection. Thousands of transcriptions of gravestone inscriptions in cemeteries, especially small family cemeteries, abandoned cemeteries and long-forgotten cemeteries in fields and on private property can be found in these GRC volumes. Some years ago I was browsing through a Vermont GRC volume and accidentally came upon the transcribed gravestone inscription for my fifth great grandfather and Revolutionary War soldier Andrew Parsons. It was accidental because I had no idea he was buried in this tiny Vermont town cemetery. This cemetery, where Andrew, two of his three wives, some children, and grandchildren lie, was transcribed in 1955 by a Vermont chapter. Along with the transcription, the Vermont Daughters thoughtfully included the two names commonly applied to the cemetery and directions on how to get there from the town center. My husband and I were researching in northern Massachusetts and decided to cross into Vermont and seek out this cemetery. This was in the days before GPS and Map Quest. As it turned out the directions in the GRC volume proved invaluable as no one we approached in the small town had the slightest idea that the cemetery even existed, let alone where it was. We located the road, really an almost entirely obscured lane, mentioned in the report, drove up the steep hill, and there at the top surrounded on three sides by a cow pasture inhabited by some peaceful looking cows and a rather menacing appearing bull, was the cemetery. The cemetery was separated from the field and the animals by not too solid fence. My husband kept an eye on the bull while I photographed and transcribed the gravestones.

On this same trip we continued north to Bandon, Vermont. Although I had found transcriptions of Brandon cemetery gravestones in another Vermont GRC volume and had copied them, I still wanted to see the actual stones. This cemetery was easy to find, but we discovered it to be the poorest maintained burial ground we have visited in New England. When we came around the corner of the church, the first thing that grabbed our attention was the line of broken gravestones leaning up against the cemetery fence. That did not bode well. As we walked the cemetery we discovered many more gravestones were face down, and a number of the stones still standing were almost illegible. I am grateful to the Vermont Daughters for transcribing this cemetery, and am grateful to all Daughters who have spent countless hours in cemeteries copying gravestone inscriptions and thousands of other records. These invaluable GRC volumes form a very important and unique part of the DAR Library. No other library has this collection.

Until recently the downside to this marvelous

collection was the lack of a comprehensive index. One would have to search in the index for each volume as I had done. But this has changed. The Genealogical Records Committee is working to make these records available worldwide through an online, every-name index. Over two thirds of the Genealogical Records Committee volumes have been indexed, and all of the volumes have been digitized.

You may access the GRC Index from your home computer. http://www.dar.org/library/online_research.cfm. Scroll down to GRC TAB and click. However, at the present time there are only two ways to see the actual images. You can visit the DAR Library and view the images in Seimes Technology Center, or you can order copies of pages in Genealogical Records Committee reports through the DAR Library's Search Service. Information about the DAR Search Service can be found at <http://www.dar.org/library/search.cfm> and at the end of this article.

DAR Genealogical Research System (GRS)

The DAR Genealogical Research System (GRS), located on the public site for the DAR Library at http://www.dar.org/library/online_research.cfm is a combination of several databases created in recent years to organize the large quantity of information that the DAR has collected since its founding in 1890. Any woman over eighteen who can trace and document her lineage to a man or woman who supported the American Revolutionary War effort either as a soldier, sailor, or patriot is eligible for DAR membership. Once her application or supplemental was approved, an index card was created listing the patriot and the DAR member's national number. These index cards formed the contents of the *DAR Patriot Index* published at various times by the National Society. Many researchers are familiar with the *DAR Patriot Index*, last published as a three-volume set in May 2003. Unfortunately these *Patriot Indexes* went out of date the moment they were printed as new ancestors were added daily to the card index maintained at the national headquarters. The 'Ancestor Search,' function on the DAR web site incorporated these Patriot Index cards and related material into one online database and is available for the public to use. It is updated regularly to include new patriots.

The 'Ancestor Search,' function allows a researcher to enter at least a first or last name of a Revolutionary War patriot—male or female. For example, the surname Holton brings up thirteen men, arranged alphabetically by first name, who served in some capacity in the Revolutionary War. There are other Holton men who served in the Revolutionary War. Nathan Holton of

Northfield, Massachusetts, was one. But as no woman has applied for DAR membership with Nathan Holton as her patriot, he will not be in the 'Ancestor Search' database. In addition to the man's name, his state of service, rank, date and place of birth, date and place of death, and either service description or pension number are also given. Service includes military, civil, or patriotic. Clicking on Ancestor Record provides name of spouse(s) and a list of applications and supplementals associated with each patriot.⁵

The 'Member Search' database on the public site is restricted to deceased members. As an example, both Lillian S. Leech and I submitted a supplemental for the same ancestor, Seth Hodges, through his child Samuel who married Rebecca Smith. Lillian is deceased, so her name appears, mine does not. Although sensitive to the need to share genealogical data, the DAR must also maintain the privacy of its members.

The 'Descendants Database Search,' which includes more than seven million names, is the result of hundreds of DAR members volunteering thousands of hours to index all names in every lineage on every DAR membership application or supplemental. Before long over 900,000 women will have joined the DAR since 1890, giving you an idea of the enormous task resulting in an extremely useful database. This project is completed and the results are available on the 'Descendants Database Search.' Volunteers are now working on the Supporting Documentation Project which involves categorizing over six million documents used by members to support the lineage submitted on their DAR applications and supplementals.

By using the 'Descendants Database Search,' a researcher can determine which is the best Record Copy (name for a copy of an application or supplemental) to order. Once the researcher finds an application or supplemental of interest, he or she can purchase it online to view. By using your credit card and purchasing online, you immediately receive a digitized copy of the application or supplemental on your computer. Mail purchases are still accepted by DAR, but the cost is \$15.00 instead of \$10.00, and there is a four or five week wait for it to arrive in your mailbox. The online purchasing of Record Copies has been in effect for a year and has proved to be extremely successful and popular with researchers. Researchers should be aware that the Record Copy consists only of the application and does not include copies of any supporting documentation that originally accompanied the application. For obtaining copies of the supporting documentation, contact the DAR Library Search Service mentioned at the end of this

article.

DAR Lineage Books

Many genealogical libraries, public libraries, and online free and fee-based sites carry some or all of the 166 volumes of the *DAR Lineage Books*. These books contain the lineage of members accepted into DAR until about 1920—the DAR ceased publishing the *Lineage Books* in 1921. You must keep in mind that the early applications often contained very little documentation or none at all. These books are useful for clues; however, DAR no longer accepts information in the *Lineage Books* as proof of a birth, death, marriage, or service.

DAR Library

Of course, the most satisfying way to use the outstanding collections of the DAR Library is a visit to the facility in Washington, D.C. I highly recommend the marvelous experience of researching in the DAR Library with its beautiful interior and experienced and helpful staff. The DAR Library has a searchable online Library Catalog for public use along with instructions and search strategies. Using this tool prior to a visit to the DAR Library would help save precious research time once there. However, if a trip to the DAR Library is not possible, the databases described above will be helpful research tools no matter what your research skill level. Please remember that the Library offers a service to handle requests. For a fee of \$40.00 an hour (\$30.00 for members), the Search Service conducts hourly-based research of various sources within the library. The Library's Photocopy Service handles written requests for specific copies from cited works available in the DAR Library.

Joan MacInnes Hunter, Librarian General 2010–2013, past Vice President General, 2006–2009, and Honorary State Regent of Oregon (2004–2006). Joan is a board Certified Genealogist and has published regularly in these academic genealogical journals: NEHGS Register, Vermont Genealogy, The American Genealogist, New Hampshire Genealogical Record, and The Genealogist. She is the author of Descendants to the Tenth Generation of Jediah Barton (1707–after 1797) of Oxford and Ward, Worcester County, Massachusetts (Salem, Mass.: Higginson Book Co., 2004). She is a member of various genealogy societies and professional genealogists groups including the Association of Professional Genealogists. She is a lecturer and author specializing in New England records. She can be reached at 1069 Piper Sonoma St., Eugene, Oregon 97404 or JoanAHunt@aol.com.

(Endnotes)

1 Eric G. Grundset and Steven B. Rhodes, *American Genealogical Research at the DAR Washington, D.C.*, 2nd ed. (Washington, D.C.: National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, 2004), p. 21–22.

2 Ibid. p. 22.

3 *Forgotten Patriots: African American and American Indian Patriots in the Revolutionary War: a Guide to Service, Sources, and Studies*, Eric Grundset, Briana L. Diaz, Hollis L. Gentry, and Jean D. Strahan, editors (Washington, D. C.: National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, 2008). A second edition of this book was printed and is now out of print.

4 *America's Women in the Revolutionary Era 1760-1790: A History Through Bibliography*, Eric Grundset, Briana L. Diaz, and Hollis L. Gentry, editors, three volumes (Washington, D. C.: National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, 2011).

5 Once an application for membership is approved, the member may submit supplementals for other patriot ancestors in her lineage. These must be submitted with the same care and accuracy as the original application. For example, this author has nineteen supplementals in addition to her original application.

Revolutionary War Pensions

Duane Funk

Military pensions can be fertile ground for genealogists. Pensions had to be applied for and that meant paperwork. An applicant was required to prove his identity and state his service. Widows had to provide proof of marriage. Supporting statements were submitted by friends and relatives. Along with these original documents you will sometimes find correspondence from earlier researchers in the files. This paper trail is just waiting to be exploited by genealogists.

The American Revolution, like every war since, gave rise to pensions for those who served. Congress established various pension provisions over a period of time. The first pension plan came during the war with an act of Aug. 26, 1776, amended June 7, 1785, establishing Invalid pensions for the wounded and disabled.

An act of May 15, 1778 (amended 1780 and 1783), provided half pay for officers when they left active duty. Another act of May 15, 1828, allowed full pay for former officers.

Enlisted pensions were first established by an act of March 18, 1818 and amended in 1832.

Widows and orphans were provided for by an act of Aug. 24, 1780 for officers' dependents and, in 1836, for enlisted survivors.

The dates enacting the various pensions are important as they determine when a pension application would have been made. There would be no point looking for an enlisted widow's pension file before 1836 for example.

While the prime candidates for Revolutionary War pensions would be men between 18 and 35 at the time of the war (1775 to 1783), who lived until eligible for a pension, be aware that the nominal age of service is flexible; boys as young as ten and some old men also served. One of my ancestors signed on for three years service at the age of 62. Also, bear in mind that not everyone served, and some served the British.

Both the Continental Congress and the states of Connecticut, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Virginia made land grants to veterans. The files on state grants are held by the states. Many of the federal bounty land application files relating to Revolutionary War service were combined with the pension files, and contain similar information.

There are several published works on Revolutionary

Pensions available. The Forum has Virgil White's *Index to Old Wars Pension Files 1815 - 1926* and *Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files*. Both have the call number 973 A000 Military. We also have a microfilm copy of *Revolutionary War pension and bounty-land warrant application files, 1800-1900*.

Pension records can be ordered from the National Archives using form NATF 85, available online at the NARA Website. The costs is \$25.00 for a Pension Documents Packet that consists of eight documents of genealogical interest, as determined by NARA. For the full pension file the fee is \$50.00. For a Federal Bounty-land warrant application file the cost is \$25.00.

Pension files are also available from several Online Sources. Heritage Quest, a free service available through Multnomah County library, and the Clackamas Library system, have Selected Records from Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files. Note the term "Selected Records"; they do not have complete files.

Ancestry.com, a subscription service, has American Revolutionary War Rejected Pensions, Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants, U.S. House of Representative Private Claims, Vol. 1, Revolutionary War Pension Index, and the Pension Roll of 1835.

Fold3, formerly Footnote.com, another subscription service, has the full Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files.

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An Overview of Records at the National Archives Relating to Military Service By Trevor K. Plante

NARA form NARF 85 <http://www.archives.gov/forms/pdf/natf-85.pdf>

State Bounty Land

Judi Scott

In addition to bounty land awarded for service in the Continental Army, nine states awarded land for various types of state service. Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia allotted land for state military service. Connecticut awarded land for homes and businesses destroyed by the British and Georgia awarded land to those citizens who remained loyal to the new government when the British resumed control of the area. Information about these bounty lands grants can be obtained from the individual states, not the National Archives.

The subject of bounty land has a complex history. Who was entitled to land, what types of service was allowed, where the land was located and the process to obtain the lands varies for each state. Laws were passed during the war and changes were made and new laws added well into the 19th century. Except for Massachusetts, state governments allowed veterans to get both federal and state bounty land

There was no bounty land for Delaware, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont; these states had no available land. The land set aside for bounty land was in the western reserves of most states.

Land was awarded in the future states of Indiana, Maine, Kentucky, Tennessee and Ohio. Georgia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and New York awarded land within their own state borders, (for Georgia and New York- within their borders of 1783) but North Carolina and Virginia had no bounty land within their present day borders.

Fraud in the bounty lands system was widespread, especially in North Carolina. The Glasgow Land Fraud Case involved government officials including the Secretary of State and led to the establishment of the North Carolina Supreme Court.

State Bounty Land Information:

Connecticut: 500,000 acres were set aside in the Western Reserve, the "Firelands" of Ohio near Lake Erie.

Georgia: Issued land to non-military persons, and their heirs. Acreage was awarded by class and rank and was tax exempt for ten years-many persons qualified for more than one class.

Maine: Before Statehood in 1820, Maine was a district of Massachusetts. It was the only state which wasn't a state during the war that awarded bounty land. Maine also awarded land to any veteran who served on the Continental Line.

Maryland: The state government designated all lands west of Fort Cumberland as bounty land. Due to the limited amount of land available, officers were awarded 200 acres and privates 50 acres.

Massachusetts: In 1801 Massachusetts granted 200 acres of land to non-commissioned officers, soldiers and widows and children of those who died in service. Three years service was required. The designated land was in the District of Maine.

North Carolina: Two years of service in the North Carolina Line (only) was required and the amount of land was based on rank. The bounty land reserve was in Middle Tennessee. Land warrants were issued from 1783-1841 and Tennessee had to honor the North Carolina warrants even after it became a state. The warrants were issued by North Carolina, but the patents were granted by Tennessee.

Pennsylvania: A 1780 law was passed to award land, called donation land, to those who served in the Pennsylvania Line until the end of the war. The land was in the area between the Allegheny River and the Ohio border and was allocated by rank.

South Carolina: A 1778 law provided for 200 acres for all soldiers (or heirs of soldiers who died in service) who completed their term in the South Carolina Line. A 1784 law added provisions for officers and soldiers of the South Carolina Continental Line, officers of the state navy and officers of three independent companies under command of Bowie & Moore.

Virginia: Land was available to soldiers and sailors (or heirs) of the Continental Line and/or State Line. Soldiers serving under George Rogers Clark were awarded land in Indiana. Members of the militia received no land. There was no bounty land awarded within the current boundaries of Virginia and West Virginia. Land for Virginia bounty land was in Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana. An 1852 law allowed for bounty warrants to be exchanged for scrip which could be used to purchase available public lands. Information on Virginia bounty land can be found at the Library of Virginia website (www.lva.virginia.gov). Information and digital copies of land records awarded in Kentucky are on the website of the Kentucky Land Office (<http://sos.ky.gov/land/>). Records for lands awarded in Ohio can be found at the Ohio Historical Society.

An excellent resources, with an index of names, dates and acreage, can be found at the GFO: Bockstruck, Lloyd DeWitt. *Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants Awarded by State Governments*. Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1996.

Encounter at Point Pleasant - The First Revolutionary War Battle?

Carol Ralston Surrency

“As Israel mourned and her daughters did weep for Saul and his hosts on the mount of Gilbo, Virginia will mourn for her heroes who sleep in tombs on the bank of the O-hi-O.” Unknown¹

In the Chicago Times of August 30, 1886, an article appeared under the headline “Exhuming the Skeletons, the spot near Point Pleasant, W. Va., Where Bodies of Soldiers in the French-Indian War were Buried Dug Up by Relic-Hunters”. The article continues, “The ‘Old Point lot’ has been for the past two days quite an interesting spot. It was there that Lewis’ army was encamped at the time of the desperate battle of Oct. 10, 1774. Here the dead who fell on that autumn day were buried, and here for many years stood the walls of old Fort Randolph. Yesterday and to-day a wide excavation was made on the lot, and entire skeletons were unearthed. Many are being carried away by relic-hunters and others are being boxed by the proprietor.”

What happened at this spot and how does it relate to the Revolutionary War?

Treaties and Early Settlement along the Ohio

John P. Hale, who wrote *Trans-Allegheny Pioneers*, first published in 1886, described the battle of Point Pleasant this way, “it was the most evenly balanced, longest continued and desperately contested battle that had occurred in our Western county...it was a pivotal turning point...It is, indeed, generally considered ... the initiatory battle of the Revolution...demoralizing the Indian tribes, checking their aggressions on the Western frontiers, and their co-operation with the English”²

From the 1740’s on, the French occupied not only Canada and Louisiana; they were claiming the Mississippi and the Ohio River valleys, as well. At the same time, Virginia claimed boundaries stretching from ocean to ocean. In an effort to make their claim more official, the French sent a company of engineers down the Ohio in 1749, with engraved lead plates, which they planted at the mouths of the major tributaries, thereby claiming for France all lands drained by these rivers³ Meanwhile, in Virginia, two land companies were organized; the Ohio Company had a grant of five hundred thousand acres of land along the Ohio, and the Loyal Land Company, with eight hundred thousand acres, could lay claim to all property lying north of North Carolina and west of the New River. In an attempt to secure the frontier for themselves, the French began to build a chain of forts from the lakes

to the gulf. These were to act as trading posts to secure the good will of Indian tribes along the way. The English land companies responded by attempting to build forts of their own, only to be challenged by the French. These conflicts escalated into the seven year war we now know as the French and Indian War that ended with the treaty of Paris in 1763. At that time, King George made a proclamation limiting western settlement to lands east of the Appalachians.

