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- Relics: Ardent Spirits and Early Northwest Jails
- Using Land Records at the Genealogical Forum of Oregon
- Norris Family Bible
- Spotlight, Book Reviews and more!

Scared Out of My Mind,
by Sharon Helgerson
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Thank You
To all the people who helped put this issue together.
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CALL FOR ARTICLES
The Bulletin Editorial Group invites readers to submit articles to the Bulletin. We look for articles that are of interest to members of the GFO and those that encourage the sharing and research of family history. Possibilities include but are not limited to:

• memoirs and personal essays
• research articles and source guides
• how-to articles
• problem-solving articles
• articles on family history travel
• using technology

We also welcome book reviews, transcriptions or extractions from original sources, and posts from your blog. You are encouraged to attach photographs or other graphics.

Send submissions to bulletin@gfo.org. You may request a current “Instructions and Guidelines” by contacting us in writing or at the email address above. The information is also available at http://gfo.org/bulletin/index.htm.

Deadlines for submission for the Bulletin:
March issue: January 1
June issue: April 1
September issue: July 1
December issue: October 1

June, 2015
We welcome ...

Pamela Boyer Sayre, CG, CGL, FUGA
Richard (Rick) Sayre, CG, CGL, FUGA

Saturdays
24 October 2015
9 am - 4 pm
Milwaukie Elks Lodge

Seminar Topics

Social Security Sleuthing — Pam

~ Finding Records of Military Service in Published U.S. Documents — Rick

~ Using NARA’s Finding Aids and Website — Pam

~ Soldier’s Homes — Rick

A description of Pam’s topics are here — Pamela Boyer Sayre

A description of Rick’s topics are here — Rick Sayre

SEMINAR FEATURES:

- Nationally Known Speakers
- Genealogical Treasures Raffles
- Win Lunch with our Speakers
- Book Vendor Heritage Quest
- GFO Surplus Book Sale
- Workshop on Sunday 10/25/15!
Genealogical Forum of Oregon Fall Seminar 2015

~ Seminar Event Schedule ~

8:00 am    Registration opens
9:00 am    Opening remarks
9:15 am    Session 1
10:15 am   Morning break
10:45 am   Session 2
12:00 pm   Lunch
1:15 pm    Announcements
1:30 pm    Session 3
2:30 pm    Break and Treasures
3:00 pm    Session 4

Seminar Site
SATURDAY 24 Oct 2014
Milwaukie Elks Lodge
13121 SE McLoughlin Blvd., Milwaukie, Oregon
Situated on the west side of McLoughlin Blvd., Oregon Hwy 99E, 1/2 mile south of the town of Milwaukie.
Located between SE Park Avenue (traffic light to the north) and the Bomber (restaurant to the south).
Look for Milwaukie Elks Lodge sign.
Free parking available.

*NEW* - Lunch - *NEW*
Soup/Salad/Sandwich bar (pick two) in the Elks Dining Room for $9 - gluten free and vegetarian options, too!
Coffee, hot tea and juices are included.
No lunch available for those who register after 18 Oct 2015.

Breaks
Snacks and beverages (listed above) are included with admission and are available during breaks as well as lunch.

Refund Policy
For cancellations received after 18 Oct 2015, refunds will be made in the amount of the registration fee less a $10.00 cancellation fee.
Lunch fees are non-refundable if canceled after 18 Oct 2015.

Questions? Email seminar@gfo.org

~ ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS ~

Pamela Boyer Sayre, Certified Genealogist, Certified Genealogical Lecturer, and Utah Genealogical Association Fellow, has developed, coordinated, and taught in numerous genealogy education courses. She is former director of education and publications for the National Genealogical Society and a former board member of both NGS and the Federation of Genealogical Societies. Pam is a former FGS FORUM Digitools columnist and a former editor of the Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly. Ms. Sayre holds a Bachelor of University Studies with emphasis in English, sociology, and history from Eastern New Mexico University, and completed some course work toward a Masters in Computer Information Systems at Bentley University, Waltham, Massachusetts.

Richard G. (Rick) Sayre, Certified Genealogist, Certified Genealogical Lecturer, and Utah Genealogical Association Fellow, is a long-time researcher and instructor in genealogical topics at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research at Samford University and co-coordinates genealogy courses at Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy and Genealogical Institute of Pittsburgh with Judy Russell (The Legal Genealogist) and Pam Sayre. His areas of expertise include records of the National Archives, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Daughters of the American Revolution. Rick’s areas of concentration include military records, land records, using maps in genealogy, urban research, and government documents. Rick earned a Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry from University of Colorado at Boulder and a Master of Arts in Management Information Systems from George Washington University. He is a retired military officer, having served 31 years in the U.S. Army, and a retired member of the Senior Executive Service for the Department of Defense.

Pamela & Rick Sayre - Fall Seminar Sign-up Form - 24 October 2015

Name ___________________________________________ Member # __________
Email for syllabus __________________________________ Telephone __________________
Address ____________________________________________________________________________
City, State & Zip _______________________________________________________________________

MEMBERS: { } $45 received by Oct. 18th { } $49 received after Oct. 18th (no lunch)
NON-MEMBERS: { } $49 received by Oct. 18th { } $54 received after Oct. 18th (no lunch)
LUNCH: { } $9 must be received by Oct. 18th SYLLABUS: { } $3 for Paper Copy - EMAIL FREE
TOTAL: $__________ □ Payment enclosed □ Paid online at PayPal using email address payments@gfo.org

Please make checks payable to Genealogical Forum of Oregon or “GFO”

Mail to Attn: Fall Seminar, GFO, 2505 SE 11th Ave, Ste B-18, Portland, OR 97202-1061

PLEASE CIRCLE CHOICES: (Pick two):
Soup   Salad   Sandwich   GF   Veg
Maps enable genealogists to understand more about an ancestor’s migration, community, and occupation. In this hands-on two hour workshop, students will learn about traditional and online resources for finding historical, topographical, birds-eye view and other maps, how to interpret the maps’ symbols and notations, and how to correlate other information with map data to pace an ancestor in time and place.

In on-line demonstrations, attendees will see some of the myriad sites for finding and downloading appropriate maps. For hands-on exercises, attendees will be provided with hard copies of maps, documents, and other tools to be used in correlating deeds, censuses, newspaper articles, or other documents with maps to solve genealogical problems using various kinds of maps, from deed plats to land ownership maps to panoramic maps. Demonstrations and exercises will include a mix of rural and urban problems and
MANY THANKS
Jeanette Hopkins, Vice President

We want to offer a very heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who donated to the GFO during the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Whether you answered our Annual Appeal, included a little extra with your dues, dropped an extra bill or two in the donation jar, or responded to a special fund raising effort, we are most grateful to each and every one of you. We have accomplished many wonderful things this past year—all due to your generosity. We have big plans for this coming year, and we hope we will have your ongoing support!

In gratitude, Your GFO Board of Directors

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Ann and James Wendlandt

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Gale Taylor

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Mary Ellen Farr
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Dale and Joan Keller
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Harvey and Carol Steele

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1 Anonymous–scanner
James Morrow–GFO logo update
Ann and James Wendlandt–scanner

Pedigree Level ($500–$999)
1 Anonymous

Ancestral Level ($250–$499)
Donation Jar–scanner

Sustaining Level ($100–$249)
Mary Ann Spear–book repairs
Richard Crockett–membership printer
Marj Enneking–membership computer upgrades
Pam Vestal–scanner
Loretta Welsh–scanner
Gerald Zimmer–binding supplies

Supporting Level ($50–$99)
Harold Hinds Jr.–book repairs

Patron Level (up to $49)
Rose Chapman–scanner
Linda Dawson–new books
Teresa Gardner–scanner
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**On the Cover:** Oregon State Hospital, locations of Sharon Helgerson’s story *Scared Out of My Mind* on page 3. Photo by Wistungten via Wikimedia Commons [CC BY-SA 3.0]
Letter from the Editor

Every issue has its own challenges, and for this one I must begin with my thanks to all of the team instead of ending with my thanks. I was on vacation right before we sent this issue to print, and so, was not as able to contribute as much as usual. Of course, the great team we have stepped right up to help.

I have enjoyed every issue I have worked on to date, but this one made me smile because we have a bit of a theme. With Halloween soon on people’s minds, we had some articles that seemed to fit well together. One is “Scared out of my Mind” by Sharon Helgerson—a first person account of being placed in the Oregon State Mental Hospital as a teenage runaway. While this article does not have a strictly genealogical theme, but instead tells a story about an institution that has loomed large for many families in Oregon, we thought it might provide valuable insights to our readers. The story also gives an amazing glimpse into the institution and some of the people who were there. Additionally, one of our goals for the Bulletin is to inspire readers to write their own stories. Hopefully this story does just that.

We have an article by Emily Aulicino called “Skeletons in the Closet.” It deals with the potential “black sheep” that every family has – the outlaw, the prisoner, the person in the asylum. It gives some good advice on ways to present them when writing your family history. In keeping with our theme, one of our regular columns, Harvey Steele’s Relics discusses early jails in the Pacific Northwest and their connection to ardent spirits.

Nanci Remington has highlighted another Bible; this one from the Norris family. This issue includes another brick wall for our readers to ponder, provided by Barbara Wegner.

Columns in this issue include Nanci Remington’s Tools for a very useful look at using the GFO on-line OPALS catalog. Our Spotlight column, by Gerry Lenzen, is the third part of what will be a research guide on using GFO land records. We round out this issue with four book reviews, and sadly, an obituary for Ruth Chauncey Bishop, the very first life member of the GFO. Ruth was a great lady who contributed to the GFO in numerous ways over many years, and she will be greatly missed.