This had very little effect on the surging numbers of land speculators and long rife hunters pouring into Ohio and Kentucky. Daniel Boone was one of those who spent months at a time roaming the frontier to obtain buffalo and deer hides. In 1768, a treaty negotiated at Fort Stanwix extended the settlement boundaries north and west of the Ohio River and allowed for development along its banks. George Washington, Patrick Henry and Jefferson were some of those who sought to enhance their wealth by increasing their land holdings in the west during this period. George Washington owned tracts containing about 30,000 acres along the Kanawha and Ohio rivers and had previously been a member of a land company that had “modestly asked George III for a grant of two and a half million acres in the west”.⁴ Attempting to sell or lease his Ohio River property in 1773, Washington said in his advertisement:

And it may not be amiss, further to observe, that if the scheme for establishing a new government on the Ohio, in the manner talked of, should ever be effected, these must be among the most valuable lands in it, not only on account of the goodness of the soil and other advantages above mentioned, but from their contiguity to the seat of government which, it is more than probable, will be fixed at the mouth of the great Kanawha⁵

Conflict between Settlers and Indians

The 1768 treaty had a major flaw; the six tribes who signed it were Iroquois with no rights to the lands of the Ohio country and Kentucky. Shawnee, Mingo, and other tribes had towns north of the Ohio, while Kentucky, lush with game, was the main hunting ground for both the northern tribes and the Cherokees to the south. As more and more white settlers moved west, hostile clashes became frequent. A Shawnee man told the British agent at Fort Pitt (Pittsburg) that the Indians “are disappointed in their hunting, and find the woods covered with White People, and their horses, where they used to find their

Game, they are foolish enough to make reprisals.” Virginia surveyor, John Floyd, also had qualms about the number of land claimants: “when I consider that the settlement of that land will ruin the hunting ground of the Tawas, Kickapoos and some other nations, I a little dread the consequences.” Shawnee diplomats blamed the conflict on hot-heads from both sides: “Your young men coming so near to us and destroying our Deer and other Game may have occasioned some of our foolish people to have stole your horses and other Effects[,] which far from being unresented by you[,] your young men have for doing it killed our people”⁶

From 1769 to the 1790s, the frontier suffered from an on-going border war between Indians and whites. “Raids, assaults and reprisals [were] pursued by both parties to the death. Scores of Shawnee raids into the Valley of Virginia created widespread panic, initiating vociferous demands for retaliation among the immigrants.”⁷ The famous chief, Cornstalk, attacked a settlement in Rockbridge County where dozens of settlers were killed and many others taken captive. On another occasion, near Harrisonburg Virginia, John Rhodes, a minister, and his ten children were killed. Atrocities were committed by whites in return. In May of 1774, drunken border men lured the family of Logan, a respected Mingo chief, across the river by offering them rum, shot them, scalped them and cut up their bodies.⁸ Logan retaliated in kind, killing and scalping settler families throughout the area. John Filson, whose 1784 book on the early history of Kentucky, gives an account obtained from Daniel Boone that illustrates the dangers of the frontier. In 1775, Daniel was asked to mark out a road through the wilderness that would enter Kentucky from the south. Daniel writes, “I began this work, having collected a number of enterprising men, well armed. We proceeded with all possible expedition until we came within fifteen miles of where Boonsborough now stands, and where we were fired upon by a party of Indians that killed two, and wounded two of our number; yet although surprised and taken at a disadvantage, we stood our ground. This was on the 20th of March, 1775. Three days after, we were fired upon again, and had two men killed, and three wounded.” He goes on to describe building the fort at Boonsborough, recounts other men being killed and one instance where his daughter and another girl were taken prisoner near the fort. He, together with others, pursued the Indians and rescued the girls.⁹

Lord Dunmore and the surveyors

John Murray, the 4th Earl of Dunmore, was born in Scotland in 1730. Joining the British army in 1756, he made his way to the colonies and was named Brit-

ish governor of the Province of New York from 1770-1771. When Lord Botetourt, Virginia’s governor died, Dunmore was named to replace him and served as royal governor of the colony of Virginia from 1771-1774. Like many in the new world, Dunmore sought to increase his wealth and status through adventures in America. Since a primary way to accomplish that was to obtain land, Dunmore, as well as many in the colonies, ex-soldiers, squatters, hunters and farmers, were looking west at traditional Indian homelands with their bounty of game and deep topsoil.

Captain Thomas Bullitt, a distinguished French and Indian War veteran, had trained at William and Mary as a surveyor. As soon as Lord Dunmore arrived, Bullitt sought to ingratiate himself with the new royal governor and was rewarded by being appointed Virginia’s chief surveyor. He may have influenced Dunmore to think about granting land in Kentucky for service in the French and Indian War. Not only was good land in Virginia becoming scarce, but Dunmore knew that groups in Pennsylvania and North Carolina, as well as land speculators in New York were looking greedily at Kentucky.

Dunmore gave Bullitt responsibility for advancing Virginia’s claim on Kentucky and news of Bullitt’s planned survey trip west was published in the Virginia Gazette in the fall of 1772, sparking a great deal of excitement. According to Robert B. McAfee, his father and Uncles, living in Botetourt County, had heard “long hunter stories” from Daniel Boone and others about the “rich and delightful country to the west”. They had often talked about their future prospects, and longed to see for themselves, as “they could not think of being confined to the sterile mountains of Virginia where only small parcels of fertile land could be found at any one place”¹⁰

In May, 1773, Bullitt and a group of surveyors set out. At the mouth of the Kanawha, they met up with the McAfee brothers, James, Robert Sr., and George, together with James McCoun Jr. and Samuel Adams. For the next few months the two groups worked independently, meeting occasionally, to locate and mark off prime land in the Bluegrass Country and along the Ohio River.

Upon returning to Virginia in October, Bullitt faced problems. Col. Preston, Fincastle’s official surveyor (parts of Western Virginia and Kentucky were called Fincastle until after the Revolutionary War) refused to enter Bullitt’s claims because he had not employed Fincastle deputy surveyors, as required by Virginia law and he had staked claims in Shawnee land in violation of the treaty with the crown. Sir William Johnson, the crown’s Indian agent, sent a letter to Lord Dartmouth, George III’s colonial secretary, saying that many people from Virginia had

gone down the Ohio beyond the limits of the government to survey and claim land. England was not pleased.¹¹ And neither was Dunmore, who saw the opportunity to enhance his pocketbook and his status crumbling. He denied having any knowledge of the land grab, blaming the stubborn, rebellious Americans who, he said, “did not conceive that Government has any right to forbid their taking possession of a Vast tract of Country”.¹² After the battle of Point Pleasant, when he was, again, in trouble with Lord Dartmouth, he said in reference to the Scotch-Irish and German backcountry settlers, “They acquire no attachment to Place: but wandering about Seems engrafted in their nature; and it is a weakness incident to it, that they Should imagine the Lands further off, are Still better than those upon which they are already settled”.¹³

The Battle at Point Pleasant

Trouble was brewing in a number of the colonies as a result of taxes levied to pay for the French and Indian Wars and a standing army to provide protection from the Indians. Rumors swirled throughout the country side suggesting that the English were inciting the Indians to harass the border areas so that the colonial militias would be too busy to become involved with the unrest affecting areas farther east.

It was at this time that Dunmore planned a campaign to break the power of the tribes along the Ohio. He justified his plans to colonial officials by suggesting that settlers would be less likely to rebel against the crown if they could continue with land acquisitions.

To accomplish his goals, Dunmore created a two-pronged approach using almost twenty-five hundred Virginia militiamen. Colonel Andrew Lewis, of Roanoke, was to raise one thousand men from Augusta, Botetourt, and Fincastle counties and advance overland, through some of the most rugged country on the frontier, to meet a second column of fifteen hundred led by Dunmore, at the junction of the Kanawha and Ohio Rivers. Dunmore’s army would advance down the Ohio from Fort Pitt and after joining forces, they would cross the river and attack Indian villages to the north, overwhelming them.¹⁴

Colonel Lewis planned for all companies under him to rendezvous September 1 on the Greenbrier River at a location he called Camp Union (now Lewisburg, West Virginia). They assembled a herd of five hundred pack-horses carrying fifty-four thousand pounds of flour and a small herd of cattle for food. Lewis’s orders were for the main body of the troops and the horses and cattle to move in the middle of the column, while an advance guard and a rear guard provided security. With the exception of senior officers, Lewis’s militia, composed mainly of landholding farmers from the back country of

the Shenandoah Valley, were dressed in long hunting shirts and leather or woolen leggings. Many of them wore moccasins and headgear was made of animal skins or knitted from wool. Firearms were flintlocks, primarily long rifles. From belts hung leather shot bags, carved powder horns, tomahawks and scalping knives.

The Augusta Regiment, under Col. Charles Lewis, Andrew’s brother, left Camp Union on September 6. Led by tracker Captain Matthew Arbuckle, they hacked a path through the forest to the Kanawha River (near Charleston, West Virginia) where they began making canoes to transport supplies down the river to Point Pleasant on the Ohio. On September 12, Col. Andrew Lewis, left Camp Union with the second group, the Botetourt troops led by Colonel Fleming, and a combined unit under Colonel Field. Most of the Fincastle Regiment, under Col. Christian, stayed behind at Camp Union waiting the return of the packhorses for transportation of the remainder of the supplies. By September 23, the second group met Charles Lewis and his militiamen and completed the bark canoes. A muster was held on September 30, with much shouting (the forerunner of the rebel yell, some think) and the firing of nearly a thousand rifles. After this, they began the trip down the river bank while the supply laden canoes kept pace in the river. They sighted the Ohio on October 6, and marched out into a park-like area providing a view up both rivers. Their 160 mile trek through rugged mountains and across steep gorges was complete. Dunmore’s division, which should have arrived first, was not there.

For the next three days, the men were kept busy unloading supplies, building crude shelters and constructing a pen to contain the cattle at night.

October 10 dawned sunny and clear, one of those fall days that guarantees ground fog rising in the early mornings and late evenings. Men had been complaining of eating what they considered “stringy” beef and some, perhaps as many as one hundred, sneaked out of camp to hunt early in the morning. This was fortunate for Col. Lewis and the troops, as unknown to them, Cornstalk and eight to eleven hundred warriors had crossed the Ohio and approached the camp preparing for a dawn attack. Two of the hunters walked out of a pocket of fog and saw Indians covered in war paint. One, Joseph Hughey was shot and killed instantly, but James Mooney ran back to camp yelling a warning. Soldiers sprang up, checked their flints and fell into company formations. Thinking the enemy to be a scouting party, Lewis sent two detachments of

150 men forward under his brother, Charles Lewis and Col. Fleming. About a half mile out, they were hit with a barrage of gunfire. Col. Charles Lewis took a musket ball in the abdomen and Col. Fleming was wounded in the breast and twice in the left wrist. Calmly, he walked to the rear. Col. Field, rushing forward with reinforcements to stabilize the line, was struck in the head and killed. Capt. Evan Shelby took command, creating a line that stretched from the Ohio to the Kanawha. Although difficult for quick maneuvering, this line was unflankable, preventing the Indians to mount a rear attack, a favorite tactic of the Shawnee. Soldiers found cover behind rocks, trees or stumps and in the fog and gun smoke, the warriors moved closer. Although inaccurate, the Indians' French-made flintlocks loaded with buckshot and a musket ball were good for close contact. Kentucky long rifles, on the other hand, excelled in distance firing. As the battle went on, rifles and muskets, together with tomahawks and knives, began to be used as clubs. Cornstalk could be heard shouting, "Be strong, be strong," as he raced through the battlefield striking both Virginians and, Indians that he considered to be lagging behind, with his tomahawk. The struggle continued back and forth for hours until, about 1 p.m., the colonial forces gained a small ridge that gave them good cover. The Indians then retreated and, as the fog burned away, the soldiers' long rifles fire became more effective. Gradually, the afternoon fighting slowed until it became intermittent sniping. In the late afternoon, Lewis decided to make a move. He ordered Captains Shelby, Arbuckle, Matthews, and Stuart to take their companies and find a way to flank the enemy. The officers and their men waded along the Kanawha, turning up Crooked Creek and emerging from the stream on a ridge to the enemy's rear where they opened fire on the shocked Indians. Cornstalk knew from his scouts that Col. Christian was on his way toward Point Pleasant with part of the Fincastle regiment. He assumed that they had arrived and he began to withdraw his warriors, pausing only to remove his wounded and some of the dead. The battle had lasted from sunrise to sunset. Some sources say Christian made it to the Point by late afternoon and others, midnight.

No one knows how many Indians were killed and wounded; many of the dead were committed to the river and thirty-three were recovered by the colonists. The militia totals were seventy-five killed and one hundred forty wounded. Some had been shot numerous times and with the surgeon, Col. Fleming injured, there was little medical care, leading to great suffering. Col. Fleming survived his three gunshot wounds, but was disabled for life. Charles Lewis died.

After three days to bury the dead and create breastworks for protection, Col. Andrew Lewis Crossed the Ohio and advanced toward Shawnee towns where he was greeted by a messenger from Dunmore telling him to go no further as Dunmore was negotiating a treaty with the Shawnee. Angry, Lewis continued on. He had lost a brother and many friends in the battle, but Dunmore contacted him again and ordered him to retreat to Point Pleasant. Returning, he concentrated on constructing Fort Blair at the point after which Lewis and his troops returned to Camp Union and were officially disbanded on November 4, 1774.

Dunmore claimed to have saved the frontier, giving little credit to Lewis and his men, but suspicion and rumors began flooding the backcountry. Why had he not arrived at Point Pleasant? Col. John Stuart, a member of the militia stated "Dunmore acted as a party to British politicians who wished to incite an Indian War which might prevent or distract the Virginia colony from the growing grievances with England"¹⁵ People, including Andrew Lewis, came to believe that Dunmore never intended to join Lewis and his army, schemed with or tried to manipulate the Indians into destroying them so that England would benefit from the weakened militia. However, this solely American Military event executed by frontier militia provided valuable experience and training for the coming Revolution leading a number of these men to participate at King's Mountain and other Revolutionary War battles.

Dunmore's War did slow down Indian attacks for several years providing an opportunity for the Virginia militia members to become involved in military and political life. Seven became general's in Revolutionary Armies; five became governors of western states and territories.

Dunmore was forced out of Virginia during the Revolution and Dunmore County in Virginia changed its name to Shenandoah.

Was Point Pleasant a Revolutionary War Battle? West Virginia has been debating this for over a hundred years. Plans to commemorate the battle began as early as 1848 and, in 1899, DAR member Livia Poffenbarger began a crusade to have the battle designated "the first battle of the American Revolution". Her argument, was based, in part, on the old rumors and conspiracy theories about Dunmore's motives. Poffenbarger's efforts resulted in an act of Congress, in 1908, entitled "A Bill to aid in the erection of a monument or memorial at Point Pleasant to commemorate the Battle of the Revolution fought at that point between the Colonial troops and Indians, seventeen hundred and seventy-four." Historian

Virgil A. Lewis was incensed at Poffenbager's "perversion of history" and wrote his own book, *History of the Battle of Point Pleasant* in 1909, describing the battle as "the connecting link between two of the greatest periods in all American history – closing as it does the one (colonial) and opening the other (revolutionary)." In 1972, the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission refused to recognize Point Pleasant in its commemoration of the Revolution. Today, Point Pleasant qualifies a descendant for membership in the SAR. The eighty-four foot granite obelisk, paid for, in part, by the congressional act of 1908, was dedicated in 1909 and stands in the park that became Point Pleasant Battle Monument State Park in 1956.¹⁶

(Endnotes)

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- 5 Ibid. 64
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Timeline of the Revolutionary War

- 1754-1763** The French and Indian War
1763 Oct. 7 Proclamation of 1763
1764 The Sugar Act .
1765 The Stamp Act
1766 The Declaratory Act The Townshend Revenue Act
1768 August 1 Boston Non-Importation Agreement
1770 March 5 The Boston Massacre
1773
 May 10 The Tea Act
 Dec. 16 The Boston Tea Party
1774:
 The "Intolerable Acts"
 The First Continental Congress meets
Oct. 10 Battle of Point Pleasant, Virginia
 Oct. 20 Trade with Great Britain prohibited
1775:
 Apr. 18 The Rides of Paul Revere and William Dawes
 Apr. 19 Minutemen and redcoats at Lexington and Concord
 May 10 Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys seize Fort Ticonderoga
 May 10 The Second Continental Congress meets
 June 15 George Washington named Commander in Chief
 June 17 Battle of Bunker Hill:
 July 3 Washington assumes command of Continental Army
1776:
 Jan. 15 Paine's "Common Sense" published
 March 17 The British evacuate Boston;
 June 12 The Virginia Declaration of Rights
 June 28 Sullivan's Island, SC, failed British naval attack
 June 29 The First Virginia Constitution
 June 28 Defeat of British Navy at Fort Moultrie, S.C.
 July 1 Cherokee attack along the entire southern frontier
 July 4 Congress adopts the Declaration of Independence;
 July 8 The Declaration of Independence is read publicly
 July 15 Lyndley's Fort, SC, Patriots fend off attack by Indians and Tories dressed as Indians
 Aug. 2 Delegates begin to sign The Declaration of Independence
 Aug 12 Col. Williamson and Andrew Pickens defeat Cherokee Indians and burn Tamassy, an Indian town
 Aug. 27 Battle of Long Island.
 Sept. 15 The British occupy New York City
 Sept. 16 Battle of Harlem Heights
 Nov. 16 The Hessians capture Fort Washington, NY
 Nov. 20 Lord Cornwallis captures Fort Lee from Nathanael Greene
 Dec. 26 Washington crosses the Delaware and captures Trenton
1777:
 Jan. 3 Washington victorious at Princeton
 Jan. 6-May 28 Washington winters in Morristown, NJ
 May 20 Treaty of DeWitt's Corner, SC: Cherokees lose most of their land east of the mountains
 (continued on page 33)

The Revolutionary War Patriots of the Amos Tidd Family

Susan LeBlanc, AG

The founding families of New England were unique in their perseverance and determination to start fresh in an untamed land. The family of Sargeant John and Margaret Tidd probably arrived in Massachusetts about 1637, possibly with his brother Joshua who is known to have had a ship, the *Swallow*. They were both at Charlestown by 1637 and John was in Woburn in 1640. John Dane Jr. mentions John in his journal, "A Mr. Tead or Tidd, who afterwards settled in Charlestown, Mass., was, about the year 1630, a tailor in business at Hertford, Hertfordshire, Eng. He was a young man then." And in his Narrative, he mentions, "I then Rout with M' Tead, that LIVES at Charlostoune. He was a young man then. He and I was goint to a dansing on nite, and it began to thunder, and I tould him I doubted we ware not in our waie; and he and I went back againe."¹

The ancestral lineage of Amos Tidd is as follows:

1. Sergeant John Tidd and Margaret, married in England He had a will. He died 24 Apr. 1657, Woburn. She died 16 Oct. 1651, Woburn.
2. John Tidd and Rebecca Wood, married 16 Apr. 1650, Woburn. He had a will. He died 13 Apr. 1703, Lexington. She died 10 June 1717, Lexington.
3. Daniel Tidd and Lydia Carter/Carley, married 21 Dec. 1694, Woburn. Probate record. He died 26 Sep. 1696, Lexington. She died 14 June 1727, Lexington.
4. Ensign Daniel Tidd and Hepzibah Reed, married 9 Apr. 1724, Lexington. He had a will. He died 16 Jan. 1776, Lexington. She died 11 Apr. 1777, Lexington.
5. Amos Tidd and Elizabeth Smith, married 17 May 1750, Lexington.

No death information has been found for them.²

Amos and Elizabeth Tidd were the parents of seven sons:
Amos Tidd born 27 Nov. 1751, baptized 11 December 1751, in Lexington.

John D. Tidd baptized 15 July 1753 in Lexington.
Nathan Tidd baptized 31 August 1755 in Lexington.
Oliver Tidd baptized 26 March 1758 in Lexington.
Daniel Tidd baptized 10 February 1760 in Lexington.
Abijah Tidd baptized 4 September 1763 in Lexington.
Thaddeus Tidd baptized 30 October 1768 in Lexington.³

In the 1771 Massachusetts Tax Valuation List⁴ appear the following:

304 Bedford

319 Nathan Tidd: Status 16, 1 Poll, 16 Ringe: Amos Tidd



Daniel Tidd Powder Horn

321 Lexington

506 Daniel & William Tidd: Status 35, 2 Polls, 1 house, property, 1 servant

508 Sam'l Tidd: Status 31, 1 Poll, 1 house, property

528 Joseph Tidd: Status 3, 1 Poll, 1 house, property

All of those recorded in the 1771 tax record are descendants of Sergeant John Tidd. This seems to indicate that Amos, the father or brother, was living in Ringe, New Hampshire, but was not a permanent resident. Nathan, his son or brother, was living in Bedford, Massachusetts, but not a permanent resident. Samuel and William, brothers of Amos the father, were living in Lexington.⁵ There were no listings for Holliston or Hopkinton.

The impact of the Revolutionary War on the Tidd family has been felt by succeeding generations for over 200 years. Those who fought to guarantee our freedoms from 1775 to 1783 are honored as courageous patriots. Yet many of those who fought were only mere boys, who their families sent off to war with little hope of ever seeing them again. The Tidd family was no different than others of that day who sent their sons to fight the British. What did make this family unique was that they had seven sons and no daughters, and they sent all but the youngest off to war. All of them were born in Lexington and their ancestors had lived there since 1650. It is the place where the shot was fired that was heard around the world and the Tidd family was there to witness those events. A John Tidd was listed among the injured that day in Lexington.

In the Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the

Revolutionary War Index there are thirty listings for men of the Tidd families who served, but some are for the same person.⁶ Of the seven sons of Amos Tidd six served in the war along with their father. They are listed as:

- Abijah, Holliston
- Amos, Holliston (Father)
- Amos, Westford (listed in town record, probably the son)
- Daniel, Holliston
- John, Cambridge and Westford
- Nathan, Lincoln (also given Holliston)
- Oliver, Holliston (also given Hopkinton)

From these records it appears that the parents moved to Holliston/Hopkinton between 1771 and 1776. Many families relocated to the area surrounding Holliston for the safety of their families at the outbreak of the war. Holliston and Hopkinton are neighboring towns and the family records show them living in both locations. Later property records indicate that they held land on the common border of the two towns.

The following are the individual service records of this family:

Amos, probably the father, born January 12, 1729 in Lexington, was a private in Capt. John Leland's company of Minute-men, Col. Abijah Pierce's regt., which marched at the alarm of April 19, 1775, to Cambridge. He was 46 years old. His place of residence was Holliston.

Tidd, Amos, Holliston.

Private, Capt. John Lealand's co. of Minute-men, Col. Abijah Pierce's regt., which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775, to Cambridge; service, 6 days; reported enlisted into the army April 25, 1775; also, Capt. Lealand's co., Col. Ephraim Doolittle's regt.; receipt for advance pay, signed by said Tidd and others, dated Cambridge, June 24, 1775; also, Private, Capt. Jacob Miller's co., Col. Doolittle's (24th) regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted April 24, 1775; service, 3 mos. 16 days; also, company return dated Camp at Winter Hill, Oct. 6, 1775; also, order for bounty coat dated Charlestown, Winter Hill Camp, Oct. 31, 1775.⁷

Amos, probably the oldest son, born November 27, 1751. His place of residence was Westford.⁸ Tidd, Amos, Westford. Private, Capt. Timothy Underwood's co. of Minute-men, Col. William Prescott's regt., which marched in response to the alarm of April 19, 1775; service, 9 days.

John, was born July 15, 1753, and he enlisted May 6, 1775. He is listed as being of Middlesex County. He was 21 years old. There are nine records for a John Tidd, all of which may be his. As noted from the pension file there was no clear understanding if they were all his service records, but they concluded by witness testimony

that he had indeed served. Localities considered include Cambridge, Holliston, Hopkinton and Westford.

Tidd, John, Cambridge

Corporal, Capt. Benjamin Lock's co., Lieut. Col. William Bond's (late Col. Thomas Gardner's) 37th regt.; company return dated Camp at Prospect Hill, Oct. 6, 1775; enlisted May 4, 1775; age, 22 yrs.; stature, 5 ft. 11 in.; also, company receipt for wages for Oct., 1775, dated Camp Prospect Hill; also, order for bounty coat dated Prospect Hill, Dec. 13, 1775.⁹

Nathan, born August 31, 1755, marched on the alarm as a private in Capt. William Smith's company of Minute-men, Col. Abijah Pierce's regt. on April, 19, 1775. He died in battle on October 28, 1778. He was 20 when he enlisted and died at age 23. His place of residence was listed as Lincoln and also Holliston.

Tidd, Nathan, Lincoln (also given Holliston).

Private, Capt. William Smith's co. of Minute-men, Col. Abijah Pierce's regt., which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775; service, 5 days; also, Capt. Smith's co., Col. John Nixon's regt.; receipt for advance pay, signed by said Tidd and others, dated Cambridge, Jan. 10, 1775; also, list of men probably returned as serving on main guard under Lieut. Col. L. Baldwin at Prospect Hill, dated July 3, 1775; also, Private, Capt. William Smith's co., Col. Nixon's (5th) regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted April 24, 1775; service, 3 mos. 15 days; also, company return dated Sept. 30, 1775; also, Capt. John Hartwell's co., Col. Eleazer Brooks's regt.; service, 5 days; mileage (40 miles) allowed from Lincoln to camp and return; company called out at the time of fortifying Dorchester Heights March 4, 1776; also, Gunner, Capt. James Swan's (1st) co., Col. Thomas Crafts's (Artillery) regt.; abstract for advance pay, etc., sworn to at Boston, June 8, 1776; also, Bombardier, same co. and regt.; service from Aug. 1, 1776, to Dec. 1, 1776, 4 mos.; rolls dated Boston; also, Capt. Philip Marett's [p.733] (1st) co., Col. Crafts's regt.; service from Dec. 1, 1776, to May 8, 1777, 5 mos. 7 days; roll sworn to at Boston; also, list of men mustered by Nathaniel Barber, Muster Master for Suffolk Co., dated Boston, May 25, 1777; Col. Crane's regt.; reported received State bounty; also, Corporal, Capt. Burbeck's co., Col. John Crane's (Artillery) regt.; Continental Army pay accounts for service from June 1, 1777, to Oct. 28, 1778; credited to town of Lincoln; reported died Oct. 28, 1778; also, Capt. David Briant's co., Col. Crane's regt.; pay rolls for Jan.-Sept., 1777; said Tidd allowed wages from May 21, 1777; also, Capt. Henry Burbeck's co., Col. Crane's regt.; muster rolls for Oct., Nov., and Dec., 1777; enlistment, during war.¹⁰

Oliver, born March 26, 1758, was a private in Capt.

John Stone's company of militia, which marched on the alarm April 19, 1775 to Roxbury. It was reported that he received a state bounty. He was 17 when he enlisted and his place of residence was listed as Hopkinton and also Holliston. These towns are next to each other and the family lived in both at different times.

Tidd, Oliver, Holliston. (also given Hopkinton).

Private, Capt. John Stone's (Holliston) co. of militia, which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775, to Roxbury; service, 10 days; also, Capt. Jacob Miller's co., Col. Ephraim Doolittle's (24th) regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted April 25, 1775; service, 3 mos. 16 days; also, company return dated Camp at Winter Hill, Oct. 6, 1775; also, order for bounty coat dated Charlestown, Winter Hill Camp, Oct. 31, 1775. Gunner, Capt. William Treadwell's co., Col. John Crane's (Artillery) regt.; Continental Army pay accounts for service from April 10, 1777, to Dec. 31, 1779; residence, Holliston; credited to town of Holliston; also, same co. and regt.; pay rolls for Sept.-Dec., 1777; enlistment, 3 years; reported on command with Colonel's baggage; also, same co. and regt.; Continental Army pay accounts for service from Jan. 1, 1780, to Dec. 31, 1780; said Tidd credited with 3 mos. wages as Gunner in Capt. Treadwell's co. and with 9 mos. wages as Matross in Capt. Cook's co.; also, descriptive list made up for the year 1780; Capt. David Cook's co., 3d Artillery regt.; rank, Gunner; age, 23 yrs.; stature, 5 ft. 7 in.; complexion, dark; residence, Hopkinton; engaged for town of Hopkinton; engaged March 2, 1780, by Col. Crane; term, during war. Capt. Callender's co., Col. Crane's regt.; Continental Army pay accounts for service from March 10, 1777, to Dec. 31, 1780; residence, Hopkinton; also, Capt. Lieut. John Callender's co., Col. John Crane's (Artillery) regt.; muster roll for April, 1779, dated Providence; enlisted Feb. 15, 1777; enlistment, 3 years. List of men mustered by Nathaniel Barber, Muster Master for Suffolk Co., dated Boston, May 25, 1777; Col. Crane's regt.; reported received State bounty.¹¹

Daniel, born February 10, 1760, enlisted May 25, 1777 and was mustered by Nathaniel Barber, Muster Master for Suffolk Co., on May 25, 1777. He served in Capt. William Treadwell's co., Col. John Crane's (Artillery) regt. and served as a Bombardier. It was reported that he received a state bounty. He was 17 when he officially is listed as enlisting, but if his brothers fought in 1775, it is possible he did also. His place of residence was listed as Holliston.

Tidd, Daniel, Holliston.

List of men mustered by Nathaniel Barber, Muster Master for Suffolk Co., dated Boston, May 25, 1777;

Col. Crane's regt.; reported received State bounty; also, Bombardier, Capt. William Treadwell's co., Col. John Crane's (Artillery) regt.; Continental Army pay accounts for service from April 10, 1777, to April 10, 1780; residence, Holliston; credited to town of Holliston; also, same co. and regt.; muster roll for Sept., 1777; enlistment, 3 years; reported sick at Bethlehem; also, Private, Capt. Ezra Emes's (8th) co., Col. Abner Perry's regt.; enlisted July 28, 1780; discharged Aug. 7, 1780; service, 14 days, including 3 days (60 miles) travel home; company marched to Rhode Island on an alarm.¹²

Abijah, born September 4, 1763, and was mustered by Nathaniel Barber, Muster Master for Suffolk Co., on May 25, 1777. He was 14 when he enlisted, which is difficult to imagine. His place of residence was listed as Holliston. He died March 30, 1778 at the age of 15.

Tidd, Abijah, Holliston.

List of men mustered by Nathaniel Barber, Muster Master for Suffolk Co., dated Boston, May 25, 1777; Capt. Warren's co., Col. Bailey's regt.; term, 3 years (also given during war); reported received State bounty; also, Private, 6th co., Col. John Bailey's regt.; Continental Army pay accounts for service from May 21, 1777, to March 30, 1778; residence, Holliston; credited to town of Holliston; reported died March 30, 1778; also, Capt. Isaac Warren's (6th) co., Col. Bailey's regt.; company return dated Camp Valley Forge, Jan. 24, 1778; mustered by a County Muster Master.¹³

Amos also had two brothers who served in the war, Samuel and William.

Tidd, Samuel, Lexington.

Private, in a detachment from Lexington militia co. commanded by Capt. John Bridge; service, 5 days; detachment reported on command at Cambridge from May 11 to May 15, 1776, by order of Committee of Safety; also, pay roll of a detachment from Lexington militia co. commanded by Capt. John Parker; service, 2 days; detachment reported on command at Cambridge from June 17 to June 18, 1775, by order of Committee of Safety.

Tidd, William, Lexington.

Lieutenant, in a detachment from Lexington militia co. commanded by Capt. John Bridge; service, 5 days; detachment reported [p.734] on command at Cambridge from May 11 to May 15, 1775, by order of Committee of Safety; also, Lieutenant in a detachment from Lexington militia co. commanded by Capt. John Parker; service, 2 days; detachment reported on command at Cambridge from June 17 to June 18, 1775, by order of Committee of Safety.¹⁴

It is interesting that Abijah, Daniel, Nathan, and

Oliver all mustered at the same time by Nathaniel Barber, Muster Master for Suffolk County, Massachusetts on May 25, 1777. That may have been the last time these four brothers were together. It is hard to imagine the hardship this was for the poor parents.

Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files Index, 1800-1900, we learn that the following received pensions:

Anna Chapin, former widow of Daniel Tidd, Continental, Massachusetts, W. 23795, BLWt. 18003-160-55, 1846 1st application/1855 2nd application, 31 pages.

Abigail Tidd widow of John Tidd, Massachusetts, W. 19455 1851 2nd application, New York, 72 pages.

Oliver Tidd 1818, of Vermont, Massachusetts, survivor's pension, S. 41257, 10 pages.¹⁵

Pension record for Daniel Tidd Cont. and MA lines by widow Anna Stedman Tidd Chapin, both of Holliston, they married 5 May 1791, sol. died there 21 Jun 1806, widow applied 19 May 1846 at Holliston at age 80, son Daniel Tidd witnessed the re-application in 1855, W23795 BLWt. 18003-160-55. It included the pension application, marriage affirmation of Daniel Tidd and Anna Stedman both of Holliston 1791, death document for Daniel Tidd 1806, marriage record of Anna Tidd widow to Ephraim Chapin 1808, his death on 27 March 1812 in Milford. Military records of the town of Holliston, enlisted 4 March 1776, payment for service 1779, 1780, and 1781, pension payment records for 1846 and 1848 and reapplication in 1855 with statement by her son Daniel Tidd Jr. The widow received a bounty land warrant of 160 acres and later sold the warrant.

Pension record for John Tidd notes his death place was Eaton, Madison County, New York. He was a Blacksmith and learned his trade as an apprentice in Cambridge. The apprenticeship expired in June 1774. Widow Abigail Tidd received a pension and bounty land of 160 acres. In the pension there are many documents referring to several terms of service, with a conclusion that he served from Cambridge 1775, Holliston 1776, Hopkinton 1778 and Westford. Susannah Sanford gives sworn testimony in the pension application for John Tidd that his father and his father's family occupied part of their house in Hopkinton during the Revolution and that son John returned there after war.

The land records of the family provide additional context to their lives. There were fifty deeds for the Tidd family found in the Middlesex court records.

In a quit claim deed, dated 12 March 1784, Amos and Elizabeth sell their dwelling house. Witnesses to the deed are their sons John and Thaddeus.¹⁶ It is interesting to note that Amos is a cordwainer (shoemaker) as that is

the occupation carried on by several of his descendants, including his son Daniel Tidd, my direct ancestor.

“To all people to whom these presents shall come Greetings – know ye that Amos Tidd of Hopkinton in the County of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts Bay ye Cordwainer send greetings – know ye that I the said Amos Tidd for and in consideration of the sum of nine pounds to one in hand paid Before the Ensealing home of have remised, released and forever quit claimed and by these presents for my self and my heirs do remise, release and forever quit claime unto Samuel Crooks of Hopkinton in the County and State aforesaid yeoman a Certain Dwelling House Standing on Common Land, belonging to Mr. John Crooks in Hopkinton near the Road leading from Mr. John Crooks to Mr. Salitiah Biscbys ...”