As always, we hope you enjoy this issue and we welcome your feedback.

Respectfully,
Marti Dell
Scared Out of My Mind

Sharon Helgerson

Many stories have escaped asylum walls, although most have died within them. One such story was the experience of a child – a sane child whose spirit may have been a bit rebellious for the time, but none the less, she was and is perfectly sane. Emily Aulicino

In 1955, I was placed in the Oregon State Hospital for the criminally insane in Salem together with three other escapees from the Hillcrest reform school for girls.

After breaking free from Hillcrest, the four of us were picked up early one evening by staff from MacLaren School for Boys. We had no idea where we were going and it was a quiet and somber ride. That would be the last silence I would experience for several weeks.

The authorities at Hillcrest had warned us that runaways would not be tolerated and had suggested that those who did run away would be transferred to Rocky Butte Jail in Portland. I believed I had prepared myself for jail. We had joked about it among ourselves laughingly, using the jailhouse phrase “We can do that standing on our heads.” So, of course, I was confused and bewildered when after a short ride we pulled up before a huge, looming, and ominous building that housed Oregon’s insane . . . about 3,500 patients at that time. It looked like what it was . . . a house of horrors! I never could have prepared myself for what would meet me inside.

My carpool partner and I were separated from the other girls, and I never saw them again. My memory of this place begins after entering the first of a series of wards where I was slightly relieved by the relaxed setting of Danish-style furniture and young people milling around and for the most part, looking quite sane. Between each ward and locked door there was a hall or a short screened walkway. The heavy, solid doors were locked behind us before the next was unlocked. One of the wards housed older women; some were sitting in the wicker furniture that was familiar only to that ward. They were a scattered group with some talking to themselves or others, but it was nothing compared to the primeval chaos that greeted us when we entered the back ward that was to be my home for the next three weeks . . . a ward for the criminally insane.

When passing through each ward into the next, it seemed as if we were descending deeper and deeper into this world of madness, peeling off layers until we reached...
the “back” ward where I was assigned. The constant racket and uproar overpowers my memory of the foul smell, but they were both overwhelming. I was scared out of my mind.

The building was constructed in 1883 with high ceilings, old-fashioned lighting, and heavy screened windows. It was a perfect match for the expectation of what an insane asylum would look like, including the tormented occupants.

A group of women surrounded us as soon as we entered. I did not move even as they pressed close and picked at our clothes muttering and asking questions without needing answers. Surely, they were not going to leave us here in this snake pit. Well, they did!

It was near bedtime, but they first took us to the shower area that also held two deep bathtubs set in the middle of the room. This arrangement provided space for as many attendants as needed to control the patients who became unmanageable. On this night, the tubs were used to disinfect or delouse the two of us, washing our hair with a nasty smelling liquid, even though we had come from a state institution. It was the rule. There were many other rules.

Two of us were placed on this ward, but we were separated. After being “disinfected” and issued a faded, worn nightgown, I was taken to the bathroom and then instructed to leave my shoes outside the door of a room that held two cots. I was strapped to one of them with a heavy leather strap and wide leather cuffs that secured my hands to my waist. The other cot under the tall screened window was empty. I tried to convince the attendant that I was not crazy, here only for punishment. They ignored me, telling me I would be in restraints for twenty-four hours. “It was the rule.”

There was little sleep that night. It was February, and the wind was howling outside; the patients were howling inside. Tormented pitiful cries along with repetitive chanting, hollering, and pleading came from the women now restrained in bed.

Someone was allowed up to pace the hall. She was chanting “Jesus don’t care, Jesus don’t care,” over and over, louder and louder. I was a stranger in a strange place and was thrown completely off guard.

I tried to relax and not struggle in the restraints while lying in bed. I fought the claustrophobia and the fear. Just about then, a hand came through the space between the wall and the radiator and grabbed my head. The wall that separated the room and the hall was cut away providing a spot for a radiator, which heated both areas at the same time. The space around the radiator was large enough for a hand to reach inside. My friend who was released from
her restraints to use the bathroom had seen my shoes outside my room and used the chance to scare me. My screams blended with those of others.

Morning came, and my door was open, but I was still strapped in bed. One of the patients entered my room, a heavy-set, sloppy-looking woman. She talked softly, sweetly to me and reached under her dress for a comb that was left with just a few scattered teeth. I pleaded with her to leave as she leaned over me and started to comb my hair. She rambled on not paying any attention to my pleas, and I was afraid to make her angry as I couldn't defend myself. She quickly left when a childlike girl or woman bolted into my room taking an aggressive stance with hands on her hips and screaming, “You’re in love with Doctor Dreis are you? Aren’t you? I saw you take him down and intercourse him.” I was afraid this agile little monkey-like gal jumping around was going to tear into me. Just then a matron arrived and released me to wash up and have breakfast. She left me with a bleached cotton print dress, which was common issue, and I hoped it would help me blend in with the other patients. Most of the women seemed to be living in their own worlds, talking and using wild hand gestures to get their point across to the imaginary people they were directing all their energy toward.

My first experience in the dining room is the only one I remember vividly. I sat down with a dozen or so patients at the long wooden table set with dented tin plates and cups and a solitary spoon for a utensil. In the midst of this first meal, a young woman sitting at the head of the table announced in a loud voice, “I use Listerine.” She took a big gulp of coffee, threw her head back, and gargled. Then she spewed it out over the table, following it with peals of laughter.

Some would spit food back on their plates. Others stole food, or gave food to others, sometimes causing a squabble. More often, this was tolerated or not even noticed by what I guessed to be heavily sedated women, some with drool spilling from their open mouths. I couldn’t eat. I tried to convince myself to drink the milk. Take a sip, I love milk. I couldn’t do it. Everything seemed so vile. I learned to drink coffee. Black coffee was all I could stomach . . . I found myself looking forward to mealtime for the coffee, which other than a couple bites of bread I dunked, would sustain me through my stay. I was close to hysteria myself, and I was so grateful when they told me I would not have to complete the 24-hour initial restraint requirement.

After breakfast and lunch, any patient who could function at all was required to “Block.” This meant pushing a large block of wood with a heavy cloth on the
bottom with a broomstick handle. This was a twice-a-day, seven-days-a-week routine, and it went remarkably smoothly. For as boring as it was, it was meant to provide exercise, and, of course, it helped keep the floors polished. Everyone moved exceptionally slowly, some suffering with physical disabilities, pushing and polishing single file up and down the hall, around and around for an hour.

I got the first look at my surroundings that morning while I blocked, meekly staying in line, trying to blend in, and not drawing any attention to myself. One end of the long hall provided the sleeping rooms, some single, some double, and at least one larger room that held bedridden patients who were in constant restraint. Their yelling and pleading for help was a continual day and night background for the repetitive babbling and pitiful whimpering, which never stopped anywhere on the ward. The terrible pathetic sight of them struggling to free themselves is unforgettable.

Blocking was over this first morning and my friend from Hillcrest was not there. They must have moved her early. Separating us, I later learned, was another fear tactic that I must say was effective. I was on my own here, and there wasn’t anywhere to go.

Several times, I sought out someone who was exempt from blocking due to different mental or physical problems and would place them in line, put the block in their hand, and sneak away. This didn’t work very well as my plan would be foiled when my stand-in would wander out of line and foul things up or just wasn’t capable because of a lack of strength or balance. Today I wonder if some younger patients were disabled with muscular dystrophy or other disfiguring diseases. Shame on me!

The opposite end of the hall held the open “day room” and the nurse’s station. There was always activity here. The nurse’s station was next to the door, and patients gathered to wait for the doctors or other attendants who stopped there before leaving the ward. There were always several inmates trying to push or beg their way out, pleading to go home. No one likes to be locked up . . . even if they are crazy.

There were two or three women who wore red cotton pajama-like suits that were buttoned around the waist and across the shoulder, allowing them to be undressed without taking off a leather belt and cuffs that were never removed. They were not required to block, and one of these poor souls was hunched in a corner snarling at anyone who looked her way. Her hair was tangled, and she looked and acted menacing. The sloppy woman with the toothless comb couldn’t resist the temptation. She stopped and tried to fuss over the hunched woman. It was over in a flash. The crazy woman had her down, and her teeth were locked onto her arm. When separated, the victim was bleeding where a hunk of flesh was missing. The comb that was considered contraband was confiscated. Personal possessions were not allowed on this ward.

There were a few exceptions to that rule. An elderly lady in a single room, who had been a resident for 30 years, was allowed to have a broom and spent her days sweeping her room hour after hour. Later, when I tried to engage her in conversation, she brushed me aside. Absorbed in keeping her floor clean, this sweet-looking, little gray-haired grandma always wore an apron.

I went to the day room where there was a television playing with the sound of a game show adding to the pandemonium. I found a place where I could sit with my back to the wall to stay out of the way until I could get my bearings. There were several people in the room; some were staring at the television with blank faces, not understanding the dialogue. I never had a chance to brace myself before the “little monkey” who had been in my room earlier, jumped in front of me again screaming and accusing me of “intercoursing” Doctor Dreis.
was still scared of this tiny little fairytale creature, but my hands were free, and I could at least protect myself. She abruptly stopped, went to the heavily screened window, and standing with her legs apart, she lifted the front of her dress and slowly swayed back and forth singing “beautiful, beautiful bluish-green eyes” over and over until she was calm and left the room.

Sometime in the first few days I was taken off the ward to have my photo taken. Fingerprints? I can’t remember. I do remember that I was taken through a dimly lit tunnel that smelled like a musty basement. There were tracks laid throughout the tunnels, and I later learned they were used to transport food, laundry, and other supplies between buildings using a small rail system. It was also used to transfer patients, which made it a convenient way to keep them from the public eye. I had expected to see a doctor at the end of the tunnel or someone with information. I was confused as to why I was still here. Were they planning on keeping me, testing me? Treating me? Will I see a doctor? I had questions, but no one to ask.