It would seem that Amos and Elizabeth sold their interests in the town of Hopkinton following the war and may have moved to Vermont, with their sons Daniel, Oliver and Thaddeus. Their son John, who married in 1780, remained in Hopkinton for some time. He is listed there in the 1790 Census.¹⁷ Daniel Tidd was in Wardsborough, Windham County, Vermont in 1787.¹⁸ Daniel returned to Hopkinton/Holliston about the time he married in 1791. No other members of the family were found in these census.

In the 1790 US Census there are thirty-one listings for the Tidd surname and seven for Teed, which seems to be an unrelated group. None of the other variant spellings for this surname appear. Of these seventeen are in Massachusetts, eleven are in New York, two are in Pennsylvania, and one is in South Carolina. For the descendants of Sergeant John Tidd one hundred and fifty years after his arrival in New England in 1637, they represent a small portion of the population following the Revolutionary War.

At the Valley Forge National Historical Park website there is an index of those who served there. This site is the result of thousands of hours of research by the National Park Service staff and volunteers from the NOVA association of the Lockheed Martin Corporation at Valley Forge National Historical Park. It is important to note that records kept during the American Revolution were not always complete or detailed. Some were lost during the war and others were destroyed when Washington D.C. was burned during the War of 1812. Due to this fact, some individuals may have been overlooked or missed.

Valley Forge Muster Roll: 30,000 plus men served at the Valley Forge Encampment under General George Washington during the period of Dec 1777 to Jun 1778, including these sons of Amos and Elizabeth Tidd.¹⁹

ID Number Last Name First Name State Rank

Regiment Please Select

MA19205 Tidd Abijah MA PRIVATE 1 MA
MA19205

MA14977 Tidd Abijah MA PRIVATE 2 MA
MA14977, Died March 20, 1778

MA12935 Tidd Daniel MA BOMBARDIER 3
ART MA12935

MA12936 Tidd Nathan MA CORPORAL 3 ART
MA12936, Died October 28, 1878.

In summary Amos Tidd, six of his seven sons, and two of his brothers served in the Revolutionary War. The sense of honor and patriotism for that service has been passed on to current day descendants. Daniel Tidd is my fourth great grandfather. Two keepsakes passed on to me are his powder horn and an original newspaper announcing his death in 1806. At his burial site there is a metal grave marker signifying his service, SAR 1775.

There is still much to be done in compiling this family history. The military records provide wonderful clues to enhance the story. Family tradition continues to pass on the great sacrifice this family made in the founding of the freedoms of this country. How precious are the lives of those who fight for the right to have liberty. It is hard to imagine sending young boys 14 and 15 years old to do what we consider a man's work. The young people who serve our country today seem just as vulnerable. Many would like to see war never happen again, but it is a part of our culture to defend our freedoms and provide liberty for all. When in a cemetery, it is with great pride that we note the markers of those who have fought in battle in the wars since this country was founded. May we always show our respect and honor for those who have fought valiantly in our behalf. It is with great pride that we remember the Tidd family who sent forth their six sons and to have only four return, over 200 years ago. Knowing our family history provides for us a basis for the future we build together.

(Endnotes)

1 English Origins of N.E. Families, Emigrants from Hertfordshire 1630-1640: some corrections and additions by Peter Walne, page 787.

Cambridge, Massachusetts History, Supplement, ancestry.com, accessed 4 July 2010.

History of Woburn from the grant of its territory to Charlestown in 1640 to the year 1860, by Samuel Sewell, Boston, 1868, page 645.

2 Woburn Woburn Transcripts of Records of Births, Marriages and Deaths and also of Intentions of Marriage, from 1641-1843 begun Jan. 1847 and completed Nov. 1850 by Samuel Sewell of Burlington, Mass. LDS Film, Fiche #6046840, births 1645-1666, marriages 1641-1655, deaths 1649-1660.

Lexington Births, Marriages and Deaths to January 1, 1898 – BYU Book 929.3744 L591, Part I from earliest period to 1853.

3 Lexington/Cambridge Farms Church Records, First Parish Society Records (Lexington, Massachusetts: Congregational), 1690-1844, LDS Film #0927926.

4 The Massachusetts tax valuation list of 1771 by Bettye Hobbs Pruitt, Camden, Maine : Picton Press, c1998 , 924 pages, ISBN: 0897253183, book 974.4 R4, Family History Library Catalog, familysearch.org..

In July, 1771, the Massachusetts General Court passed “An Act for Enquiring into the Rateable Estates of this Province.” Each town then elected assessors who prepared a list of all taxpayers and taxable property within that town. Printed tax forms listed 27 categories of taxable property and recorded all males 16 years of age and older. <http://guides.library.umass.edu/content.php?pid=9449&sid=90929>, accessed 24 September 2011. In U.S. practice, a poll tax was used as a de facto or implicit pre-condition of the exercise of the ability to vote. Wikipedia, accessed 24 September 2011.

5 The Massachusetts tax valuation list of 1771.

6 Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolution War LDS Old Film #31092 Pt. 15, also Ancestry.com database, pgs. 730-734.

7 Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolution War, page 730.

8 Edwin R. Hodgman. “History of the Town of Westford in the County of Middlesex, MA: 1659-1883.”

Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolution War, page 730.

9 Ibid., page 731.

10 Ibid., p 733.

11 Ibid., page 733.

12 Ibid., page 731.

13 Ibid., page 731.

14 Ibid., page 733 and 734.

15 Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files, 1800-1900, Ancestry.com, 2010, accessed 24 September 2011. Original data: Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files (NARA microfilm publication M804, 2,670 rolls). Records of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Record Group 15. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

16 Hopkinton Deed for Amos and Elizabeth Tidd 12 March 1784, LDS FHL Film 0901511.

17 1790 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010. Images reproduced by FamilySearch. Accessed September 24, 2011.

18 Jackson, Ronald V., Accelerated Indexing Systems, comp.. Vermont Census, 1790-1860 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 1999. Original data: Compiled and digitized by Mr. Jackson and AIS from microfilmed schedules of the U.S. Federal Decennial Census, territorial/state censuses, and/or census substitutes.

19 Valley Forge National Historical Park, Valley Forge Muster Roll, <http://valleyforgemusterroll.org/>, accessed 25 September 2011. Provides a good historical background for the events that occurred there.

GFO Writing Contest 3rd Place Winner

A Journey Backward to a Journey Forth: Buried Treasure in Manuscript Collections

Stephen W. Turner

Genealogy is essentially a journey backward, revisiting the past to gain a fuller understanding of who we are. What we're familiar with we take for granted, so much so typically that we lack perspective and real understanding of the significance of everything we experience. There's nothing like trudging up the miserably rocky, steep and narrow approach to the Cumberland Gap, once the main route over the southern Alleghenies, to give you an appreciation of the most ordinary modern road. How much labor and investment of resources have gone into building roads in America in the last 200 years! It was hard to imagine anyone making it up to the Gap with wagons bearing all their worldly goods, hard to imagine the sheer grit of those determined pioneers. By all indications my own Turner forebears made a several hundred mile journey across the Alleghenies, probably via the Gap, to move from North Carolina to a new home in Kentucky in 1807/1808. What caused them to make such an arduous overland move at so early a date?

We know it was generally in the search for "opportunity," the hope of a better life, that so many of our ancestors made their way in stages across this continent, and "opportunity" would surely be the one-word answer. But this is the story of how I came to know something more specific and personal about this major move of two centuries ago in my own family history. It's also meant to illustrate the potential riches for genealogists to be found in often undiscovered and overlooked manuscript collections.

After three decades of combing the records of Henderson Co., KY, and Orange Co., NC, it was clear that my earliest known Turner ancestor, Elias Turner Sr., was the father of three sons, Elias Jr., William and Asa, though I couldn't say it was proven. The earliest record I'd established for him was Nov 1777 in Orange County.¹ One 1789 deed there showed his wife's name was Mary.² The only Elias Turner in the country listed in the 1790 census was in Orange County;³ in 1800, Elias and 'Elias junr' were both listed there –twice.⁴ Early on I'd found an article in the *Indiana Magazine of History* describing a dispute between an Indiana pioneer and Elias Turner in

Henderson County.⁵ It began over some wild hogs Turner had bargained for in 1807 in buying land, deeded to him 6 Jan 1808, and later involved Turner's late payments for the land. I sent for the case records from the Henderson County Court. The dispute proved to be almost absurdly ridiculous, but provided my earliest record of Elias Sr.'s presence in Henderson County.⁶ From 1809 he was in the Henderson County tax records as well as the censuses until 1825,⁷ when he disappeared without any trace I've ever found, much less any of Mary. And though a solid paper trail established their move to Henderson Co., KY by 1807 after thirty years in Orange County, NC, I knew nothing about that move, and virtually nothing about the family as people except that Elias Sr. was keen for hunting hogs.

In 2001, my luck suddenly turned better when I discovered manuscript collections. A colleague lent me a book entitled *Hidden Sources: Family History in Unlikely Places*.⁸ Within minutes it led me to an Internet website for the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections, affectionately known as NUCMC. This is a partial catalog of a huge number and variety of collections of manuscripts, documents, personal and family papers, photos, maps, etc., all across the country.⁹

I was trying to make some breakthrough at that time with another family, who had lived in Gibson Co., TN, so I used Gibson and Tennessee as search terms. What came up was a very motley listing of papers totally irrelevant to my search, but the part with the hit on Tennessee jumped right off the page at me: **"Includes journals of Asa Turner's trip from Kentucky through western Virginia and Tennessee 1804"**¹⁰

Asa Turner! My Elias Jr. had named a son for his brother Asa. The few Asa Turners in early America had mostly been in New England. Mine should have been in Orange Co., NC, in 1804, but still, his family was in Kentucky by 1807... Could this be my Asa Turner? Studying the long entry my search called up, I saw the journals were in a large collection called the Draper Manuscripts, located in Wisconsin.¹¹

Here's an important point: manuscripts may be located far from anywhere they might by logic belong

geographically. There's absolutely no connection to Wisconsin in Asa Turner's journals, nor probably in most of the Draper Manuscript Collection. The connection is simply that Lyman Draper, the history buff who collected them, ended up as corresponding secretary at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. The location of many collections depends on where the donors attended college, or where they resided late in life, regardless of what or where the papers may relate to. Certainly there's a concentration of Wisconsin material in Wisconsin, and Tennessee material in Tennessee, but a search limited to any local area, state or even region may miss some quite relevant material. Similarly, though my Elias Sr. may never have set foot in Indiana, the wild hogs story was in an Indiana periodical.

I couldn't readily go to Wisconsin, but following a string of clues I learned I could order microfilm containing the journals. One step was consulting *Guide to the Draper Manuscripts*, which gave a bit more detail about Asa Turner's journals, keyed to the microfilm reel list.¹² I requested the appropriate reel through interlibrary loan. At last it came— from the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.¹³ As item #53 in a great hodgepodge, I found a 4-page handwritten journal signed with a flourish by Asa Turner¹⁴ Was he my man?

It took a few days to transcribe the journal from the microfilm, mostly pretty legible. It turned out the pages weren't in the right order, which slowed me down figuring things out. But I soon caught on that Asa and companions were starting out from someplace that looked like "the Diment Island." On the third day they reached Christian County and on the fifth they "traveld Cros Red River Mouth of Sul/phor fork" and into "Tenese state Roberson County." The next day they crossed the Cumberland River and got into Nashville. Apparently they were coming from the direction of Henderson County, KY, and "the Diment Island" might well be in the Ohio River. I followed the journey with the best maps I could get, including some showing the county boundaries at the time. With this and a couple of atlases showing towns, rivers, etc., I made out that they continued east across Indian territory in Tennessee, up into the western finger of Virginia, then down into North Carolina. Continuing east, on the 24th day they reached Hillsborough, the county seat of Orange County, and the 25th day's brief final entry says it all: "Came on Home."¹⁵

This could only be my Asa! Then I thought of those photocopies of records I got years before from that ridiculous Henderson County court case of Elias Turner and the wild hogs. I dug them out, and, sure enough, there were copies of two original notes signed by Elias [Sr.]

and cosigned by Asa Turner in March 1808, and Asa's signatures, though less fancy, were a good match for the signature on the journal! In fact, the notes themselves had clearly been written out by Asa's own hand.¹⁶ Wow! Proof, even.

Then I remembered there were supposed to be "journals," so I resumed searching through the microfilm. Hundreds more pages of hard-to read handwritten items on all manner of unrelated stuff cranked by, and then suddenly as item #258 was another journal, unsigned, and in a somewhat different format, but very obviously in the same now familiar Asa Turner hand. Again the pages were jumbled from the order in which they were written. It didn't take long to figure out that this was the journal of the outward journey, as the dates were earlier, but it took me much study to realize that west of Abingdon, VA, they had traveled a completely different route. I was confused partly because it turns out there are places called Crab Orchard in both Kentucky and Tennessee, the one in Kentucky being at about the right place to make me think they were on the same Tennessee route. Asa clearly indicates they left Virginia via the "Cumbd Gap" and headed from there right up into Kentucky, but I missed this until the third or fourth careful reading. Then their route through Kentucky pointed at Henderson County from the east this time.¹⁷

The outward journal begins:

"Monday Morning 3rd Sept 1804 I and Mr Chisenhall started out for walter Alvas out to Kentucky with his Mares & Colts Lodged that Night at His Fathers on free cost."¹⁸

This sentence nicely illustrates some of the challenges to understanding. Asa was no believer in punctuation, his spelling was inconsistent, and his capitalization rather random. Do the his's in this sentence mean Mr. Chisenhall's or Walter Alvas'? I believe I was eventually able to ascertain this. It turns out Walter Alves (originally from Orange Co.) was one of the principal beneficiaries of a huge Tennessee and Kentucky land venture. His father was James Hogg of Hillsborough, who late in life successfully petitioned the North Carolina legislature to change his sons' surname from Hogg to his wife's maiden name, Alves. Walter Alves, né Hogg's, wife was Amelia Johnston, whose father and James Hogg were two of the nine investors in the Transylvania Company, the land venture spearheaded in 1775 by Richard Henderson. It was not without some success and led to the development of large areas of Tennessee & Kentucky, including Henderson County, KY. One result was that by 1799 Alves and his wife owned thousands of acres in Henderson Co., which was named after Richard

Henderson.¹⁹ Diamond Island was and is a good-sized island in the Ohio River a few miles below the town of Henderson, the county seat.

Asa Turner, from a farm family of piedmont North Carolina, was probably in his late 20s in 1804, still single, when wealthy neighbor Alves hired him to take those mares and colts out to western Kentucky. Indications are Asa was quite a capable fellow and probably the best educated man in his family. One feature that comes out in the journals is his carefulness about money, and they give the clear impression that feeding the horses was quite on a par with feeding himself. In view of the stated purpose of the trip, it's likely Asa was itemizing expenses for an expense account. After 2½ weeks at "the Diment Island" he and Chisenhall started back home with \$30 apiece, so they'd presumably been paid, at least for the trip there.²⁰ Interestingly, almost all the frequent transactions for food/feed, lodging, ferryage, etc. were expressed in pence, shillings and pounds — both British and American systems of money were in use at that time. The entries were brief ; remarkably, there wasn't one word about the weather the whole trip! But there was much of interest, including some wry and amusing bits, like the time they stayed at "a scoundrals House Got No Grain for our Horses/But a Dry pasture our Lodgin He Chargd us 15 [shillings]/But I scolded him out of all But 12 [½]." ²¹

The trip out via eastern Kentucky had taken 27 days; the somewhat longer return route across Tennessee, which he reckoned at 742 miles, they covered in two days less, being unencumbered by all the extra horses and colts, arriving home 6 Nov 1804.

There can be no doubt this journey was a vital precursor to the family's move some 3 years later: Asa and his father and brother, my ancestors Elias Turner Sr. and Jr., moved with their families to the same county in Kentucky that was Asa's destination in 1804, and bought land in the Smith Mills area less than five miles south of Alves's Diamond Island Plantation.²² My next Turner ancestor, a third Elias Turner, was born in Henderson County in 1813.²³ It occurred to me that virtually any variation in timing, location, or circumstances would have meant that particular individual Elias Turner, with his unique set of genes, would not have been born, and his entire branch of the Turner family would never have been, or would have been different people. Almost certainly I would never have been born if it weren't for the circumstances that led my Turner ancestors to make that move when they did. Some other fellow would have married my wife and they'd have other children. So many events in our ancestors' lives had to happen

just as they did for us even to exist: life is a precious gift which for any of us depends on an intricate chain of family history down through the generations. That's an important perspective to gain from genealogy. I'm thrilled and deeply moved whenever I think about the significance to me of Asa's journey and our family's subsequent move, and how I found out about them.

Since I was planning to retire in 2004, my wife and I decided we'd retrace Asa's trip on its 200th anniversary in the fall of that year. Researching his route and the wonderful trip in 2004 may be the subject of another paper. Here I'll just cover the opportunity that trip afforded to do additional manuscript collection research leading to still more information illuminating Asa's trip and the family's subsequent move.

I had learned through NUCMC that there was an undated letter written by an Asa Turner at the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill. The University's library website includes detailed guides to their manuscript collections: this item was in the Cameron Family Papers, a major element of their Southern Historical Collection.²⁴ This was my and Pat's first time to actually visit and do research in a big official manuscript collection, and it was an experience! We were given some help to get oriented; in an open library setting, they had many detailed and helpful guides and indexes to their papers. We were readily given access to the papers we requested, but had to accept and adjust to quite strict rules for actually seeing the manuscripts. They assigned us a windowed isolation booth, and we could take nothing in with us but an order form for copies and a pencil—none of our own papers or notes. Maybe a laptop would have been allowed, but definitely no cameras there. All we could do was examine the papers and fill out the order form for whatever we wanted copies of. They supplied giant acid free bookmarks to place by the papers to be copied. It was frustrating not to have access to our own papers or notes, but the manuscripts were marvelous.