I felt alone, but as the days went on my fears lessened. The initial fright had turned into more of a defensive mode. I was still leery and cautious but not saturated with the initial fear I had experienced when first thrown into this surreal never-imagined world.

As I became more comfortable, I was curious about these women. I approached several of them looking for someone to talk to and perhaps to help me navigate through this nightmare, but there was no common ground for conversation. I listened to a woman in her early forties who had tears in her eyes when she spoke of being married and cried when she spoke about how much she missed her children. She was so lucid that I wondered to myself why she would be on a ward for the criminally insane.

As we were talking, the big door opened, and she was up off her chair, trying to squeeze her way out while she desperately pleaded her case. She was joined by several other women all desperate to escape. I found something else to do, but I sought her out again, feeling sorry for her. She was so quiet and sat apart from some of the more aggressive or heavily sedated women. The entire scene was pathetic. I can’t say it enough.

A few days later, while blocking after lunch, this same thin, delicate, red-haired woman began singing “Bringing in the Sheaves, Bringing in the Sheaves.”
She had a beautiful soprano voice, but she sang louder and louder, higher and higher as she went around and around until the song progressed into a highpitched scream. The attendants filled one of the deep bathtubs, and two of them wrapped her in a sheet and immersed her in the cold water that subdued her. In the next few days she was taken off the ward for a shock treatment. When she returned she was withdrawn and mute.

I approached anyone who could finish a sentence. I spent time with a young woman, who was probably in her thirties, and who told entertaining stories about hobnobbing with movie stars. As a young girl in the fifties, I enjoyed the movie magazines that were so popular and kept us up to date on the personal lives of the stars. And now, I was privy to the inside stories.

She named different leading actresses and actors she had met and run with. She described the houses of the stars where she partied in Hollywood. She took me to California with the sunshine and the beautiful people, a wonderland she was a part of . . . and who knows, it may have been true. She was a pretty woman, and even in her cotton day-dress she played the part of a glamour girl to the point of being pretentious. I spent as much time listening to her stories as she would give me.

One morning while everyone was blocking in the hall, I saw some staff and a doctor escort her to a room that was set up like mine as the radiator was cut into the wall. Each time I passed her room I would stop and have a look. Today they had strapped her in bed and had a cart on wheels that was rigged to give portable shock treatments. I watched them put the cones on her temples and apply the shock. The only other thing that I remember is how hard she slept, how she snored so loudly for so long, and how she was so quiet and subdued when she recovered. She was blank when I spoke with her next. That was the end of the wonderfully entertaining stories.

Soon after the shock treatment she was allowed a “day out.” It was a day off campus and most likely with her parents. I wondered if that was the purpose for the shock treatment, to subdue her for her visit. She caught my attention on her return because she was dressed in street clothes. I followed her when she went into the bathroom. The always-busy staff had taken their eyes from her before she changed her clothes, and she had decided she was going to wash her long, beautiful, full-length camel hair coat.

The bathroom had a long community sink with multiple faucets, and she laid out her coat in the sink and turned on all the faucets. The overworked matrons now had to deal with this ruined coat, which probably cost as much or more than a week of their wages. I speculated that maybe her parents had some influence because she was the only patient I observed who had left the ward, with the exception of those who received shock treatments.

At this point, I was more at ease with the surroundings and sought out ways to fill the days. The hospital did have a movie night, but the criminally insane weren’t privileged to attend. I spent some time playing cards with a little, feisty, older lady who wore mitts on both hands as otherwise she would shred clothing, bedding, or whatever she found to satisfy her compulsion. It was a selfish act on my part. It was a bargain deal. They removed her restraints, and I would play cards with her to weasel out of blocking, although for me it was just about as boring. There was a partial deck of cards, and the “Shredder” did all the dealing. After being restrained it probably felt good to use her hands. She was in complete control. I didn’t even need to play my cards. She played them for me and with no rhyme or reason. I liked this little lady because she was so out-front, bossy, and spoke her mind. I should have spent more time with her.

About a week after arriving, the matrons, who were always short-handed, asked me to help with the showers.
I agreed only if I could be on the drying end of the operation. The more violent patients were showered with their restraints intact. Even so, I was uneasy with these naked, sullen women, some of whom spent their days cuffed, either on their feet in their pajama suits or on their backs, and a few on sheepskins. Some would recoil and cower at being touched while others would fight even though their hands were cuffed. They kicked and struggled when they were dried and dressed. More than once I called for backup because they scared me. I hated this chore, but once doing it I could hardly ignore the fact it made it much easier and faster for the overworked help.

I stayed clear of the patients restrained in their beds. I ignored their futile cries and pitiful pleas for help. The same pleas you might hear repeated in nursing homes today. The same smells you’ll find there, as well.

I did not witness any intentional abuse in or during my three week’s stay. The matrons I talked with were from around the Salem area. They were of the same makeup as the Hillcrest matrons, some of whom had also worked at Fairview next door. They were middle-aged housewives for the most part, overworked and undoubtedly underpaid, strong women who must have had an equally strong mindset to rebuke the women following them constantly, clamoring for attention and asking questions that had no answers. To spend day after day with such despair and heartache and also be required to clean the woman with feces smeared on herself and the wall of the bathroom, or to calm the two fighting over a single scrap of paper, or to deal with the woman who undressed whenever a male was present had to wear on these housewives. All this was a constant whirlwind of insane actions blended with the wretched sight of the other lost, catatonic souls with heads bent over medicated bodies. I wondered what the turnover in this job must have been?

My grandparents came to see me. They told me my parents had been here but were turned away. I hadn’t had a letter because communication was not allowed for the first thirty days. My grandfather was persistent, and we were allowed a short visit. He brought me hope along with a box of chocolate Turtles. After three weeks of bread and black coffee, I counted the hours until meal times when I was allocated two of the delicious sweet pieces of chocolate and caramel. I nibbled, savoring each tiny bit until the after-flavor had long passed.

It was just a few days after their visit that I was taken to the office of the Superintendent where I met my grandparents again. They had been to the District
Attorney’s office in Salem, and Grandpa had demanded my release. He got it. I was getting out of there!

The meeting with the Superintendent draws a blank other than a visual of a large, kind man behind a large desk. I do know I left the State Hospital not knowing where I would be going. A nineteen-year-old I knew who had been released from Hillcrest, was later sent back for parole violation because she married. Amazingly, they allowed her husband visitation. What a goofy world!

Being an adult in her circumstance didn’t keep her out of Hillcrest, and perhaps I was to return as well. Being eighteen would not assure my release. They could return me to Hillcrest if they wanted. Anyway, I felt their intention might have been to send me to jail. I welcomed either choice after this experience.

Again, I was on my way to an unknown destination. This time I was surprised and overjoyed when I arrived at the modern Donald E. Long Juvenile Home in Portland. I later discovered that Hillcrest wouldn’t take me back because they believed I was the instigator in the run away.

After several days of peace and quiet in the Isolation Unit, but still certainly concerned about additional incarceration, I went to court. It was brief. The judge asked questions and ruled the State Hospital had been severe enough punishment, a harsh lesson, and he turned me loose. I would bypass any further restriction. Free and clear!

Editor’s note: The photos we have used were taken many years after Sharon’s incarceration and to quote her, “... looks too nice and the room is big with a bank of windows. It must have come from a ward for less violent patients that were furnished differently. The rooms I occupied were narrow with just enough room to tightly fit two cots in an L shape, with one tall narrow window. For me, it feels as if some of the photos disguise the true atmosphere.” All photos are the property of Paul Miller and used with his permission. The facility is closed.

Sharon married and had two children but divorced when the children were still young. Suddenly needing employment, she worked for about a year processing chickens at Lyndon Farms, six years at Freightliner in the parts plant, and eventually was one of the first five women hired by the International Longshore and Warehouse Union in Portland. Sharon worked on the waterfront as a longshoreman for twenty years until her retirement in 2000. Her first five years of “retirement” were spent caring for her mother who had suffered a stroke. Sharon is still active in the ILWU and is grateful to have a good pension and excellent health insurance so she is able to live comfortably. Sharon now enjoys short vacations, local music and history events, and daily walks with her dog.
Skeletons in the Closet

Emily Aulicino

“Writing a life story means dealing with the discomfort that past episodes and people may bring. Because the task requires us to face our own embarrassment and even the censure of our family, we need to thoughtfully and critically analyze the bones of the past.”

No family is squeaky clean. Everyone has skeletons in their family’s closet, and what to do with them is your choice. You can choose to leave them hidden or expose them. Your approach in exposing them can range from a delicate mention to a full explanation of the circumstances. The BYU Broadcasting Ancestors webpage shares that the most common approach seems to be one of “tell, don’t dwell” – meaning don’t whitewash history by excluding the story, but don’t embellish it or make it the focus of your family history. Elizabeth Shown Mills, a noted genealogy author, states, “Let’s don’t bury truths our offspring may need for reasons we cannot anticipate.”

We must remember that what is scandalous in some societies is quite acceptable in others; what was unacceptable or shameful in earlier times may now carry little or no disfavor. It was once a mark on the entire family if a member had a child out of wedlock, was sent to a mental hospital, had a birth defect, was sent to jail, or was hanged as a horse thief. Time and changes in society’s attitudes have mitigated those blemishes on the family tree, although not all family members are as accepting of these past actions as others. While some may be amused by past escapades, others may be horrified. And you may find yourself with a need to write about a living relative whose behavior has not conformed to society’s current norms and who is an embarrassment to the family. Those relatives are few compared to the whole, but it is still important to tell their story. No one is all bad, and no one is all good. Each of us has had difficulties getting through what life presents us at times, and some people make better choices than others; however, it is only fair to tell their stories in the context of their life and the time.