I instantly recognized my Asa's now familiar handwriting in the Asa Turner letter. It was written from Kentucky to his sister's husband back in Orange County, regarding a lawsuit for which Duncan Cameron of the Cameron Family Papers was acting as Asa's lawyer. Asa was suing regarding a slave he'd purchased whose health he claimed had been misrepresented.²⁵ It was both sad and comical—Asa was full of particulars about how the case must be handled, and I could see Mr. Cameron rolling his eyes when the letter eventually came to him. The case proved to be from 1811-12,²⁶ and the letter instructed that William Turner, still back in Orange County, should be called as a witness.

We were excited to find some of Walter Alves' papers there too, including an inventory of his lands which he compiled in 1806. He described his 2250 acre Diamond Island Plantation as follows: "lying opposite & extending below the Diamond Island - this land generally is of the richest quality rather flat, valuable for its situation as a landing place and being in the neighborhood of an extensive & never-failing range."²⁷ In view of this it sounds likely Asa's destination was not Diamond Island itself but Alves' plantation just across from it. (Apparently, Alves didn't own the actual Island.)²⁸ There were also two great letters of 1805 we found in Alves' papers, written to him by Samuel Goode Hopkins of Henderson Co. He, too, described Alves' Plantation in glowing terms, as well as giving details of splendid new colts, presumably from the very mares Asa had delivered the previous autumn. He mentioned Nathaniel Dezern (a former Orange County man), clearly the overseer of the Diamond Island Plantation;²⁹ Asa referred to "Mr. Discarns" upon his arrival at the "Diment Island." And the previous day they had been "fed at Hopkinses."³⁰ Hopkins' own plantation, Spring Garden, was in the eastern part of the county through which Asa had passed. It was wonderful to find and hold these documents that brought Asa's trip so much more into focus. The archives folks made us free copies of all the items we requested, but they had to be mailed later as they don't make copies "while you wait" and we'd have no chance to return on that trip.

Fortunately I learned that some of the UNC manuscript collections are also available on microfilm. I've since worked my way through many of the 65 rolls of the Cameron Family Papers available through interlibrary loan. These wonderful materials going back to the mid-to-later 1700s include extensive records of a local store where I've found the first and only explicit indications so far that my Elias Sr. was indeed the father of sons Elias Jr., Asa and William. For accounts on credit, the entries always specify who made the charge and to whose account. So, for example, an entry might show a charge to "Elias Turner [per] son Elias" or to "Elias Turner Junr. ... [per] brother Asa."³¹ Beyond this, these store records were surprisingly helpful and interesting, showing what people bought and sometimes what they sold, as they often paid their bills partly in trade. In my family's case, I got a strong hint why all but young Asa of Elias's five known children married in 1797: it was apparently the first year the family had made a tobacco crop and had a nice infusion of cash. The store records also suggest the sons thereafter gained something of the status of partners instead of just working for Dad: they accounted for most

activity from 1797 on, and after Jan 1800 Elias Sr. did not carry an account in his own name. The account activity suggests William, an older son, launched off more on his own after 1797, while Elias Jr. and Asa, the youngest, stayed more closely tied to Dad. As a bonus, the store accounts provided a remarkably elegant resolution of a strange and maddening ambiguity as to which Elias was the groom on one of the 1797 marriage bonds.

The store records also bear interestingly on the timing of the Turners' move. Seven weeks after Elias Turner Sr. sold his dwelling plantation 12 Jan 1807,³² Asa's last charge was for 200 nails on 3 Mar 1807, crossed out and marked Paid. Elias Junr. charged "one Sett Cart Boxes" for 17 shillings 6 Jun 1807, but his last recorded purchase was some paper and a bottle of snuff 15 Oct 1808. His account was paid off in cash 21 Dec 1808.³³ Elias Jr. sold his dwelling plantation 26 Oct 1808.³⁴ In view of these facts and the evidence that Elias Sr. bargained for his Henderson County land in 1807 and closed the sale in early 1808, it's likely more than one trip was made to the new country, the first in 1807, then Elias Jr.'s family and perhaps the mother making the move in 1808 or even 1809. In 1813, Asa was given Power of Attorney for another trip back to North Carolina to sell property the family had retained,³⁵ suggesting they took care not to burn all their bridges until they felt sure of their new home.

The Cameron Family Papers indirectly provided a final key revelation regarding the Turners' move. *Piedmont Plantation*, a fine book based on the collection, gave me this great connection: "The years 1795, 1806, and 1847 brought particularly heavy floods" [to the Eno River area, where both the Camerons' and the Turners' lands were located.]³⁶ Elias Sr.'s last "plantation" on the lower Eno River was almost surely subject to these floods.³⁷ I can't help but conclude since their relocation was underway by early 1807 that Asa's view of Henderson County in 1804 was the carrot while the flood of 1806 – the second in a dozen years – was likely the stick that decided them on that long move.

The book gave yet another valuable insight: "The raising of livestock was another important aspect of farming: sheep for their wool and meat; cattle for their milk, leather and meat; mules and horses for pulling plows, wagons, and carriages; hogs in quantity for pork, ham, bacon, lard and leather, and all for the valuable manure they supplied. Hogs were particularly profitable."³⁸ This is likely why Elias Sr. was so keen about the wild hogs on the land he bought in Henderson County, especially as they were essentially domestic stock run wild.

We made one more wonderful find at UNC: a letter

written from Henderson, Kentucky 2 Jan 1813, describing an overland trip from Orange Co., NC, by members of the Henderson and Alves families with a wagon, women and children, arriving after much snow and cold in Henderson 15 Dec 1812. The route is not specified, but included much wilderness like Asa's trip. While I don't know in what season my folks made the trek, this letter shows I can't assume it was in the mild part of the year. The experience described shows what hardy folks even the well-to-do could be in those times. Mrs. Alves was said to have walked at least 150 miles, preferring it "whenever there was the least danger..." The trip was hard and cold, though they had a "commodore," Mr. Davis, who "was always at hand to put things to right again," as when their tent blew down four times one night in the wilderness in a dreadful storm of wind, hail, rain and snow, with trees falling nearby. The last 50 or 60 miles, after a 6-inch snow, were extremely cold and unpleasant, but they arrived "safe and generally in good health and spirits."³⁹ Likely Asa, relatively seasoned, was the Turner party's unpaid "commodore," hopefully one with enough good sense to avoid the winter months for such a trip. It must have been rough enough in any season!

We are very grateful for the efforts of libraries, historical and genealogical societies, archives and manuscript collections, even a database like NUCMC, to preserve and provide access to important and even mundane records of the past that could shed so much light on a piece of family history providing such personal meaning to us. There is a huge amount of manuscript material in hundreds of collections across the country. If you haven't already tried digging for this buried treasure, give it a try, perhaps starting with a determined search of NUCMC and WorldCat.⁴⁰ Follow any promising leads diligently, and may you be as richly rewarded as we have been.

(Endnotes)

1 Orange County, North Carolina Deed Book 2:58 (Alston to Abercromby; witnessed by Elias Turner); FHL microfilm 305,924.
 2 Orange County, North Carolina, Record of Deeds 4:324 (Turner to Alves); FHL microfilm 19,475.
 3 "1790 United States Federal Census," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com>); only Elias Turner entry is in St. Mary's District, Orange County, North Carolina. 4 . 1800 U.S. census, Orange County, North Carolina, pp. 597, 599 (stamped); NARA microfim publication M32, roll 34. The three-person entries for Elias Turner in this semi-alphabetized census

are identical on both pages; the five-person entries for Elias Turner junr, immediately preceding and following on the respective pages, show two fairly explicable discrepancies. I believe these households were inadvertently enumerated or copied twice.

- 5 *Indiana Magazine of History*, 18 (Mar 1922): 104-5.
 6. Henderson County, Kentucky, Circuit Court Case #1238, complaint of Elias Turner, 1809(?), photocopies supplied by George T. Raber, Circuit Court Clerk, Henderson.
 7 Henderson County, Kentucky, Tax Lists, [1799-1840]; FHL microfilm 8,032.
 8 Laura Szucs Pfeiffer, *Hidden Sources: Family History in Unlikely Places*. (Orem, UT: Ancestry, c2000)
 9 *National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections* (hereafter *NUCMC*), online catalog (<http://www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc>).
 10. *NUCMC*. "Draper manuscripts: Draper's historical miscellanies, 1720-1887," description, etc. ([http://lcweb.loc.gov/cgi-bin/zgate?present+255226+Default+2+1+F+1.2.840.10003.5.10+2+/>...\): accessed 19 Feb 2001\), 1.
 11. *Ibid.*, 4.
 12 Josephine L. Harper, *Guide to the Draper Manuscripts*. \(Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1983\).
 13 Now the Wisconsin Historical Society.
 14 Asa Turner, untitled travel journal/expense account, \[Henderson County, Kentucky to Orange County, North Carolina\], 13 Oct-6 Nov 1804, Draper Manuscripts, 53Q1 \(microfilm edition, 1980, reel 43\). State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison.
 15 *Ibid.* Quotations as rendered in "Outward Trip of Asa Turner, 1804," rev. ed., \(2007\), Stephen Wayne Turner and Dorothy Louise Robison Turner, transcribers. MS transcription held by the Author, Woodburn, Oregon, 2011. This transcription and that of the Homeward Trip \(note 18\) have also been published in "Journeys," program syllabus of the Fall Workshop of the Eastern Washington Genealogical Society. \(Spokane: The Society, 2007\), 15-21.
 16 Elias Turner, promissory notes to Jessee Kimball, 24 Mar 1808; among records of Henderson County, Kentucky, Circuit Court Case #1238, photocopies supplied by George T. Raber, Circuit Court Clerk, Henderson.
 17 Asa Turner, untitled travel journal/expense account, \[Orange County, North Carolina to Henderson County, Kentucky\], 3 Sep-29 Sep 1804, Draper Manuscripts, 278Q1 \(microfilm edition, 1980, reel 43\). State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison.
 18 *Ibid.* This and later quotations as rendered in "Homeward Trip of Asa Turner, 1804," rev. ed., \(2007\),](http://lcweb.loc.gov/cgi-bin/zgate?present+255226+Default+2+1+F+1.2.840.10003.5.10+2+/)

- Stephen Wayne Turner and Dorothy Louise Robison Turner, transcribers. MS transcription held by the Author, Woodburn, Oregon, 2011. See also note 15.
- 19 "The Alves Family of Henderson, Kentucky," in *Kentucky Ancestors, Quarterly of the Kentucky Historical Society*, 21-4 (Spring 1986), 210. "Hogg, James," by Mark F. Miller, in *Dictionary of North Carolina Biography*. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina, c1979-1996), 3:160-1. "Colonel Richard Henderson," in *Henderson County Historical and Biographical Notes, Commemotating the One Hundred Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of Kentucky*. (Henderson: Henderson County Genealogy Society, 1967), 95-7. The Alves holdings are documented in Henderson County, Kentucky, Tax Lists [1799-1840]; FHL microfilm 8,032. See also note 27.
- 20 "Homeward Trip of Asa Turner, 1804," Day 1.
- 21 Outward Trip of Asa Turner, 1804," Day 14.
- 22 Henderson County, Kentucky Deed Book E:28-9 (Elias Turner Senr to Asa Turner, 1822); FHL microfilm 572,574. "Walnut Bottom" map, in *An Illustrated Historical Atlas of Henderson and Union Counties, Kentucky; from actual surveys...* (: D.J. Lake & Co., 1880), 11, shows locations of Turner properties inherited from Asa Turner's estate, and Alves property facing Diamond Island.
- 23 *History of Howard and Chariton Counties, Missouri...* (St. Louis: National Historical Co., 1883), 779.
- 24 Cameron Family Papers #133, Southern Historical Collection, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
- 25 Ibid., Subseries 1.8, Box 80, Folder 1894; undated letter, Asa Turner (Henderson, Kentucky) to John Phipps.
- 26 Cameron Family Papers, Subseries 3.1, Client Cases, Folder 3264; Turner, Asa vs. Thomas Reavis, "A Memorandum of...James Starkes..." 25 Sep 1811.
- 27 Walter Alves Papers #3792, Southern Historical Collection, UNC, Box 1, Folder 5; "Schedule of the Estate of Walter Alves, real & personal," 30 Apr 1806; 1.
- 28 Henderson County, Kentucky, Tax Lists, [1799-1840]; FHL microfilm 8,032.
- 29 Walter Alves Papers, Box 1, Folder 5; letter, Samuel Goode Hopkins (Spring Garden, [Henderson County, Kentucky]) to Walter Alves, 12 Sep 1805.
- 30 "Outward Trip of Asa Turner, 1804," Days 26-27.
- 31 Cameron Family Papers, Subseries 6.4.2, Stagville Store accounts: Elias Turner entries, 19 Dec 1791-23 Jun 1792, 34:23; Elias Turner Junr entries, 9 Nov 1804-7 Jan 1805, 53:8.
- 32 Orange County, North Carolina, Record of Deeds 18:281-2 (Turner to Reavis); FHL microfilm 19,479.
- 33 Cameron Family Papers, Subseries 6.4.2, Stagville Store accounts: Asa Turner entry, 3 Mar 1807, 56S:80; Elias Turner [Jr] entries, 6 Jun 1807, 59S:15; 15 Oct 1808, 61S:38; and 21 Dec 1808, "Cash to Sundries" accounting of 31 Dec 1808. 61S:76.
- 34 Orange County, North Carolina, Record of Deeds 14:52 (Turner to Leathers); FHL microfilm 19,478.
- 35 Henderson County, Kentucky Deed Book C:71 (Power of Attorney, Elias Turner et al. to Asa Turner, 14 May 1813); FHL microfilm 572,573.
- 36 Jean Bradley Anderson, *Piedmont Plantation: the Bennehan-Cameron Family and Lands in North Carolina*. (Durham: Historic Preservation Society of Durham, 1985), 68.
- 37 3 Dec 1789 Elias Turner and wife Mary exchanged with Walter Alves and wife one property along the Eno for another about 2½ miles downstream, moving from the Eno's north bank not far above the mouth of Little River to the south bank just below it. Turner added two adjoining pieces to the latter property in 1791 and 1792, and sold all three as one tract 12 Jan 1807. See Orange County, North Carolina, Record of Deeds, 4:306-7 (Alves to Turner); 4:324 (Turner to Alves) 4:534 (Alston to Turner); 4:582 (Southerland to Turner); FHL microfilm 19,475; and 18:281-2 (Turner to Reavis); FHL microfilm 19,479.
- 38 Anderson, *Piedmont Plantation*, 72.
- 39 Cameron Family Papers, Subseries 1.2; Henderson, Richard, (Henderson, Kentucky) to Thomas D. Bennehan, letter, 2 Jan 1813. The Author believes this Richard Henderson was a younger relative of the Richard Henderson for whom Henderson County was named.
- 40 *Worldcat*, online catalog (<http://www.worldcat.org>) ; you can limit searches to archival materials, but Worldcat is also an outstanding resource for identifying relevant books.

Educate Yourself

Researching Massachusetts Records

Susan LeBlanc, AG

For this article we are focusing on researching by location. As an example, this review covers the Massachusetts state records, Middlesex county records and the records for the town of Holliston. One of the best resources for doing a place search for such records is the catalog at familysearch.org. You will usually first search by the town, then the county, and finally by the state. A useful tool when doing such a search is to print or save to your computer the index of topics found for that locality, and then make notes as to what is available, noting ones you wish to pursue.

Occasionally you will find an item, such as a book, has been digitized and is available to access online, thus saving you the time for locating a copy or ordering a microfilm. At this time there is no link to the digitized records found on the search page of familysearch.org under browse by location, so this will be a separate type of search. If you find a book that is only available from the collection in Salt Lake City, you can search at worldcat.org for the copy located closest to your home. With the title and author you may request an interlibrary loan from your local public library.

Massachusetts

Massachusetts was first settled in 1620. It was one of the original thirteen states. After the Revolutionary War in 1785 it ceded to the United States all claims based on the original charters to territory west of New York. In 1820 Maine became a separate state and the boundaries have remained the same with only some minor changes.

Many of the vital records are comprised of early town and county records. In 1841 the state registration began. Early records are available at the state archives in Boston. Vital records after 1890 are available from the Registrar of Vital Statistics in Boston. Divorce records from 1738 to 1888 are filed in various courts. Military records following the Revolutionary War are found in the office of the Adjutant General in Boston. Naturalization records for the years 1791 to 1906 have been copied and indexed. They are located at the National Archives in Boston Branch in Waltham, Massachusetts. Census records are available for the state for 1855 and 1865. The United States census is available for the years 1790 to 1880 and 1900 to 1930. Many resources are listed in the catalog at familysearch.org and can be reviewed for

further research.

Middlesex County, Massachusetts

Middlesex County was created in 1643 and is an original county. The county seat is in Cambridge. The county clerk has birth records from 1632 to 1745, marriage records from 1651 to 1793, death records from 1651 to 1689, divorce records from 1888 and court records from 1648. Tax records are also available.

In 1855 the county was divided into two districts. The recorder of deeds has land records from 1632 to 1855 and for the southern district from 1855. The register of deeds has land records from the northern district from 1855. Until 1649 the records were kept in Boston. Since Holliston is in the southern district, the land records would be found in Cambridge. Many of the county records are available through the Family History Library and most have been filmed. There are also some good county histories that should be reviewed.

The vital records on the county level include the earlier records; those filmed are: births, deaths and marriages from 1651 to 1793, Middlesex, Charlestown birth and death statistics from 1641 to 1692, and the Index to Births, Deaths, Wills and Misc. Court Records from 1600 to 1799.

The land records that have been filmed include the Proprietor's Records of Cambridge from 1635 to 1829, the record books of registers of deeds from 1649 to 1900, and the register book of the lands and houses in the "New Towne" the town of Cambridge from 1634 to 1696. This is a vast collection and we would begin with searching the indexes.

Probate records that have been filmed include the Index to Probate Records 1648 to 1871 and 1870 to 1949. The ones of most interest are the first set; the index can be used to determine if there are any films that should be ordered. The county court records that have been filmed are extensive and again the use of the indexes through 1800 would be important. After that date the filming is more random.

Holliston, Middlesex, Massachusetts

Holliston was established on December 3, 1724 from the town of Sherborn.

There are two good town histories that are available. *A genealogical register of the inhabitants of the towns*

of *Sherborn and Holliston* by Rev. Abner Morse is available on microfilm, LDS film #1036321, Item 1. *Holliston, A Good Town* by Joanne Hulbert is available through the historical society. Many of the town records are available on film through the Family History Library. It is recommended that the films be reviewed for vital records following the census search.

The dates filmed are:

- 1725 to 1844 for births
- 1729 to 1900 for marriages
- 1814 to 1849 for marriage intentions
- 1725 to 1843 for deaths
- 1852 to 1902 for birth indexes
- 1729 to 1900 for marriage index
- 1851 to 1902 deaths and marriage intentions index
- 1725 to 1843 for deaths register
- 1844 to 1853 births/marriages/deaths register
- 1852 to 1902 births register
- 1851 to 1895 deaths register
- 1895 to 1902 deaths register
- 1903 to 1905 births/marriages/deaths register

Each locality has similar information in the catalog. This is a vital tool in doing family history research. Once this process is complete, one should access the usgenweb.org for possible place information. The state pages are often limited, but include links to the county pages. The town information is usually incorporated into the county homepage. Online subscription websites should be checked for digitized copies, and some of these websites are available for free at Family Search Centers. State libraries, genealogical societies and state archives may have online indexes to their resources by locality as well. Then there is always an Internet search with your favorite web browsers. The best finds are sites that contain pictures, but be sure to capture these, citing the source for the future, as things may disappear from the online sites.

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FIRST FAMILIES OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY

Were your ancestors living in Multnomah County before the formation of the County on
22 December 1854?

Did they arrive prior to the Transcontinental Railroad completion to Portland
11 September 1883?

Did they come before the closing of the Lewis & Clark Exposition held in Portland
15 October 1905?

Each time period constitutes a level of settling in the area
Pioneer, Early Settler, and Lewis & Clark Expo.

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Oregon Snapshots

SUMPTER VALLEY RAILWAY:

Mark Highberger

Through the foothills of the Blue Mountains she once ran, her steam engine chugging and her steel wheels clacking as she snaked her slow way over mile-high passes and water-roiling streams. The Stump Dodger, they called the old train of the Sumpter Valley Railway, a line that for more than 50 years linked people and businesses across some 80 miles of northeast Oregon's backcountry. And even though the tracks are long gone, you can still follow the memory of the Stump Dodger through the country she once ruled.

The starting point for the journey is Baker City, for it was here in 1890 that the tracks began climbing through the Powder River canyon and toward the gold fields and logging camps tucked away in the Blue Mountains. It wasn't until 1910, however, that the rails reached Prairie City, an 80-mile route that today includes parts of Highways 7 and 26. True, the trip today is by car instead of by train, but a little imagination can have you stepping aboard the Stump Dodger.

The whistle shrieks and echoes off the hills; the train lurches and rumbles and then bumps forward, clacking and squeaking along the tracks. As we head south out of town, you'll see up ahead the flat sweep of pasture land along the Powder River and the brown, sloped foothills of the Elkhorn Ridge, where thousands of miners once tore through tons of rock in their search for gold. Yet Baker County's real wealth lay on top of the ground.

"Vast tracts for grazing cattle and sheep," is how a late-19th century promotion of the county described this land. "Endless forests of pine timber are near at hand, and convenient to transportation."

The major transportation was the Stump Dodger, whose original job was hauling logs out of the mountains and down to the mills. That's one reason for the rough ride, for the pitch and sway of the train: It's running on narrow-gauge rails, whose 36-inch width, more than 20 inches narrower than standard gauge, is better able to handle tighter curves. And you'll find plenty of those up ahead. Makes for a bumpy ride.

"A ride on the Stump Dodger was full of bounce," write Gordon and Patricia Stewart, Baker County historians. "In fact, it is told as truth [that] once when a section of smooth new rails was laid ... the ride became

so calm that one passenger yelled, 'Jump for your lives, we're off the track!'"

But now the ride grows steep as well as rough, for it's into the river's canyon we go, the tracks squeezed between basalt ledges on one side and river bank on the other, the train huffing its way around the curves and up the grade and over the top into the Sumpter Valley, where the first stop is at McEwen, a stagecoach and train station located some 22 miles from Baker City.

When the tracks reached McEwen in 1891, a two-hour train ride from Baker City, a building boom followed—general stores and blacksmith shops, an Odd Fellow's hall and Methodist church, even a saloon. For four years, this marked the end of the line for the Sumpter Valley Railway, until the tracks reached the gold-and-timber town of Sumpter, six miles away. (In the railway's peak years, four trains every day ran between Baker City and Sumpter.)

The Stump Dodger's main route, however, now lies farther along Highway 7, so we bypass the Sumpter Junction, cross the Powder River, and head up the slope and into the forests of the Blue Mountains. In the old days, this climb was slow enough that a story from the train's early years tells of a woman who gave birth to a daughter while riding the Stump Dodger. "You should not have gotten on the train in your condition," the conductor told the woman. And the woman replied, "I was not in this condition when I got on the train!"

Even though today's highway is faster and smoother, it lacks the piston-pumping energy of the rails, so we chug our way up the grade and around the bends to a sky-wide view of the Blues, then past granite road cuts and grassy meadows, and finally down onto a flat, where 10 miles from the Sumpter Junction is the train's next stop at Whitney, whose shacks and fences lie crumpled near the North Fork of the Burnt River.

When the tracks reached Whitney in 1901, however, the town was brand new, the property of the Oregon Lumber Company and the hub of railroad logging in the region, its spur lines stretching as far as 14 miles into the ponderosa pine forests, its saw mill rolling out lumber for the nearby gold mining camps.

One of those camps nestled deep and high in the

Blues was Greenhorn, whose early- 20th century boom was responsible for the birth in 1904 of the next stop on the line:

Tipton Station. To reach it, the Stump Dodger climbed to the top of a mile-high pass that is the dividing line between Baker and Grant County.

Because it's almost the same climb you make today on Highway 7, look for the site of Tipton Station at the summit near milepost 8, though the only reminder of the old town is an interpretive sign that explains how this area depended on locomotive-pushed wedge plows to keep the tracks open so trains could move logs to the sawmills. So steep is this country that the downhill run from Tipton



[www..svry.com/about.html](http://www.svry.com/about.html)

Station involved a series of 180 degree curves.

Even though those curves have been straightened some, the only way to go from Tipton Station is still down-so down we go with the crests of Dixie Butte looming against the sky, marking the way toward Austin, a former logging town where Ma Austin's boarding house once served hot meals to train and stage passengers.

But today's Austin House, a restaurant that is either closed or for sale much of the time, serves mostly as the junction for Highway 26, which leads up to another mile-high summit before dropping down to Prairie City. For the Stump Dodger it was the home stretch-but first it had to descend the most difficult grade of the entire route.

You'll find that grade near milepost 184 at Dixie Summit, location of the Sumpter Valley Railroad Interpretive Site. Here a paved path leads beneath the shade of pine trees, through the smell of warm grass, and down to the old railroad grade. It also leads to the answer to this question: How the heck did the train get down off

this mountain? The answer: the Dixie Switchback, a series of zigzags the train followed forwards and backwards as it descended to the valley below. (To understand it, you really have to see the diagrams that explain it.)

Near the end of the Dixie Switchback lay Prairie City, the other end of the Sumpter Valley Railway-until the 1930s brought along the Great Depression and the automobile age, when too little money and too many cars began gnawing away at the railroad's business. That's when trains such as the Stump Dodger began losing their tracks and then leaving their memories behind in an echo that in these mountains still carry the sounds of a steam engine chugging.

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Written in Stone

Finding Value in Historic Cemeteries

Judy Juntunen

I can't remember when I didn't find cemeteries interesting. From an early age, I remember helping my mother at family cemeteries in preparation for Memorial Day. One of my earliest memories was living next door to the Zion Lutheran Cemetery on Highland Drive. I used to climb over the fence and wander through the cemetery reading the grave markers. I felt especially bad for the babies and small children. One fine spring day I decided to decorate those graves, so I picked all my mother's beautiful King Alfred daffodils and placed them carefully on the graves next door. When my mother discovered what I had done—she was not happy!

Perhaps I got the idea of decorating graves from my mother as we traveled to three different cemeteries decorating family graves every year before Memorial Day. It was during these times that I learned tidbits about family members and their friends. The Suttons were not relatives, but friends of my grandparents, and they had no family close by to put flowers on their graves, so we did it. Hiram and Hanna Platt were my great grandparents. Hiram fought in the Civil War. I was named for my grandma who died when I was two. Aunt Janey, my grandma's sister, had a hard life. Her husband was a mean man, and those boys of hers had running water in the dairy barn, but not in the house! I recall that I often wandered off while my mother arranged flowers and looked at the gravestones nearby, while mother told me how I was related to some of the people buried there.

Over the years my interest grew, and I began to understand that cemeteries were, in many ways, open-air museums which offer a glimpse into the history of a community and its citizens. I also enjoy the workmanship and artistic beauty of the gravestones and the sculptures. Not everyone understands why I enjoy old cemeteries so much. To explain, let me paraphrase this quote, "There are two kinds of people in the world, those who find old cemeteries fascinating and interesting, and those who don't. The latter are in the majority!"

During my years as the Research Librarian at the Benton County Historical Museum, I helped many researchers find cemeteries and cemetery information. When I retired from my job in 2003, the folks at Benton County Natural Areas and Parks asked me to inventory the historic records of Crystal Lake Cemetery which the Masons had turned over to the county a couple of years before. I agreed, and that was the beginning of volunteer work for Crystal Lake Cemetery. When an

opening occurred on the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries (OCHC), part of the Oregon Heritage Program, I applied and was accepted. Established in 1999, the OCHC coordinates with the state's Historic Cemeteries program to maintain a list of historic cemeteries and gravesites in Oregon, to promote public education on the significance of historic cemeteries and to provide financial and technical assistance for restoring, improving and maintaining their appearance. As a commissioner, I have helped produce Heritage Bulletins about different topics of interest to people who work for and volunteer in historic cemeteries. Oregon has, perhaps, the most helpful program for historic cemeteries in the United States. Its grants program has been particularly important to cemeteries for all types of projects, from surveys to signage to landscape work. Part of my work as a commissioner is to assist anyone in my area who needs help with an historic cemetery.

I am also a member of the Association for Gravestone Studies, an international organization, whose mission is to foster appreciation of the cultural significance of gravestones and burial grounds through their study and preservation. In 2010, I was asked to serve on their Board of Trustees. The organization will hold its June conference in Oregon in 2013.

Since I began helping the county with the Crystal Lake Cemetery records, occasionally the staff will ask for my help with research requests. One of these requests got me involved with the Sons of Union Veterans' (Civil War) Burial Registration Project. The project hopes to research, record, and verify the final resting places of all Civil War veterans. Randy Fletcher, one of the members from Colonel Edward Baker Camp No. 6, wondered if there were any Civil War generals buried in Oregon. He discovered Brigadier General Thomas Thorp, who, supposedly, was buried at Crystal Lake Cemetery in Corvallis. Randy posts on a website called Find A Grave. This site has all kinds of information such as where to find a particular cemetery, and sometimes even photos of individual grave markers. Some people who ask for information, or post what they find, are genealogists looking for their ancestors, others just love old cemeteries. So Randy put out a request asking if someone in this area would see if they could find General Thorp's grave. Enter Delina Porter, who loves to take photographs of all kinds of subjects, but she especially loves old cemeteries. She called Benton County Natural Areas and Parks

to ask where the general's grave was, and that's when I got involved because there was no grave marker and no location listed in the main cemetery record book for General Thorp.

The county staff asked me to see what I could find. I admit, I love to do research. I pulled out the historic cemetery records and began looking for the general. I finally found General Thorp's burial permit. He was buried in a space labeled "Old Soldier" in the cemetery's main record book

Many years ago the GAR, (the Grand Army of the Republic), which was the veterans' organization of the Civil War, purchased several lots at Crystal Lake Cemetery to be used for Civil War veterans. The general was in one of these lots, and so was Adolphus Jones, whose grave was also unmarked. At that point, I wondered if there were other veterans in unmarked graves, and before very long, I found five more—one a Confederate veteran. Three of the veterans had wives in unmarked graves. The government will not provide a separate marker for the wife of a Civil War veteran, but they will put her name and dates below those of her husband's. With the help of the Sons of Union Veterans, the county staff applied for military markers from the Veterans' Administration. When they arrived, the Civil War group came and set the markers.

A bonus of all this research was that more Civil War veterans with private markers were found, and the number of known Civil War veterans in Crystal Lake Cemetery went from 48 to 67.

For me, historic cemeteries are among the most fascinating, richest, and often the most neglected sources of historical information. Often, the age of the community, its ethnic composition and the impact made by immigration can be determined by "reading" gravestones. The style of headstones, the symbolism of their art, and their inscriptions reflect religious beliefs, social class and values, as well as cultural change over time. One of the most fascinating parts of a cemetery is finding the stories of the people buried there. When I read letters written by my great grandparents during the Civil War, who are buried at Crystal Lake Cemetery, they became real people, not shadowy figures on the family tree. So, while some may find my interest a bit strange, I think they are the ones missing out.

Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of columns on cemetery volunteerism.

Judy, who lives in Corvallis, did not mention that she is the past chairperson of the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries and that she will need many volunteers to pull off the national conference of The Association for Gravestone Studies to be held in Oregon in 2013.

Timeline of the Revolutionary War Con't.

Aug. 6 The Redcoats, with Iroquois support, force the patriots back at Oriskany, NY, but then have to evacuate
 Sept. 11 Battle of Brandywine, Pennsylvania
 Sept. 21 Paoli Massacre, PA
 Sept. 26 British occupy Philadelphia
 Oct. 17 Burgoyne surrenders to Gates at Saratoga, NY
 Dec. 5-7 Americans repulse British at Whitemarsh, Penn.
 Dec. 19 Washington's army to winter quarters at Valley Forge

1778:

Feb. 6 The United States and France sign the French Alliance
 June 18 British abandon Philadelphia and return to New York
 June 19 Washington's army leaves Valley Forge
 June 28 The Battle of Monmouth Court House ends in a draw
 July 4 George Rogers Clark captures Kaskaskia
 Dec. 29 The redcoats occupy Savannah

1779:

Feb. 23-24 American George Rogers Clark captures Vincennes
 June 21 Spain declares war on Great Britain
 July 8 Fairfield, CT, burned by British
 July 11 Norwalk, CT, burned by British
 July 15-16 "Mad" Anthony Wayne captures Stony Point, NY
 Sept. 23 John Paul Jones, captures British man-of-war Serapis
 Nov.-June 23, 1780 Washington's 2nd winter at Morristown, NJ

1780:

May 12 British capture Charleston, SC
 July 11 French troops arrive at Newport, RI,
 Aug. 6 Patriots defeat Tories at Hanging Rock, SC
 Aug. 16 British rout Americans at Camden, SC
 Oct. 7 King's Mountain, SC: battle lasts 65 minutes.
 American troops led by Isaac Shelby and John Sevier defeat
 Maj. Patrick Ferguson and one-third of General Cornwallis's army
 Oct. 14 Nathanael Greene commander of the Southern Army

1781:

Jan. 17 Cowpens, SC
 March 2 Articles of Confederation adopted
 March 15 Guilford Courthouse, NC
 April 25 Greene defeated at Hobkirk's Hill, SC
 June 6 Americans recapture Augusta, GA
 June 18 British hold off Americans at Ninety Six, SC
 July 6 "Mad" Anthony Wayne repulsed at Green Springs Farm, VA
 Sept. 15 French fleet drives British naval force from Chesapeake Bay
 Oct. 19 Cornwallis surrenders at Yorktown, VA

1782:

July 11 British evacuate Savannah, GA
Aug. 19 Battle of Blue Licks
 Nov. 30 British and Americans sign preliminary Articles of Peace
 Dec. 14 British leave Charleston, SC

1783:

April 19 Congress ratifies preliminary peace treaty
 Sept. 3 United States and Great Britain sign the Treaty of Paris
 Nov. 25 British troops leave New York City
1787 Sept. 17 U.S. Constitution signed
1788 June 21 U.S. Constitution adopted, when New Hampshire ratifies it

Relics

Becoming American: Oriskany and the German Palatines Harvey Steele

In the early years of the 18th century, a group of German immigrant families completed a journey of fifteen years by migrating to the western-most frontier of provincial New York. Many of these families had departed the Rhineland in 1709 and they brought their immediate personal belongings and a set of cultural values that may best be described as traditional small-village German. They became known to other Americans and later historians as the Palatines, although many of them were not from the German Palatinate. They settled on the Mohawk River in what was first known as German Flats. My own ancestors, the Steeles and the Dockstaders, settled mainly in three of the later towns, Danube and, later, Ilion and Little Falls, all in Herkimer County.