SKELETON PRIDE

More people are sharing their wayward kin with the world. Many Australians are proud of their convicted English ancestors who were sent to the penal colony. Many genealogists hope to find some interesting family member who was embroiled in a scandal, who was an outlaw, or who left one family to start another in secret. We wear a badge of pride to know our ancestors had a colorful past. It makes our genealogy more interesting.

There are many websites dedicated to helping researchers discover more about their errant relatives and to boast of the family indignities. Below are a few of these and some others that may help in your research.

International Blacksheep Society of Genealogists A site and mailing lists for genealogists who have found “blacksheep ancestors” in their direct family lines, or under the “One Degree Rule” of the Society.

Notable Women Ancestors: Notorious Women The lives and exploits of several women who have crossed paths with the law.

Cyndi’s List of Prisons, Prisoners & Outlaws While on Cyndi’s list, be sure to search for “notorious,” “black sheep,” and “skeletons.”

Illinois Department of Corrections allows you to search for inmates, including those who have died or been discharged, and provides name, birth date, offense, and physical description.
The Bulletin

Colorado State Corrections Archives® This search engine will provide information on Colorado corrections and reformatory records. It also provides marriage, probate, court, and others.

Proceedings of the Old Bailey® (London’s Central Criminal Court) 1674 to 1913

OLD VS. NEW SKELETONS
Writing about a family skeleton of long ago can be much different than letting one out of the closet who is living or whose victims are still living. Also, the degree of misbehavior suggests latitude in divulging the circumstances, and how you handle these situations may be very different. Our general acceptance of a horse thief in the 1800s is quite different from a cousin who is noted for auto theft. A great-great-grandfather who populated half the county will probably be viewed differently than a serial rapist or a woman who has had children by multiple partners. Each circumstance must be carefully treated, but in a different manner that fits your family situation.

IMPACT ON FAMILY
You must consider the impact upon the living family members. If there are relatives who may be upset with the details of a scandal, approach them with bits of information and gradually see if they are open to accepting public knowledge of the situation. If family members would be upset or hurt by sharing the story with all the relatives or with the world, by all means write the story then decide when and how you will share it. You might choose to share it only with those who are comfortable with the details or you may wish to wait until the non-accepting family members are no longer living. You may find it best to write the full story only for future generations by preserving it through a local archive and not by sharing it with family.

POINT OF VIEW AND TONE
Consider your point of view and tone when you write about delicate situations. Do not write to attack or to defend, but remain neutral. Write the story couched in the circumstance of the time and culture. When writing about difficult situations, stick to facts and events, and refrain from judging your relatives. For example: In Angela’s Ashes, Frank McCourt writes about the alcoholism and poverty in his family, but he never makes a disparaging comment. His story is based on the family events and is written with love and humor. Using love and humor is the best way to expose your scandalous skeleton.

It is important to take the time to learn about the social history of your ancestor’s time and location, so you can better understand his or her behavior and why it was or was not acceptable in that society at the time. It may be the situation was the norm in that time and place, but not acceptable years later. For example, if your family owned slaves in the early 1800s you may be hesitant to write about it as today slavery is a very sensitive topic. Those were different times in the South then. You should not justify the behavior nor negate it, but explain the background of the culture that allowed this to occur. Writing with factual information and an understanding of the time, without judgment, helps the reader accept the history of the family without condoning it. Revealing the circumstances that led to the unacceptable behavior may show that our ancestral or living skeletons may have been doing their best under the conditions at the time. As you write, maintaining the attitude that we all try to do our best, although we do not always make the best choices, is a fairer approach. Each descendant will view the family history in the light of their own beliefs, but they may, at least, gain a better understanding of the circumstances influencing the skeleton’s behavior.

One of the most difficult skeletons to bring to light is that of abuse: physical, mental, or sexual. These topics are distasteful but common in our current society. Instead of making these negative stories the focus of the family history, put your efforts into explaining the stories of the persons involved. You could look into the troubled childhood of the abuser or the circumstances that help create a short fuse that flared and singed the family. You can develop the story around the strong individual who remained with an abuser, or about the courage it took to escape the situation. There were good times with the bad, no doubt, and all should be shared with the future generations.

LESSONS FROM THE CLOSET
Bringing skeletons to light with understanding allows the family to accept and learn from the past. By
sharing the circumstances surrounding the ancestor whose life was hidden in the closet, relatives can better understand the events that led to the problem and how those events affected the family. With understanding there can be forgiveness; with forgiveness there is acceptance. Problems in today’s society often mirror the past, and younger family members can learn lessons from our ancestors’ mistakes even if those lessons are ones of changing judgmental attitudes to those of understanding or of forgiveness. Life is a struggle for everyone at some time.

The following questions can assist you in writing about your family skeleton.

1. **Is the information relevant to my family’s story?**
Nothing happens in a vacuum, but some events and behaviors may not need to be revealed. Does telling about the event further your family story, or does it take your plot on a side trail with little more purpose than to point a finger at your skeleton?

2. **Is the event based on oral family history?**
Oral family history usually has some truth, although often exaggerated and altered over time. For this reason, it is very important to interview all the relatives who may have clues that can assist you in discovering the truth. Be certain that the story is not just family gossip, and keep an open mind as you may discover the events were different than what is believed.

3. **What further sources can I use to authenticate the oral family lore?**
To substantiate the facts, it may be necessary to explore the local culture of the time as well as gather facts to show a pattern of behavior that led to the event. Information can be found in many sources, including interviews of family members, court documents, newspapers, diaries and books. Multiple independent sources can clarify the facts, proving or disproving your family’s oral lore. It is important to dig deep and uncover any aspect of the time and place your ancestor lived to ensure you have sufficient understanding of the events and surrounding circumstances.

4. **Who is my audience and will the living family have access to the story?**
It is important to let your family know about your findings and ease them into accepting the results of your research. Allow them a peek into the closet to prepare them for the full story. This gives you time to determine if they will be able to accept your discoveries. Consider the feelings of those living, but do not falsely embellish the situation or lie regarding the facts to appease them. If your skeleton’s life is too traumatic for the immediate family, consider donating your publication to an archive where future generations, much removed from the event, will be more understanding.

5. **Have you looked at all sides of the situation?**
It is important not only to view your ancestor’s circumstances, but to investigate those who were a part of the situation. Someone else may have been the instigator that resulted in your ancestor becoming the skeleton in the family closet. The term “extenuating circumstance” is a common one and the need to know those circumstances is important to your story.

6. **Have I remained objective?**
Everyone has bias whether they realize it or not. Have you shown your skeleton in a fair light by clarifying their life’s circumstances in an honest manner? Have you shown respect to the ancestral skeleton, understanding their choices and the reasoning behind their actions? Have you omitted any judgement, any bias? Have you shown the positive traits of your skeleton? Everyone has
some. Strive to present the truth in a positive manner without judgement.

**IN SUMMARY**

Every family has skeletons in their closet, hidden away by family members who were embarrassed or ashamed. Once the closet door is opened and the facts are revealed, these skeletons throw light on the family’s struggles in the past. Their struggles made us who we are. How the family dealt with those trying times should be given due recognition, for each family member has value, and every person’s story needs to be told as each story provides a foundation for life’s lessons.

As writers of our family’s history, we must find ways to honor each family member, even the skeletons. Their stories deserve to be told with honesty and without judgement. Your writing should reflect the human emotions, sacrifices and dysfunctions of the family in an unbiased manner. It is most important to write the truth, with understanding, and produce a family history that is an accurate picture of your family – the good times and the struggles. After all, without our skeletons, our lineage would be very boring.

**ENDNOTES**


4. “Of the 14 million Australians, only as many as two million may have convict ancestors. The majority are immigrants who came during the Irish potato famine or Australia’s gold rush in the 19th century or after World War II. The debate over emphasis reflects the sensitivity some still feel about admitting to their roots, although generally Australians appear to be beginning to accept their felon forebears with pride. In fact, those descendants from people coming to Australia between 1788 to 1851, the beginning of the pioneer period, now regard themselves as something akin to aristocrats.

   Claim to an ancestor in the First Fleet is nearly as prestigious as an American’s claim to ancestors on the Mayflower. In Sydney, an organization was formed with membership open only to ancestors [sic] of the 1,300 people who were transported from London to Sydney aboard the 11-ship First Fleet.”


   [http://ibssg.org/blacksheep/](http://ibssg.org/blacksheep/)


   [http://www.idoc.state.il.us/subsections/search/I$efault2.asp](http://www.idoc.state.il.us/subsections/search/I$efault2.asp)

   [https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/archives/corrections-records](https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/archives/corrections-records)

My Brick Wall – who was Emma Louisa Wallace or Ingersoll?

Barbara Wegner

Our family history gives the name of the first wife of my great grandfather, Cudaback Griswold, as Louisa Wallace. In 1899 Martha Griswold, married to Cudaback Griswold’s brother George, wrote the family history of the Cudaback and Griswold families, and her writings have been the main source of information for my research. Martha’s writings, when cross-checked with records since found on the Internet, have been incredibly accurate. She wrote the following about Louisa:

Louisa Wallace was born Sept. 15, 1848 Rome, Lenawee Co., Mich. They remained in Lenawee Co. Michigan where their three children were born. They were married Oct. 5, 1871 Mich. They spent several years near Canton, Lincoln Co. South Dakota, locating finally in Phillips Co. Colorado where the wife and mother [Emma Louisa] was laid to rest.