Danube is a town in Herkimer County, New York. The town area was settled as early as 1730. The location on the south side of the Mohawk River, is 10 miles SE of Herkimer and 68 miles east of Albany, now on the Mohawk Turnpike. Despite its small population, the town is the monument to Indian Castle, the headquarters of the Mohawk Indians, and another important historical building of the county, the Herkimer House, home of General Nicholas Herkimer, in addition to the short-lived Fort Herkimer, adjacent to the Herkimer Church (which includes a large cemetery). Within a few blocks of these historic landmarks, the houses of my ancestors, the Steeles and the Dockstaders, were once located in the neighborhood.¹

In June 2001, my wife and I signed up for a week-long Elderhostel program, "Drums Along the Mohawk." We visited the historic sites of the area, some now located in the vicinity of expanding Little Falls and Ilion, including the Oriskany battlefield, a Revolutionary War ambush site. In the process, we explored the significant historic interaction between the British invaders, the Tory loyalists, and the local Indian tribes, especially the Oneida, the only tribal group to join the Americans in the war for independence.

The first Steeles were led by Roelof Steele (born in Switzerland ca. 1675-1682 and died in New York ca. 1770-1771) who was listed on the Palatine subsistence role as Rudolph Stahl or Staley as early as 1715, on the south side of the Mohawk River at the present site of Ilion, New York, where he had purchased lot 8 of the Burnetsfield Patent land, near the home of Nicholas

Herkimer.² A detail from a map of the Province of New York in North America by Claude Joseph Sauthier, London 1779, reprinted in Albany, 1849, shows the close proximity of Steele families (shown in two parcels labeled "R. Staley"), Fort Herkimer (spelled "Herkemer"), and the five buildings of the Herkimer House (labeled simply "Herkimer").

Most Dockstader families were located on the left side of the map in the German Flats area labeled (...an Flat") The first Dockstader settler was George Dockstader (born in Germany ca. 1679 and died June 1709 in New York) who was on the Palatine subsistence list of 1710 and also the 1717 Simmendinger list. He drew Burnetsfield lot 18 and in 1730 also purchased lot 21 from Leonard Helmer. His original homesite was also very close to the Herkimer House.³

A grandson of George Dockstader, Cornelius Dockstader married an Oneida woman and his sons George and Joseph were Indians of influence in the Oneida tribe as well as patriot soldiers in the American Revolution. In particular, George was a Captain in the American army and in 1807 his widow Sara applied for a pension and land ownership rights. Of their five offspring, Cornelius II (1758-1814) was an Oneida chieftain and was killed at the battle of Chippewa in the War of 1812.⁴

Johan Jost Herchheimer (usually spelled Herkimer) was one of a number of refugees from the German Palatinate who, in 1725, settled at German Flats south of the present village of Herkimer. He held important contracts to provision the military garrison at Oswego. As a major Mohawk valley landowner, he acquired over 5000 acres of land south of the Mohawk, which included the strategic "carrying place" (or portage) around Little Falls. It was here in 1752 that his eldest son Nicholas established a farmstead.

Nicholas Herkimer pursued his own interests in farming and trade, particularly profitable during the French and Indian Wars (1756-1763). In 1764, he replaced his earlier log house with a fashionable English Georgian style mansion, now known as Herkimer Home. This residence was unusually grand and as remarkable then as it is today, a unique example of colonial architecture.

Herkimer became the wealthiest and most prominent member of the German-American community and was active in local civil affairs. He gained military

experience as a captain of militia during the French-Indian Wars, became a friend of George Washington, and firmly embraced the American cause at the outbreak of the Revolution. He was elected chairman of the Tryon County Committee of Safety and officially commissioned Brigadier General, commander of the county's militia.

The house itself is a magnificent relic but its "kitchen garden" is as important and unique as it was 200 years ago, when it provided the hausfrau and helpers with a wide variety of local produce, as well as culinary and medicinal herbs.

It supplies the kitchen and the root cellar and parlor with period ornamental arrangements and dyeplants (with dyeplants such as ladies' bedstraw and black-eyed Susan).

Nicholas Herkimer's place in history was assured by his legendary courage during the crucial summer of 1777, when the three-pronged British attack on New York posed particular danger to the sparsely settled Mohawk Valley settlement. On July 10, the advance of British Colonel Barry St. Leger's troops on the small garrison of Americans at Fort Stanwix was reported by Oneida scouts. Despite the reluctance of the settlers to muster in their own defense, General Herkimer managed to rally 800 men and boys by August 4, with intention to relieve the besieged fort.

Herkimer mustered the troops at Fort Dayton, a stockaded yard near the present-day village of Herkimer. The group was mostly composed of farmers, but many tradesmen, woodsmen, and members of the safety committee also responded to his orders. From head to toe the volunteers were clothed and equipped in a motley fashion. Some wore a military cocked hat but others had round hats or "floppies" made of black felt. Also could be seen knitted liberty caps and fox or raccoon fur hats. Shirts of white linen with ruffles below the collar were prominent. Others were seen to have rifle or hunting shirts or frocks made of linen or deerskin, with cape and fringe. A handful had regimental coats from French-Indian War service.

Breeches were usually linen or wool broadcloth and were mostly white or buff in color. They were laced at the waist-band for a better fit. Some lower legs had strapped on half-gaiters of heavy black linen or cotton.

Shoes were invariably leather with oval brass buckles. Woodsmen wore deerskin moccasins with beads. Many wore stockings of loosely loomed linen, wool, or cotton. Clothing was often adorned with buttons of bone, wood, pewter or brass.

For the warfare itself, the standard .75 caliber Brown Bess musket (or an American copy fitted with sixteen inch bayonet) was required. The New York Committee of Safety had contracted with local gunsmiths to reproduce as many as possible.

Younger men usually had only the "Militiaman's Fowler" a Rube Goldberg mix of parts from worn-out weapons.

The Herkimer troops carried their ammunition in hunting bags holding the priming horn, lead balls, and extra flints. The powder was held in horns removed from oxen and cattle. Cartridges were carried at the waist in a cartridge box or in a canister, preferably waterproof.⁵

The troops were separated into four battalions, headed by Colonel Ebenezer Cox, Colonel Jacob Klock, Colonel Frederick Visscher, and Colonel Peter Bellinger, and eight chiefs of the Oneida Indian nation. Bellinger's battalion included four Palatine members of my extended family, Quartermaster Rudolph Steel, Private John Dockstader, Private Peter Dockstader, and Private Dietrich Steele. John Dockstader and Dietrich Steele were neighbors and also of the sixth generation of descendants, the future grandfathers of William Henry Steele and Mary Catherine Dockstader, who later lived and worked in Danube and Frankfort, New York, in the 19th century.

Another member of the Herkimer troops was my distant cousin Han Yerry Doxtater, the Oneida war chief. Doxtater was shot through the right wrist, preventing him from loading his gun. He remained on horseback while his young wife, Senagena (meaning Two Kettles Together) repeatedly loaded the musket. Han Yerry had a sword hanging by his side to indicate his rank as a Patriot captain and Oneida war leader. His courageous wife stood by him with two pistols blazing while their son also joined them with his tomahawk. The trio would be credited with killing eleven of the enemy force of 1700.⁶

In the deep ravine west of the Indian village of Oriskany, Herkimer and his men were ambushed by Iroquois (with some Mohawk and Seneca) and British-



Herkimer at the Battle of Oriskany
Frederick Yohn, wikipedia.com

allied Tory Loyalists, one of whom was the general's own brother, Johan Jost. Early in the fighting, General Herkimer was seriously wounded in the leg, but managed to keep command of his militia, which held its ground despite fierce hand-to-hand combat.

Herkimer had sent three scouts forward through the British lines at Fort Stanwix in an attempt to coordinate attacks with the Peter Gansevoort, the commander at the fort. On the morning of July 6th, with no answer coming, Herkimer's battalion commanders were restless and he decided to continue on toward Oriskany.

Unsuspecting, the inexperienced but impatient militiamen marched blindly into a trap. As they crossed the swampy bottom and marched up the ravine side, the British muskets fired from behind trees and Indian tomahawks (from the Iroquois) chopped down the first three battalions. In the murderous first volley, General Herkimer's horse was shot from beneath him and his leg was shattered by a musket ball. Sitting beneath a beech tree, propped against his saddle and smoking an old black pipe, he continued to direct the battle, urging the members of Bellinger's battalion to fight in pairs, so one could load while the other was firing.

In spite of heavy losses, Herkimer's troops, assisted by the Oneida allies, fought skillfully. Their resistance dismayed the British troops and, when their Iroquois Indian allies began to retreat, the British and Tories also withdrew. As they returned to their siege of Fort Stanwix, they found that their nearby camp had been raided by a small force from the fort. Disgusted, General St. Leger abandoned the siege and returned to Canada. It was a crushing blow to General Burgoyne, the British commander, losing over 1200 soldiers and the disgruntled Iroquois allies.⁷

After the six-hour battle, with heavy losses sustained, Herkimer was carried by flatboat back to his home, where ten days later his leg was crudely amputated. Reading from his Bible to his family, he died calmly a few hours later. He became an instant hero to the cause of American freedom and his home became a shrine to chroniclers of the American Revolution.

Today the battlefield is dominated by the 1884 Oriskany Monument. The 85-foot high monument has bronze plaques that depict the battle and list the men who fought at Oriskany. The marshy ravine has been reconstructed and surrounded by green hills, white ash trees, red maple trees, sugar maples, white oak, and Staghornsumac and well-placed markers, commemorating Colonial grandeur. It affords the visitor an unforgettable view of one of the bloodiest ambushes in American military history. One sad marker notes that because the

Oneida had allied themselves with the militiamen, a band of Mohawks loyal to the British destroyed the Oneida village of Oriska (a mile away) three days after the battle. A price was to be paid for Becoming American. But more destruction followed.

Tories and Indians (Iroquois, Seneca, and Mohawk) terrorized communities along the Palatine frontier in the year following the 1777 campaign. In June they raided the settlement at Cobleskill and in the following month, plundered Springfield (near Otsego Lake). They then turned to German Flats and, despite the fabled marathon warning of Adam Helmer, they burned many houses, including those of Dietrich Steele and John Dockstader. Family members fled to areas near Cooperstown, in nearby Otsego County, and did not return until 1781. The two neighbors recruited by Nicholas Herkimer in 1777, Dietrich Steele (1736-1797) and John Dockstader (1760-1815) survived the battle of Oriskany and continued to reside in Danube and Little Falls.⁸

In 1842, William Henry Steele, grandson of Dietrich Steele, married Catharine Doxstader, granddaughter of John Dockstader and the two lived in Frankfort and finally Danube. In 1850, they lived on one side of a two-family house (the other side contained Catherine's brother John and his wife Mary). Steele and his oldest son were working as shoemakers. The couple then had four children, Lucy, William Henry II, Charlotte, and Charles. By 1860, the family had moved to Olmsted County, Minnesota.⁹ The author is of the eleventh generation of the Steele and Dockstader families.

(Endnotes)

1 No author, Herkimer County at 200 (Herkimer, N.Y.:Herkimer County Historical Society) 1992: 272; also cf. G.K. Schweitzer, *Revolutionary War Genealogy*, 1997.

2 William H. Barker, *Early Families of Herkimer County New York* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc.) 1986: 249; Also compare Mildred Baker, *The Steele Family* (Unpublished ms. At Herkimer County Historical Society, Herkimer County) undated; also cf. W. Knittle, *Early 18th Century Palatine Emigration*, 1937.

3 Barker 1986: 56; also cf. Lou MacWethy, *Book of Names* (Enterprise:N.Y.) 1933

4 Barker 1986: 56, 291; Doris Rooney, *The Dockstader Family*, 1983
5Based on Allan D. Foote, *Liberty March: The Battle of Oriskany* (Utica: North Country Books) 1998: 120-131; also cf. J.A. Scott, *Fort Stanwix and Oriskany*, 1927

6 Foote 1998: 160; also cf. W.J.Wood, *Battles of the Rev. War* (Algonquin:NC) 1990

7 Hoffman Nickerson, *The Turning Point of the Revolution* (Boston-New York: Houghton-Mifflin Co.) 1928: 78-81; also cf. T. Best, *A Soldier of Oriskany*, 1935

8 Francis Whiting Halsey, *The Old New York Frontier* (New York: Charles Scibner;s Sons) 1902: 336; also cf. C. Hibbert, *Redcoats and Rebels* (Norton: N.Y.) 1990

9 Doris Dockstader Rooney, *The Dockstader Family* (Dodge City, Kansas: High Plains Publishers, Inc.) 1983, volume one, page 602

Story Teller

The Battle of Blue Licks

Judith Beaman Scott

Some said the water ran red with the blood of the Kentucky militia men. Their scalped and mutilated bodies were left floating in the river where they were killed, the survivors desperately trying to get back across the river and flee to safety. Many were on foot, their horses shot from underneath them. Israel Boone's body was in the water where he had been shot; his father Daniel had no choice but to leave his son's body where it lay.

It was the morning of August 19, 1782. Cornwallis had surrendered at Yorktown ten months earlier, but it was still the "Year of Blood" in Kentucky. One hundred and eighty-two men, including Daniel Boone, his son Israel, and my ancestor Lt. James McGuire, had been ambushed at Blue Licks, a salt lick on the Licking River, in what is often considered the last battle of the Revolutionary War.

The plan for the attack began with a meeting convened at Chillicothe, on the Ohio River, an important

Shawnee village. Warriors from the Shawnee, Delaware, Chippewa, Mingo, Ottawa, and Wyandot tribes, and the British from Fort Detroit, along with Simon Girty, were present.¹ The tribes north of the Ohio, aided and spurred by the British, were determined to rid Western Virginia (now Kentucky & West Virginia) of the settlers pouring into the area. Girty had lived with the Senecas for several years; he had been a patriot at the beginning of the War, but switched sides after being accused of treason.

Girty was said to have made this speech to incite the Indians:

Brothers, the intruders on your lands exult in the success that has crowned their flagitious acts. They are planting fruit trees and plowing the lands where, not long since, were the canebrakes and clover field. Was there a voice in the trees of the forest, or articulate sounds in the gurgling water, every part of this country would call on you to choose among these ruthless invaders, who are laying it waste. Unless you rise in the majesty of your might and exterminate their whole race, you may bid adieu to the hunting grounds of your fathers, to the delicious flesh of the animals with which they abounded and to the skins with which you were once enabled to purchase your clothing and your rum.²

The war party, numbering over 1,000, was moving toward Wheeling, on the Ohio River, when they learned that George Rogers Clark was planning an expedition against the Indians in the Ohio country, (a rumor that proved to be false). Many members of the party turned back to head off Clark and defend their territory.

The remainder of the group planned, instead, to raid Bryan's Station near Lexington with half the party, while the other half waited at Blue Licks. The Licking River curves back upon itself there, making it a perfect ambush spot. The British and Indians knew the men from the surrounding areas, including Daniel Boone, would race to the aid of the station.

The day before the ambush the troop of Kentucky militia men had indeed hurried to Bryan's Station, about



Blue Licks Battle Monument
(Author's photo)

six miles from Lexington, answering the call for help. With the station under attack, a few settlers managed to escape, perhaps allowed by the Indians to ensure the arrival of the militia. Daniel Boone led a militia force of about 50 men from Fayette County, meeting up with John Todd and a group from Lexington, and Stephen Trigg from Harrodsburg. Hugh McGary of Lincoln County led another group. Benjamin Logan and a troop of 1,000 men was a day or so away, so Todd, Boone and the rest discussed whether to give chase or wait for Logan. According to some reports there was intense arguing on the subject, with some of the men calling others coward for not choosing pursuit. McGary, who at the time was all for waiting for Logan, was scorned by Todd for being so cautious. Finally, they decided to chase the attackers, a common practice for the frontier men.

As they drew closer to the river, Boone urged caution. He suspected trouble; the Indians were making no attempt to cover their tracks. A few of them were visible on the hill in the middle of the bend across the river when the militia arrived. Again there was a discussion, to decide how to proceed. Boone was familiar with Blue Licks; he had made salt there before, he hunted the area, and he had been taken captive by Indians there. He knew it was a perfect location for an ambush. Many of the officers seemed to agree with Boone - they would wait for Logan. Most of the later reports agree, as the debate continued, McGary grew increasingly agitated, wanting to attack right away. Finally McGary accused Boone of cowardice. Boone, angry, responded to the taunt, shouting that no one had ever called him a coward. All attempts at discussion ended. McGary ran to his horse, and rode into the river shouting "Them that ain't cowards, follow me. I'll show where the yellow dogs lie."³ Men followed him into the river and up the far bank. McGary's insult not sitting well with the frontiersmen, Todd had no choice but to order the remaining men to follow. "We are all slaughtered men," Boone was heard to say.

As the men crossed the river, they were loosely organized into three groups: Todd in the center, Boone and his men on the left and Trigg to the right. Most of them left their horses and began to climb the steep hill. Peter Houston from Boonesborough later said that as the first group reached the top of the hill "a terrific war whoop was heard, which was caught up all along the ravines on both sides."⁴ The Indians came out of their hiding places and killed most of the men moving up the hill. Ironically, Hugh McGary was spared. Daniel Boone and his men rushed up the hill to their aid; as they did the Indians fell back and Boone thought the attack was successful. McGary shouted to Boone, asking him why

he was not retreating. As he looked around, Boone saw that Todd and Trigg's groups had been decimated. Trigg had been shot and was dying. No one was left to guard the horses at the river bank, they were being led away by the Indians. As the Kentuckians retreated down the hill, they ran into a solid line of warriors. With was no time to reload their weapons; they were forced to fight hand to hand.