Children

Claud H. Griswold born May 15, 1872 Lenawee Co. Mich
Theda O. July 31, 1875
Walter Jan. 2, 1877
Louisa, wife of Cudaback died Nov. 17, 1891.

Louisa is not found in many records, and much of the information is contradictory. Here is what little is known about Louisa.

15 Sep 1848, Louisa Wallace was born in Rome, Lenawee County, Michigan. The date can be calculated from the inscription on her grave marker; it supports Martha Griswold’s writings, and is in agreement with her marriage record.

5 Oct 1871, “Louisa” Wallace married “Cundabick” Griswold in Adrian, Lenawee County, Michigan. The date can be calculated from the inscription on her grave marker; it supports Martha Griswold’s writings, and is in agreement with her marriage record.

Emma Louisa’s name appears in her children’s records; however, I have been unable to find any verifiable information about her prior to her marriage. Examination of the children’s birth and death records reveals more interesting and conflicting information.

Theda’s birth listing gives her mother’s name as Louisa. Two years later, Levi’s record lists his mother as Emma L.

Claude’s death certificate gives his mother’s name as Emma Louisa Engersol. The informant is Mrs. A. A. Griswold. This is Claude’s widow, Annie. Theda’s death record lists her mother’s name as “Louise Unknown.”
However, on her son [Levi] Walter’s certificate, her name is listed as “Emma L. Wallace.”

16 Jun 1880, In the U.S. Census, “Lousa” is listed as Cudaback’s wife, living in Rome, Lenawee, Michigan, with three children. Her age is shown as 36 which is, by other accounts, probably incorrect. It should be 32 if she was born in 1848 as other records suggest.

17 Nov 1891, “Emma L.” Griswold died, according to her headstone and to Martha Griswold’s account. Emma probably died in Phillips County, Colorado, where she is buried. Martha’s writings give no indication how Emma Louisa died.

Putting all the potential names together, I have either Louisa Emma or Emma Louisa, and her maiden name was Wallace, Ingersoll, or something else entirely.

Many hours have been spent looking for census records before the 1871 marriage. The 1880 census states that she was born in Michigan as were both of her parents. A search of the pertinent census records for Rome, Michigan, reveals no one named Wallace. However, there are two records for Ingersoll:

- In 1860 there is an Ama Ingersol, aged 11 (birth year about 1849), born in Michigan, living with a Mary Ingersol (age 35, born in New York).
- In 1870 there is a Louisa Ingersoll listed, aged 21, who is living with Mary Ingersoll (age 40, born in New York).

It looks like this could indeed have been an Emma Louisa or Emma Ingersoll of about the right age. In 1880, no listing for Emma or Louisa Ingersoll is found, perhaps because she is the person I am seeking and she is now married to Cudaback Griswold. But Mary Ingersoll (age 50, born in New York) is found living with relatives, listed as single, and aunt of the head of household. Because neither the 1860 nor the 1870 census provide relationship information, there is nothing to show Ama/Louisa’s relationship to Mary Ingersoll.

After exhausting what I could find on Emma Louisa, I focused my research on her husband, Cudaback, to see if I could glean additional information about Emma Louisa.

Cudaback Griswold was born March 2, 1841 in Wilson, Niagara County, New York, the son of Socrates and Lydia (Cudaback) Griswold. He enlisted in Company B, Eighteenth Michigan Infantry Regiment on June 6, 1862, served in the Civil War, and mustered out June 26, 1865 in Nashville, Tennessee, when the war ended. Cudaback later received a pension for his service. He died February 20, 1932 in Los Angeles, California, and is buried at the Los Angeles National Cemetery (Sec 33, Row C, Site 30).

The marriage certificate for Cudaback and Louisa is interesting for the lack of information provided and the strange spelling of Cudaback’s name. While the writing in the record was done by a clerk in the court (not the minister), it should be mentioned that census records show that the minister, Russell Hervey (Baptist), lived near Sylvia and Peter Bogert in a relatively small community. Sylvia was Cudaback’s aunt, so the Griswold family was probably known to him.

Cudaback’s brother, Charles, is one of the witnesses to the marriage. The other appears to be Jennie Low, but no one by that name can be located in Cambridge in 1870. The biggest question is why, if Emma Louisa’s last
name is Ingersoll, does the record read Wallace? Was she earlier married to someone named Wallace?

Cudaback lived with his parents in both the 1850 Wilson, Niagara, New York census and the 1860 Rome, Lenawee, Michigan census. In the 1860 Census, the Griswold family’s real property value is given as $4,300. Cudaback’s mother, Lydia, died in 1861, his father, Socrates, married “Rebeckey” Noyes on 24 Aug 1862, and his father died on February 18, 1865. In the 1870 Census, Cudaback was in Rome working on the Zeblin Watson farm. The 1880 Census shows him living in Rome with Louisa and three children, his occupation again given as farm laborer.

What happened to Socrates Griswold’s farm after his death is not known, but none of his children appear to be living on the property in 1870. It is possible the farm was sold or left to one of his heirs. I have been unable to locate “Rebeckey” in any records other than the marriage.

Sometime after Levi Walter’s birth in 1877, Cudaback and Emma Louisa moved to South Dakota. According to Martha Griswold’s book, her husband (Cudaback’s brother), George B. Griswold, homesteaded in Spink County. Another brother, Eber E. Griswold, homesteaded in Lincoln County. Eber’s granddaughter, Irene Imbusch, wrote of Eber and wife, Charlotte Griswold’s time in Lincoln County, South Dakota:

By 1900 Theda had married and left home; son Claude was married in 1896 and was living in Ouray, Colorado; and Levi Walter married in 1900 in Mesa County, Colorado.

This timeline follows the known events in the lives of Cudaback, Emma Louisa, and includes the births and deaths of their three children. Events specific to Emma Louisa that occurred during her lifetime are shaded.

| Date          | Fact or Event                                      | Location
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------
| 02 Mar 1841   | Birth (Spouse)                                    | Wilson, Niagara, NY, USA
| 15 Sep 1848   | Birth                                             | Rome, Lenawee, MI, USA
| 1850          | Residence (Spouse)                                | Wilson, Niagara, NY, USA
| 1860          | Residence (Spouse)                                | Rome, Lenawee, MI, USA
| 1862          | Residence (Spouse)                                | Rome, Lenawee, MI, USA
| 06 Aug 1862   | Military-enlisted (Spouse)                        | Rome, Lenawee, MI, USA
| 18 Feb 1865   | Death (Spouse’s father) Socrates Griswold         | Rome, Lenawee, MI, USA
| 26 Jun 1865   | Military-mustered out (Spouse)                    | Nashville, Davidson, TN, USA
| 1870          | Residence (Spouse)                                | Rome, Lenawee, MI, USA
| 1871          | Residence                                          | Rome, Lenawee, MI, USA
| 05 Oct 1871   | Marriage Cudaback Griswold                        | Adrian, Lenawee, MI, USA
| 15 May 1872   | Birth (Son) Claude Hamilton Griswold               | Rome, Lenawee, MI, USA
| 31 Jul 1875   | Birth (Daughter) Theda Olivia Griswold             | Rome, Lenawee, MI, USA
| 02 Jun 1877   | Birth (Son) Levi Walter Griswold                   | Rome, Lenawee, MI, USA
| 1880          | Residence                                          | Rome, Lenawee, MI, USA
| 1884-1891     | Residence                                          | Canton, Lincoln, SD, USA
| 27 Oct 1891   | Residence                                          | Logan, CO, USA
| 17 Nov 1891   | Death & burial                                     | Haxtun, Phillips, CO, USA
| 1899          | Residence (Spouse)                                | Salt Lake City, UT, USA
| 1910          | Residence (Spouse)                                | Malibu, Los Angeles, CA, USA
| 1915          | Residence (Spouse)                                | Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, Sawtelle, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, USA
| 25 May 1919   | Death (Son) Claude Hamilton Griswold               | Tehama, CA, USA
| 1920          | Residence (Spouse)                                | Malibu, Los Angeles, CA, USA
| 1930          | Residence (Spouse)                                | Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, USA
| 20 Feb 1932   | Death (Spouse)                                     | Los Angeles, CA, USA
| 12 May 1957   | Death (Son) Walter Levi Griswold Aka Levi W. Griswold | Tacoma, Pierce, WA, USA
| 22 Apr 1976   | Death (Daughter) Theda Olivia Griswold             | Los Angeles, CA, USA

A portion of the “Family Ancestry” written by Irene Imbusch. Source: Barbara Wegner, personal papers.

The Bureau of Land Management website shows that Cudaback purchased land in Logan County, Colorado, and homesteaded another parcel in Phillips County, both just north of Haxtun. The patent for the homestead was received by Cudaback December 14, 1895. Given that they were required to build a home and live on the homestead, it is most likely that Emma Louisa died in Phillips County. I believe the land was sold not long after Cudaback received the patent for the homestead in 1895 because the 1899 City Directory for Salt Lake City lists Cudaback Griswold. By 1910 he was living in California. Martha and her husband George were apparently in close contact with Cudaback, as both ended up in Los Angeles after 1900. Martha said nothing further about Emma Louisa in any of her writings.
I would like to find out more about Emma Louisa. Was she an Ingersoll or a Wallace? Was Mary her mother, a relative, or friend who took in the child and raised her? Where should I look next?

Author’s note: I believe Mary Ingersoll’s parents were Levi and Sarah (Hubbard) Ingersoll who lived in Rome, Michigan. Levi and Sarah both died in 1849. It is interesting to note that Cudaback and Emma Louisa named their second son Levi.

Editor’s note: Send your brick wall busting ideas to Barbara at brickwall@gfo.org.

ENDNOTES

1. Martha Griswold was the wife of Cudaback’s brother, George B. Griswold. She wrote extensively about the family circa 1899. Her original document can be found at https://archive.org/details/historyofcudabacoogris.


6. Claude, as the eldest child, would have been about nine years old when they left Michigan and 19 when his mother died, so there is some probability he would have been more aware of a connection to the Ingersoll family.


13. Ibid.


24. Cudaback has not been located in the 1900 U.S. Census.

DNA

Have Autosomal DNA test; Now What?

Emily Aulicino

Autosomal DNA (atDNA) testing is currently the most popular DNA test for genealogy. No doubt its popularity is due to its ability to cover multiple lines of a pedigree chart rather than just the all-male line for the Y-chromosome DNA or all-female line of the mitochondrial DNA test. Besides this wider scope under the autosomal DNA test, its capacity to challenge us and provide more information about our ancestors is a wonderful opportunity not thought possible prior to 2009. The challenge begins with determining which line of our pedigree chart a match shares with us, and then further dares us to determine which ancestor gave us a particular DNA segment. After all, as a genealogist the goal is to further our lineage and verify the accuracy of our research. DNA testing is prominent in assisting with those goals.

I have always said that to be a genealogist one must be a detective who uncovers the puzzle pieces to form our family picture, but that if we use the wrong pieces, our picture will not be accurate and we may not know it. DNA is our most accurate tool to prove our lineages. Equally, I have always said that if you want the truth, do a DNA test, but only if you want the truth.

Many genealogists have taken a DNA test or have asked family members to take a test. For some, the learning curve can be steep, especially for the autosomal DNA test, but the difficulty can be overcome. It is useful to employ a scientific mind to understand and use DNA testing for your benefit. By reading a few DNA books or website blogs, attending workshops and lectures, and viewing webinars, you can put the knowledge you acquire into practice. Like any new skill, practice is very important.

THE DNA SAMPLE IS MAILED

Once you have sent a DNA sample to your chosen company, there is much to do while you wait for the results. If you already have your results, the following tasks are still very important.

A. Check your pedigree chart for quality sources, proving each generation.
Do you have documents that establish the relationship between parent and child? Do you have resources that show each person’s date and location of birth, death, and marriage, along with the spouse’s name and those dates and locations?

B. Expand your lineage.
It is extremely important that you gather information on all the children and grandchildren for all the direct ancestors you know. Bring to the present as many of the lines of your sixty-four fourth great-grandparents as you can. You may match someone through one of his or her female lines or one of your female lines who married a surname that one of you does not recognize. Regardless, your match could be from any line of descent from those fourth great-grandparents.

C. If possible, test your parents and siblings.
As each person inherits autosomal DNA differently from their parents, your parents and siblings may match people you do not match. If that is the case, you are still related to their matches. Aunts and uncles may be a substitute for your parents if your parents are not living. You are related if the matches for your aunts or uncles are on the same side of their family that is your side. For instance, your mother’s sister could match some of your maternal DNA but not your father’s side.

D. Test any known cousins, especially first to third cousins.
Testing your cousins can help you determine where you and a match may have a common ancestor. That is, if you test your paternal first cousin (your father’s nephew), and if you, that cousin, and one of your new matches share the same DNA segment on the same chromosome, then you know the common ancestor is somewhere along your father’s lines. Alternatively, if you tested your paternal grandmother’s nephew or niece, and he or she and you match a new person on the same segment on the same chromosome, then the common ancestor would be one of your paternal grandmother’s ancestors. This can be easier to see if you write the name of the
cousin you test on your pedigree chart where he or she relates to you in your family. (See the example below.)

1. Use a five-to-six-generation pedigree chart to see the branches for which you need cousins tested. Choose a line on your chart and determine which relative you must locate to have that person take an autosomal DNA test so you can determine if one of your new matches would connect to that section of your chart. Please note that this may include testing relatives you have not met or have not contacted for years. As an aside, it is best to learn some basic protocol before you try to convince anyone to test.

E. Upload your GEDCOM or your pedigree chart to the company’s site.

By sharing your lineage, your matches can more easily determine what branch of your pedigree chart could hold the common ancestor. As mentioned earlier, this will not happen in every case as a female on your or your match’s line could have acquired a married name that one of you does not know, or you or your match could have missing ancestors. However, many times a surname as well as an extended family pedigree can help narrow the hunt for a common ancestor.

F. Learn the webpages of the company you have chosen for your test.

Each of the three major companies (Family Tree DNA, 23andMe, and AncestryDNA) presents DNA test results differently and their features are varied. Regardless, it is important to preview their offerings and learn as much as you can. Often there is a learning center or forum that can help. You can also join the Newbie email list at the International Society of Genetic Genealogy (www.isogg.org). There you may ask any question you wish and receive expert help.

THE RESULTS HAVE ARRIVED

Finally, the long, exciting anticipation is over; your results are here! Now the fun begins, and you have the opportunity to stretch your knowledge and tackle finding where your new cousins match you. At this point, there are several steps to use your test results effectively, as you will want to make the most of your testing.

A. Largest cMs first

Contact the matches, especially the ones with the largest centimorgans (cMs) because these are your closest relatives. Dealing with the largest segments (closest relatives) first can help in locating the common ancestor.

B. Introductions

Create a “generic” email introducing yourself to your matches, letting them know where they can find your pedigree chart or GEDCOM. Provide your personal email if you have tested with 23andMe and AncestryDNA because those two companies require you correspond through their website. If your match is not comfortable providing their personal email address, you will be able to tell because they will not contact you through the address you provided, but will continue to contact you through the website. If you have concerns about sharing your email address, you can always create a dedicated one through a free site like gmail. Sharing mailing addresses can help in case anyone’s email changes and not all correspondents are notified.

C. Phasing

Phasing is the process of determining which allele values (A, G, T, or C) in an autosomal DNA SNP dataset came from one parent and which came from the other parent. This process is not necessary for the purposes of chromosome mapping, but there are definite advantages to phasing your data. For phasing, you will need to test at least one parent and a child. However, if you are mapping only your chromosomes and will not be phasing your data, testing both a parent and a child is not necessary.

D. Map your Chromosomes

Chromosome mapping is the process of linking specific segments of your autosomal DNA to specific ancestors in your pedigree chart through the process of triangulation. For autosomal DNA, triangulation is the process of comparing two or more shared DNA segments in the same half-identical region (HIR) to determine the common ancestor.
Testing relatives and understanding the process of chromosome mapping can be challenging; however, determining from which ancestor you inherited a DNA segment and discovering the common ancestors for new cousins can be greatly rewarding. Genealogists verify their lineage by analyzing their documents after careful research, and genetic genealogists apply the same type of scrutiny to the test results of their matches when mapping their chromosomes. The general steps in mapping your chromosomes are as follows:

- Download the matches list and the matches’ segments lists in separate spreadsheets as well as those of the cousins and other family you tested.
- Maintain the original segments file, but make a copy as a working file.
- Order your segments spreadsheet from largest to smallest centimorgans (cMs).
- Remove any cMs below 5.0. These are likely IBS (inherited by state).
- Focus on segments that are above 15cMs if you are a novice. As you progress and become less of a beginner, attempt the smaller segments. Understand that some segments as high as 12cMs can be IBS. Also, large segments tend to be inherited by family members and are referred to as inherited by descent (IBD).
- Order your segment spreadsheet by chromosome, then start and end positions to locate clusters of matches that appear to share the same segment.

If you tested at Family Tree DNA, you are able to see who matches on the same chromosome in the same location, but you cannot determine if they match on the same pair of the chromosome. That is, you will not be able to tell if the matching chromosome is from your dad or from your mom. You must email them to ask if they match the others in the cluster. The chromosome browser at 23andMe provides the tools to determine this on your own. AncestryDNA does not offer a chromosome browser; therefore, the only way to see segments is to upload that result to GEDmatch. Please note that you will see only matches with those who have uploaded to GEDmatch, which means most of your AncestryDNA matches may not appear there. GEDmatch is free at the lower level and is currently $10 per month to use all the utilities.

E. Determine the Half-Identical Region (HIR)
If you test a known cousin on a line of your pedigree chart, check to see if all the cousins you match on that particular segment also match each other. If everyone shares a common segment of DNA, it confirms that each match is connected on the same HIR and all share a common ancestor. This process determines that the shared DNA is the specific DNA for that common ancestor. For autosomal DNA, this process is the central idea for triangulation.

I recommend that you compare pedigree charts on the specific lines that seem to be relevant, remembering that everyone has some missing ancestors within their six-generation pedigree charts and that someone in your family or your match’s family may have a surname that one of you does not recognize. Focus on locations as well as surnames.

F. Testing at multiple companies
It is important to test with all three companies, if possible, because their databases are different. This will help you find more matches, and give you a greater possibility of matching more recent cousins. This is especially important for adoptees seeking their biological parents and other family members. If you have taken the AncestryDNA test or the v3 chip at 23andMe, you can transfer your test results to Family Tree DNA for $39.00.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Remember not to assume that you will have matching surnames. Another reason you will not always match surnames is that you and your match may still have missing information on your ancestors. Typically, an autosomal test will match people back five or six generations, but sometimes more if the family connection is endogamous (see below). At six generations, we all have sixty-four fourth great-grandparents. Most genealogists are missing many of those 64, or do not have good documentation proving their connections. However, together with your matches, you can research the needed connections. Sometimes living in different parts of the country (or the world) can be beneficial because needed resources may be more readily available to them.