While trying to cross the river, Boone noticed that his son Israel was still with him, instead of retreating with the other men. Those men saw Boone on foot, trying to get Israel to mount the horse Daniel was holding for him and flee. Israel refused, saying "Father, I won't leave you." Boone tried to grab the reins of another horse so they could leave together. He heard a moan and as he turned he knew his son was dying. He had no choice but to rush after his retreating men. Boone's men had regrouped beyond the ford. Squire Boone, Daniel's nephew was among the many wounded and six of their group were missing. They had seen Israel get shot and fall and Thomas Boone, another of Daniel's nephews had also been killed.

Later, in a series of letters to the governor, Boone gave his version of the battle. He was upset that men had been recruited to reinforce George Rogers Clark's campaign, leaving Kentucky unprotected. Now, he wanted reinforcements sent right away. Instead Clark, who had been harshly criticized about the Blue Licks ambush, again called out the Kentucky militia to join his force for another invasion into Ohio. In November, 1782, they crossed the Ohio, burning villages for three weeks. Consequently, the Shawnee moved their villages farther north, away from the Kentucky settlements. The strength of the Northwest Indians had been broken, but it was still many years before the Kentuckians felt they were safe from reprisals.

After the battle Daniel Boone returned to Blue Licks to retrieve the bodies of his son and nephew. Several days after the battle, Logan and his troops arrived. Instead of reinforcing the militia, they became a burial detail.

Daniel Boone described the scene:

I cannot reflect upon this dreadful scene, but sorrow fills my heart. A zeal for the defense of their country led these heroes to the scene of action, though with a few men to attack a powerful army of experienced warriors. When we gave way, they pursued us with the utmost eagerness, and in every quarter spread destruction. The river was difficult to cross, and many were killed in the flight, some just

entering the river, some in the water, others after crossing in ascending the cliffs. Some escaped on horse-back, a few on foot; and, being dispersed every where, in a few hours, brought the melancholy news of this unfortunate battle to Lexington. Many widows were now made. The reader may guess what sorrow filled the hearts of the inhabitants, exceeding any thing that I am able to describe. Being reinforced, we returned to bury the dead, and found their bodies strewed every where, cut and mangled in a dreadful manner. This mournful scene exhibited a horror almost unparalleled.⁵

Many of the dead were buried in a common grave at the top of the hill. A monument has been erected on the banks of the river below the gravesite, inscribed with the names of the men who died there. Daniel Boone's words, "So valiantly did our small party fight...to the memory of those who unfortunately fell in the Battle, enough of Honour cannot be paid" are inscribed on the obelisk.

Lt. James McGuire was last seen standing in the river, according to his grandson John G. McGuire.⁶ As far as we know, he was buried in that grave on top of the hill. After the battle his wife and children moved to Boonesborough from their station for a time.⁷

My footsteps have often been marked by blood," said Boone. "Two darling sons, and a brother have I lost by savage hands. I now live in peace and safety, enjoying the sweets of liberty and the Bounties of Providence with my once fellow sufferers, in this delightful country, which I have seen purchased with a vast expence of blood and treasure."⁸

(Endnotes)

1 Perhaps due to his captivity with them, Girty aligned himself with the Indians - and the British. He served as a scout and a liaison between the two groups. Girty was also present at the Battle of Point Pleasant. After the Shawnees were defeated he moved to Canada where he spent the remainder of his life.

2 Robert Morgan, *Boone, A Biography*, (Shannon Ravenel Books, 2007)

3 John Mack Faragher, *Daniel Boone The Life and Legend of an American Pioneer* (New York, Henry Holt & Company, 1993) p218.

4 Ibid., p 219

5 Daniel Boone, "The Adventures of Daniel Boone Formerly A Hunter; Containing a Narrative of the Wars of Kentucky", (John Filson 1784), p 77. digital image, *Archiving Early America*, <http://www.earlyamerica.com/lives/boone/>, accessed September 2011.

6 "Dr. John J. Dickey Diary", *Kentucky Explorer*, Vol 10, Number 10, (April, 1996), p. 84. Online *US Biography Project*, <http://www.usbiographies.org/biographies/read.php?425,4209,4209>; accessed September, 2011.

7 They had been living at McGuire's (McGee's) Station.

8 Daniel Boone, "The Adventures of Daniel Boone Formerly A Hunter; Containing a Narrative of the Wars of Kentucky", (John Filson 1784), digital image, *Archiving Early America*, <http://www.earlyamerica.com/lives/boone/>, accessed September 2011.

Burial Site at Blue Licks



*Extracts . . .***Multnomah County, Oregon
Marriage Register Index 1911-1912**

Extracted and Proofed by Marie Diers and Eileen Chamberlin

The index is sorted by the bride's surname. A copy of records from this and other Multnomah County Marriage Registers can be obtained in person or by mail. See details on the Genealogical Forum of Oregon website at GFO.org.

Groom Surname	Groom Given	Bride Surname	Bride Given	Marriage Year
Daly	Charles	Goodnight	H M	1912
Burns	Alban J	Gore	Hazel	1911
Steen	Wm J	Gormley	Mary Jane	1912
Johnson	W M	Gosso	Josie (Mrs)	1911
Moffet	Harold W	Green	Lenore	1911
Rosenbloom	Ben	Greenstein	Lona	1911
Strange	H T	Gregg	Vera E	1911
Tyler	Chas P	Gregory	Mae L (Mrs)	1911
Gray	M E	Greiffenstein	M Viola (Mrs)	1912
Bryant	J O	Grider	A J	1911
Dietrich	Roy O	Griff	Jennie	1912
Eaton	Frank	Griffin	Estella	1911
Higley	Clarence H	Griffith	Lillie	1911
Abbott	Arthur	Grills	Marie G	1912
Sandell	Geo	Griner	Laura	1911
Brown	Walter Edwin	Groshong	Pearl	1912
White	H H	Gross	Lena	1911
Aldeman	Hugh M	Grossenbacher	Lillian O	1911
Barlow	Albert E	Guiben	Anna S	1912
Caruzzi	Cyrus	Guick	Marie	1912
Varseth	Joseph	Gullicksen	Clara	1912
Tru	Herbert	Gullikson	Bertha M	1912
Gunderson	Chris D	Gunderson	Marie Olivia	1911
Anderson	John Calvin	Guth	Emma (Mrs)	1912
Boyce	Charles A	Guy	Clara	1911
Aaron	Benjamin Harvey	Haajsma	Louisa (Mrs)	1911
Feely	Patrick	Haas	Margaret C	1912
Smith	Marcel	Hadden	Georgia	1911
Reed	James	Hagan	Carrie	1911
Weinheimer	Jesse	Hagar	Lillian	1911
Craig	Myron	Hahn	Clara	1912
Gearin	Walter J	Hahn	Delia	1911
Basel	E J	Hale	Alice	1911
Hunt	George M	Hales	Alma E	1911
Gillette	Bruce E	Hall	Bessie L	1912
Preston	William	Hall	Nettie	1911
Tracy	John Russell	Hallabough	Helen M	1912

Multnomah Marriages Continued:

Groom Surname	Groom Given	Bride Surname	Bride Given	Marriage Year
Leslie	Francis Joseph	Hallmeyer	Louise	1912
Oldham	John F	Ham	Ethel F	1911
Hartman	George H G	Hamilton	Isabel Sarah	1912
Pedersen	Mathias	Hammer	Bertha	1911
Strickland	Jacob R	Hammond	Fay	1911
Hatch	W R	Hanneghan	Mary A	1912
Wade	Wiley H	Hansen	Josephine A	1911
Peterson	Karl	Hansen	Sofi	1911
Harris	Herbert Bert	Happersett	Eoline Faye	1912
Bruce	Robert	Harala	Minnie	1912
Bock	William P	Harming	Frances	1912
Ryan	Joe P	Harrigan	Katherine L	1912
Forrest	Robert L	Harriman	Josphine C	1912
Jones	Clement	Harrington	Fay	1911
Simpson	Lewis H	Harrison	Alvilda	1912
Burke	Vernon Wayne	Hart	Beulah C	1911
Berkland	G N	Hasting	Louise	1911
Damoschofsky	Louis	Hauser	Emma	1911
Samuelson	Louis	Hawkins	Agnes	1911
Fenner	Charles	Hawley	Blanche	1911
Michell	Eddy P	Hawley	Jennie L	1911
Fisher	Geo W	Hayes	Ossie	1911
Martin	John C	Haynes	Anna L	1912
Paquet	Gilbert	Headley	Jessie	1912
Brown	Dariel	Heath	Elnor	1911
Kingsbury	Frank	Heath	Stella	1912
Kunz	Albert	Heffren	Nellie	1912
Zorn	Jacob	Heigerson	Ethel	1912
Lundgren	Edward	Heizenreiter	Paulina	1912
Grindad	T H	Helfing	Mathilda L	1911
McMahan	John H	Helfrich	Julia	1912
Calavan	Roy L	Helvie	Esther	30 Feb 1912
McIntosh	David	Hendren	Lily	1912
Alden	Herbert O	Henning	Ella L	1912
Ford	Chas W	Henry	Beth	1911
Dressler	Philip	Herman	Barbara	1912
Miller	Douglas	Hermann	Frieda	1912
HumbleJ	A	Hermicks	Myrthe	1912
Moore	A Hascie	Herrick	Mary M	1911
Jones	Howard P	Hersey	Cora	1912
McCarthy	James Emmet	Hessemer	Minnie Gertrude	1911
Leonard	William Richard	Hexter	Hilda	1912
Wilson	Clifford Percival	Hickman	Lola Epsy	1911
Weaver	Charles	Hicks	Ada	1911
Prigge	John Henry	Higgins	Mary Ella	1911

Book Reviews...

Carl Bridenbaugh, *The Colonial Craftsman, 1628 - 1776 History of the English Colonies in North America*, Dover Publications, Inc., New York, 1990, originally published 1950, 214 pages. GFO library - 973.A000.

Audience: This book is of interest to those who trace ancestors to Colonial America before 1776. It presents historical information for those who want to understand the events that lead up to the Revolutionary War.

Purpose: The book provides an understanding of the development and growth of crafts and trades throughout the early settlement of the new world. It also historically illustrates the influences on the settlement patterns of various groups.

Author's qualifications: Carl Bridenbaugh worked for the Institute of Early American History and Culture at Williamsburg, Virginia when he wrote this book. He was asked to prepare the Anson G. Phelps Lectures on Early American History and this provided him the opportunity and incentive to assemble the material he gleaned from his studies of American craftsmen.

Content: The material presented in the book is exactly as it was when he presented his lectures. The six chapters are:

- The Craftsman of the Rural South
- The Village Craftsman of the Rural North
- The Urban Craftsman (1)
- The Urban Craftsman (2)
- The Craftsman at Work
- The Craftsman as a Citizen

Following these are twenty-two pages of endnotes and an index. There are illustrations from nineteen engravings which were originally included in a French Encyclopedia that had a twelve volume *Receuil des planches*, published in Paris between 1762-1777.

The information about the different crafts is somewhat limited, but it is a good introduction to the types of crafts and how they developed. An explanation of indentured servants, journeymen and apprentices is helpful in understanding the role these individuals played in the supplying a work force for the Master Craftsman. He further discusses how the development of these crafts and trades would eventually make the difference in the outcome of the Revolutionary War and the history of the United States of America.

Writing Style: The book is easy to read and flows well. The topics are fully covered and well explained. He is very comfortable with the material and presents a solid knowledge gleaned from much research.

Organization: While the six chapters are from different lectures, the interlacing of the material is very good. He uses colonial records, court records, gazettes, manuscripts, newspapers and periodicals as his resources and weaves this information into the text.

Accuracy: The inclusion of the endnotes validates the resources that were used in producing the compilation of material. Personal explanations enhance the understanding of the reader. This involved years of reading from many varied sources.

Conclusion: I ended up with four pages of personal notes on information from throughout the book. Anyone researching ancestors in colonial America should consider this book a must read. It opens ones mind to understand the process of how the settlement of these colonies transpired. It truly helps one to understand the processes involved in the founding of a people who were ready to defend their rights to independence in the Revolutionary War.

SL

Joanna L. Stratton, *Pioneer Women, Voices From the Kansas Frontier, Touchstone, Simon and Schuster, New York, 1981, 320 pages. GFO Library - A000 Biog.*

Audience: This book is especially important to anyone who has ancestors that were early pioneers on the Kansas Frontier. Whether or not your ancestor is included in the list of eight hundred women listed in the appendix, the Guide to the Lilla Day Monroe Collection of Pioneer Stories, this book will help you to understand the lives of these heroic women and their families. It will enthrall anyone with an interest in the daily struggles of pioneer women who are often left in the shadows of history

Purpose: The author's story is also fascinating, as her great grandmother Lilla Day Monroe collected the eight hundred stories of pioneer women who settled in Kansas. The individual files contain the stories and sometimes have additional information about the family and their correspondence with Monroe. They are available through the Kansas Historical Society at <http://www.kshs.org/p/lilla-day-monroe-collection-of-pioneer-stories/14090>. If you would like to order photocopies from the collection, complete the request form and mail it to the KSHS reference staff. The manuscripts of this collection are a genealogist's gold mine. Joanna wrote the book to share some of the subjects and experiences of these women considered appropriate for this publication.

Author's qualifications: Lilla Day Monroe moved to Kansas in 1884 and dedicated her time to recording the history of the women who helped settle that state. She was unable to compile the personal memoirs of the

women before her death. The files sat in her attic, filling several drawers of her filing cabinet. Joanna Stratton was visiting her grandmother's home in Topeka, Kansas in 1975 and discovered this collection of memoirs of eight hundred women. Joanna began working on "Pioneer Women" while attending Harvard College. She graduated with honors in 1976 and went on to study at Stanford University. In compiling the data she had the assistance of Lenore Monroe Stratton, her mother, who devoted years of her life to typing, indexing and annotating each of the narratives. Her aunts, Day Monroe and Cynthia L. Monroe provided insight, support and encouragement.

Content: The book is divided into five parts. Part one covers The Journey to Kansas, The Settlement, and the Daily Life on the Prairie. Part two goes into Fighting the Wild, Fighting the Elements, and the Indians. In part three the focus is on the daily life of the pioneers and includes A Social People, A Prairie Childhood, Classrooms and Schoolmarms, and The Frontier Church. Part four goes into the development of society in The Frontier Town, The Cow Town and The Immigrant Community: Victoria. Finally, in part five, The Wounds of War and The Woman Crusaders: Temperance and Suffrage, are discussed. Following the appendix are a bibliography and an index. There are two sections of photos containing thirty-two pages of pictures from the Kansas State Historical Society and the author's collection.

Writing Style: The writer's style brings to life a history, setting well the time and place of the events. It is enjoyable to read. She provides deep context to the events being described. You almost feel like you are there living through the experiences, both joyful and sad.

Organization: The book is well organized. The parts blend well and are easy to follow. At the beginning of each chapter she shares a quote related to the topic.

Accuracy: While there are few footnotes and no endnotes, the bibliography enables the reader to research further on the topic. The work appears to be a fairly accurate compilation of this historic time period.

Conclusion: This is very well respected work that enables the reader to insight on the lives of early pioneer settlers, especially the women who we often know so little about. It is a chronicle of the women who were dauntless and independent. This book is truly a labor of love.

-SL

Clarence E. Mershon, *The Columbia River Highway, From the Sea to the Wheat Fields of Eastern Oregon*, Guardian Peaks Enterprises, 1220 NE 196th Avenue, Portland, OR 97230, 2006, 274 pages.

Audience: While Mr. Mershon does not name a specific audience, his book should interest people

of the Pacific Northwest, historians, engineers, and genealogists.

Purpose: The Columbia River Highway's purpose is to sketch the building of the road and show how its construction opened the Pacific Northwest from the ocean to the great interior beyond the Cascade Mountains.

Author's qualifications: Mr. Mershon has been the president of the Crown Point Historical Society and has written six books on the region and its people.

Content: Sam Hill, Samuel Lancaster, Amos and Simon Benson, and a host of locals from each county are featured. A good alphabetical index lists names of the many people involved in getting the highway built in their communities. A bibliography and good photo credits help the researcher. Mr. Mershon and his family were directly involved in the road's construction, so some of the sources are personal. A nice appendix lists those parts of the original highway still open.

Writing style: The book was a pleasant read and generally engaging.

Organization: The structure of the book follows the building of the highway from planning to its development and realization, from Clatsop County to Umatilla County. People are introduced as they organize to get the highway into their areas. Family history is presented from west to east, presented by county and town through which the highway passes. That format puts people in a context and is easy to follow.

Accuracy: Mr. Mershon seems to follow Oregon Highway Commission and regional historical records, citing them frequently within the text. Diaries from Lewis and Clark to Samuel Lancaster are quoted. From my travels up and down the highway for a PSU course, I'd judge the book to be accurate.

Conclusion: The genealogist with ancestors along the highway's route may find mention of them here. More interesting to me, however, was the history. To begin, Sam Hill took a group to Europe to study construction of highways there. He imported European workmen to construct stone retaining walls. Next, Simon Benson probably had more important contributions to the highway than this example, but I was struck by the number of times he stepped up and opened his pocketbook to get someone to agree to the highway's progress. Finally, the engineering marvels are almost too numerous to mention. I am most in awe of the Thor's Point and Crown Point sections; the tunnel at Mitchell Point and its destruction in 1966 by the State of Oregon (which they now want to rebuild); and the Rowena Loops.

Judith Leppert



Oregon State Marriage Indexes

1925 to 1945

The 4th and final CD is now available from the Genealogical Forum of Oregon. It covers the war years and there are many out of state couples being married in Oregon. If you have not found your bride and groom in their home state, check Oregon! About one quarter of the couples being married in Oregon were not Oregon residents. The CDs are as follows:

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