Another thing to know is that the cousinship suggested by the company is just that . . . a suggestion. Often a range of cousinship is given such as third to distant cousin with a more narrow suggestion that the relationship could be a fourth cousin. These suggestions are based on total centimorgans shared and the average probability for a cousinship (see Autosomal Statistics below). Every family will vary. The biggest variance will be
if part of your lineage was endogamous; that is, cousins married cousins. Endogamy can be prominent in certain cultural groups such as the Jewish population and the Mennonites. However, those with Colonial American ancestry will find that because people tended to marry within a few miles of where they lived, many cousins married cousins. Those families who lived for great time periods in the hollers of such places as Tennessee and Kentucky may also find their lines endogamous. Adding to all that, it was not against the law to marry your first cousin until recently, and in some states it is still allowed under certain circumstances with the exception of North Carolina that allows first cousin marriages, regardless (but does not allow double-cousin marriages). 11

In the case of endogamy or possible endogamy, compare genealogies back to at least the ninth to twelfth generation (if possible). After testing at 23andMe, I received a third cousin match. I knew the woman as we had researched together in the 1970s and had found our common ancestor. She was not a third cousin, but a seventh cousin because this line was quite endogamous. My paternal great-grandparents were first cousins. Farther back on this line, I continue to find more family marrying family.

Be cautious if you discover you are rather distant cousins with your match unless you are certain of endogamy. I have a ninth cousin match according to AncestryDNA because they compare your tree with those of your matches. When AncestryDNA finds compatible names, they suggest that is the common ancestor. Every genealogist should question on-line trees, so to be matched with names appearing in a tree of your DNA match is quite skeptical. With this alleged ninth cousin, no known endogamy exists, so it is quite possible we have a more recent common ancestor in some of our missing data. While you can celebrate a victory, as with all genealogy research, do not forget there could be an update down the road.

ATDNA BIO-GEOGRAPHICAL MAPS

With an autosomal DNA test, you can discover what population groups (i.e., African, Asian, Western European, etc.) have contributed to your DNA. You can learn what anthropologists, linguists and geneticists know about how your ancient ancestors traveled from Africa and migrated throughout the world. Although a DNA test does not give you the details of how the members of a haplogroup lived, by searching the Internet you may learn that your lineage was among the hunters and gatherers of Western Europe, or among the first to spread agriculture from the Middle East to the Mediterranean area. You may even find out that your ancestors were a part of the group who created the famous cave paintings in southern France. Many other population groups’ accomplishments have greatly benefited our species. Some information on the achievements of various populations is available at the Knowles/Knoles/Noles Family Association website at http://www.kknfa.org/haplogroups.htm. 12

All three companies offer a bio-geographical display, with 23andMe having the most detailed representation at this time. In the past, genetic genealogists have used many names for these maps, including “population groups” and “ethnic groups.” However, the percentages resulting from a DNA test can vary among siblings and your percentage may change over time, as new populations are used by the companies and the algorithms are refined. Understand that this bio-geographical display is concerned with ancient ancestry and reflects the result of all your ancestors.

ADOPTEES

The autosomal test could potentially put adoptees in contact with close relatives who may know family secrets. There have been cases where people find half-siblings as well as aunts, uncles, and even a parent. It is extremely important that any parent seeking to locate their adopted children or any adoptee should test with all three companies, as well as take the Y-chromosome DNA and the mitochondrial DNA tests, where those apply.

Although adoptees may have only one parent’s lineage or perhaps none, it is important to use their genealogical skills to gather as much information as possible and to advertise widely on various forums including DNAAdoption.com and social media. An adoptee in England discovered her father after testing the Family Finder test and the mitochondrial test at Family Tree DNA. She was able to meet her father, but still sought her mother. After creating a website and getting the attention of local newspapers as her story was unique,
her mother came forward, and they have been united. Persistence pays.

**AUTOSOMAL STATISTICS**

To understand better the usefulness of the centimorgans and to gauge the chances of locating various cousins, the following statistics can be quite helpful. By applying the total centimorgans typically shared in non-endogamous families, you may begin to focus on the generation where you and a match have a common ancestor. For example, if you share 78 cMs with a match, you can begin looking at who your third cousins could be, although the match could be another generation back from there. (Of course, there may be the issue of half-siblings, -aunts, and -uncles that can reduce the number of centimorgans you share.)

The percentages in the following charts may vary in any family. The term “ca” stands for circa and means about or approximate. The ~ is a tilde, a symbol indicating equivalency or similarity. The > is a symbol meaning greater than.

**AVERAGE AMOUNT OF AUTOSOMAL DNA SHARED WITH CLOSE RELATIVES**

- 50% mother, father and siblings
- 25% grandfathers, grandmothers, aunts, uncles, half-siblings, double first cousins
- 12.5% great-grandparents, first cousins, great-uncles, great-aunts, half-aunts, half-uncles, half-nephews, half-nieces
- 6.25% first cousins once removed
- 3.125% second cousins, first cousins twice removed
- 1.563% second cousins once removed
- 0.781% third cousins, second cousins twice removed
- 0.391% third cousins once removed
- 0.195% fourth cousins
- 0.0977% fourth cousins once removed
- 0.0488% fifth cousins
- 0.0244 fifth cousins once removed
- 0.0122% sixth cousins
- 0.0061% sixth cousins once removed
- 0.00305% seventh cousins (ca 92,000 base pairs)
- 0.000763% eighth cousins (ca 23,000 base pairs)

Source: [http://www.isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA_statistics](http://www.isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA_statistics)

**RANGES OF PERCENTAGE OF GENOME IN COMMON**

Figures from 23andMe’s Relative Finder (now termed DNA Relatives):

- Parent/child: 47.54 (for father / son pairs, who do not share the X chromosome) to ~50%
- 1st cousins: 7.31-13.8%
- 1st cousins once removed: 3.3-8.51%
- 2nd cousins: 2.85-5.04%
- 2nd cousins once removed: 0.57-2.54%
- 3rd cousins: ca .3-2.0%
- 3rd cousins once removed: .11-1.32%
- 4th and more distant cousins: .07-5%

Source: [http://www.isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA_statistics](http://www.isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA_statistics)

**CENTIMORGAN RANGES OF IBD SEGMENTS BASED ON FAMILY RELATIONSHIP**

- Parent/child: 3539-3748 centimorgans (cMs)
- 1st cousins: 548-1034 cMs
- 1st cousins once removed: 248-638 cMs
- 2nd cousins: 101-378 cMs
- 2nd cousins once removed: 43-191 cMs
- 3rd cousins: 43-ca 150 cMs
- 3rd cousins once removed: 11.5-99 cMs

If you wish to determine your own percentage of shared DNA with your close relatives for the most accurate number from your Family Tree DNA results, add all of the cMs from the segments greater than 5cMs and divide the total by 68. For a more simple method that yields an approximate percentage, just use the “Total cM” from the match list page and divide by 68. 23andMe provides the percentage on your DNA Relatives list. You cannot determine the percentage shared from the information provided by AncestryDNA.

The chart below shows the average amount of autosomal DNA inherited by all close relations up to the third cousin level.
PROBABILITY OF COUSINSHIP MATCHES

Both Family Tree DNA and 23andMe have charts showing the probability of matching a particular level of cousin. These relationships are based on the total amount of centimorgans shared; however, the cousin-ship estimates are based on mathematical probability given the known rates of recombination. Typically, the genealogical relationship is more distant than is predicted by the company. The following chart is from Family Tree DNA’s FAQs. Notice that there is only a 50-50 chance of matching fourth cousins.

Chances of Finding a Match
2nd cousins or closer > 99%
3rd cousin > 90%
4th cousin > 50%
5th cousin > 10%
6th cousin and more distant = Remote (typically less than 2%)

Source: http://www.familytreedna.com/faq/answers.aspx?id=17#628

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ON THIS TOPIC:
Aulicino, Emily D., Genetic Genealogy: The Basics and Beyond, AuthorHouse, (www.authorhouse.com).
(Also available at Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble or order from your favorite bookstore.)
Autosomal DNA Testing Comparison Chart http://www.isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA_testing_comparison_chart
GEDmatch www.gedmatch.com
See The Legal Genealogist’s blog for a review: http://www.legalgenealogist.com/blog/2012/08/12/gedmatch-a-dna-geeks-dream-site/
Phasing ISOGG’s Wiki on Phasing – http://www.isogg.org/wiki/Phasing
Phasing with one parent missing by Whit Athey – http://www.jogg.info/62/files/Athey.pdf
Triangulation of atDNA Triangulate to find more meaningful matches using both Family Tree DNA and 23andMe
By Randy Majors, posted May 5, 2011 on Randy Majors.com

ENDNOTES
1. Genetic Genealogy: The Basics and Beyond, p. 86.
2. Centimorgan (cM)–A measurement of how likely a segment of DNA is to recombine from one generation to the next generation. A centimorgan value for a matching DNA segment can be considered a measurement of the quality of the match (the higher, the closer). Typically a genetic distance of 1 cM corresponds to a physical distance of roughly one million base pairs.
3. Allele values – Each trait has two inherited values, one from each parent. These values are one of the four bases or nucleotides: adenine, cytosine, guanine, and thymine (A, C, G, and T). These bases are the building blocks of our DNA and always come in pairs, termed base pairs (bp). A child inherits one base from each parent. However, a child can inherit any combination of one trait as one is on the chromosome from his dad and the other is on the other chromosome from his mother. Therefore, for one allele the value for a child could be AC, TT, etc.
5. Half-identical region (HIR)–A section of a chromosome where at least one of the two paired bases (A-T or G-C) from one person matches at least one of the two paired bases from a different person throughout the entire region. Segments may be either identical by descent (IBD) or identical by state (IBS).
7. Identical by State (IBS)–A half-identical region (HIR) in the DNA is a small segment that came from a very distant ancestor. Small segments can be passed for generations without recombining and are generally passed along whole or not at all. They are commonly not used for chromosome mapping.
8. Identical by Descent (IBD)–A half-identical region (HIR) of DNA found to be identical in two people who are related to each other because the segment was passed down to both from a common ancestor. The larger the segment the closer the common ancestor.
9. Genetic Genealogy: The Basics and Beyond, p. 112.
10. Endogamy is the custom of marrying only within the limits of a local community, clan, or tribe.
12. Genetic Genealogy: The Basics and Beyond, p. 56.
13. There are approximately 6,761 cMs in Family Tree DNA’s autosomal genome, and for this reason 68 can be used to arrive at your percentage. For example, if you share 1,000 cMs with someone and you divide it by 68, then you get the approximate percentage of cMs you share.
Tools For Genealogy

GFO Library Catalog – More than just a list of books!

Nanci Remington

A little over a year ago the GFO library converted its library catalog to an online system. A link to the catalog is on all GFO computers and our website (by clicking on Library Catalog). You can also bookmark the site at http://gfo.ind.opalsinfo.net/bin/home.

The library catalog website is maintained on the servers of the OPen-source Automated Library System – OPALS. That is why you will see OPALS in the URL address and on the home page. You might also hear those who work closely with the system call it the OPALS catalog.

HOME PAGE

The OPALS home page has several features. Scroll down to see information about upcoming events, links to other GFO web pages, a list of new items, and a box with our hours. The links across the top of the page will take you to more information about these items. Two of the links, Pathfinders and Reserve Shelf, are still being developed.

SEARCH

Near the top of the home page is a search ribbon. The easiest way to find a book is to type its name or topic into the Keyword box and click on Search. Some examples:

1) Search by Title: To find the Complete Idiot’s Guide to Genealogy, type the title into the Keyword box and click on Search.

There are two results – different editions of the same book. Also displayed are the call numbers, authors, publication dates, and the items’ locations in the library. While we are here, please note the two boxes in the upper left corner, and the boxes near the books’ titles. These boxes will be discussed later in the section about bibliographies. Click on one of the book titles to get more information about that book.

Now you can see even more information about the book as well as similar items on the right. My favorite part in this view is the bar across the top that allows you to review the books next to the book title you just clicked as they are arranged on the library shelf. Clicking on any of the books in the top bar will give you a more detailed view of the book you select. If you find a book you want to use in the library, but you want to keep searching for more, check the Add to Bibliography box. This will start a list of books that you can save or print at the end of your search session.
2) **Search by Keyword:** If you want to search for a topic you will get the best results using a Keyword search. For example, to search for books about cemeteries in Multnomah County, Oregon, type “cemeteries Multnomah.” You get 17 results. These include a Vertical File, 12 books and 4 articles that were published in the GFO Bulletin with a link to the online content.

Note: The results of a search include variations of a word, in this case results with “cemetery” as well as “cemeteries.” It does not correct for spelling.

Sometimes there are so many results that you need to refine your search parameters. You wonder if there is a book about the Carter family. A search for “Carter” gives 72 results, including those for the surname, Carter counties, and books whose authors are Carter. Try the following methods to narrow your results:

- **Add another word in the search box.** You can narrow the search by adding a word such as “family” (9 results) or “county” (31 results).

- **Use the drop down menus.** If I limit the search to Title I get 26 results – a more reasonable number to review.

Note: The old catalog system did not contain any subject or topic information, so many of our books will not show up in a subject search. Until this information is added, you will get better results using Keyword.

c) **Use the Refine Search Box.** There is a box to the right of your results labeled Refine Search. You can click on the labels in the box to narrow your results. Choices include Location (in the library), Format (maybe you would like an audiotape to listen to in the car), and Call Number.

d) **Use Advanced Search.** The ribbon near the top of the page gives two places to click for Advanced Search. It lays out all of your options on one page.

e) **Use the Sort option.** Sometimes it is helpful to sort your results. For example, if you want to learn about doing research in New York state, type “New York how to” in the Keyword search box. You get 39 results sorted by Relevance. You can change the order by using the drop down menu and sorting by publication date. The most recent book turns out to be New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer published in 2014.

If you are looking at county histories, you could invert the order by clicking the small box to the right of the drop down menu. This will lead you to the oldest book we have and it is a great tool for local histories which may lead to our Rare Book Collection.
3) **Creating a Bibliography:** Creating a bibliography allows you to plan your trip to the GFO. It will provide you with a list of items and their call numbers. Items can be added to the bibliography in three ways: From the results page you can click the Select page box, which adds all of the items on the page; you can click Select all pages if there are more results on the next screen; or you can add one item at a time by checking the box next to the title. You may also select individual items from their detail page.

When you add an item to the bibliography a new box appears to the right of the search box. When you are finished searching the catalog, you can see your list by clicking on View Bib.

You can remove books from the list by selecting their checkbox, which removes the check mark so they will not be included when you print or save your finalized list. One of the most helpful tools is the Note field where you can add information you may want when you get to the library i.e., a specific name, event, or page in the book. You can also name your bibliography.

The Print Preview button at the bottom of the screen gives a simple list that you can print. You can also download the list by selecting Save, or Email it to yourself.

Take the time to explore the GFO Library catalog. If you have questions, ask a Research Assistant or send a note to Library@gfo.org.
Relics

Ardent Spirits and Early Northwest Jails

“W
e have but little use for a jail, and a small building will answer all purposes, for many years, I have no doubt, if we should be successful in keeping ardent spirits out of the territory.”

Governor George Abernethy of Oregon made this statement on December 1, 1846, in his annual legislative address. In his message he also noted that Oregon City’s only jail had burned earlier in the year, “the work, no doubt, of an incendiary.” If a replacement building were to be constructed, he commented, he would suggest “building it of large stones clamped together.” He further stated that all of this would be unnecessary if “ardent spirits” (strong alcoholic beverages) were prohibited in the Oregon Territory.

Ardent spirits were not prohibited, and they continued to be one of the primary catalysts for behaviors requiring a jail in the Oregon Territory. Shortly thereafter, the editor of the Oregon Spectator reported that one James Parkinson, “an old inebriate,” had departed; he went on to claim that in Oregon, there should be no need of a jail.

THE OREGON CITY JAIL

As the population of settlers, fur traders, and Native Americans increased, and other migrations of the unruly intruded (such as those brought by the gold rush), misbehavior, often exacerbated by ardent spirits, began to cause the settlers to explore options for jails. Architect, Stuart B. Mockford, writing in Clackamas County Historical Society Annual commented, “It is perhaps ironic that the first public building in Oregon, built by American settlers, was a jail; but such is the case. In fact, it was the first [public] jail west of the Rocky Mountains.”

John McLoughlin donated the land on which the American jail was built, an interesting fact in that he had earlier supervised the construction of the first jail at Fort Vancouver.
The Oregon City building was constructed in 1845 and was burned down in August 1846. Arson was suspected and it was speculated that the crime was committed by one of the jail's first occupants. It was a two-story log blockhouse, the interior of which could be accessed only by an exterior staircase. Prisoners were taken to the second floor and dropped through a hole in the floor to the holding area below. A guard was stationed in the upper room with a club, prepared to strike the prisoners if an escape was attempted.4

The next Oregon City jail was erected in 1854, and Mockford noted that archival records state, “on May 8, 1854 . . . an order for a mechanic to . . . drill a sufficient number of openings in the large cell of the County Jail so it may be considered sufficiently ventilated to be safe to lock up prisoners in the night time.” Mockford goes on to question whether suffocation was a danger before the holes were drilled.5

THE FORT VANCOUVER JAIL

As mentioned above, there was at least one other place for incarceration in the Oregon Territory. That jail was at Fort Vancouver, constructed sometime between 1841 and 1843. The structure was still in existence until at least June 1860 as first reported by A. J. Smith and later described in a report by John Hussey who wrote, “guard house, long since abandoned by the company—in a ruinous condition—material of no value . . . ”7 The actual dimensions of the structure, as described by Hussey and confirmed by the 1984-1985 archaeological excavations, were 20 by 22 feet.8

Ardent spirits played a part in the role of the Fort Vancouver jail between 1844 and 1860; of the six citations during that time, two involved drunkenness.9

Hussey speculated that the most notable resident of the Fort Vancouver jail may have been that of the alleged murderer of John McLoughlin’s son. The victim was killed in a drunken episode at the small Stikine fur trade post.10 The four Stikine suspects, known for their escapades under the influence of alcohol, were held at the Fort Vancouver jail in 1843 and charged with claim jumping, desertion, and conspiracy against their officers. They were later transported by the Hudson’s Bay Company (HBC) to Quebec, Canada, where they arrived for court hearings in 1844. The incarceration in the Stikine case was atypical as nearly all of the HBC’s policing power was directed toward the control of Native American crime, in which ardent spirits also played a major role.

Before the erection of the jail at Fort Vancouver, the principal method of regulating Native American crime was commercial (e.g., restraint or denial of trading privileges). The Indian Trade Store was an effective penalty tool. Many members of local tribes were addicted to company tobacco as well as dependent on staples like sugar, gun powder, flints, blankets, and fire steels. For serious crimes, the store could be closed to an entire tribe until stolen property was returned or a particular criminal surrendered for punishment. Although flintlock weapons and alcohol were not sold directly to Native Americans, there existed a lively black market.

OTHER JAILS

At Fort Nisqually, the nearest HBC post to Fort Vancouver, the blockhouse served not only as a potential sanctuary in case of attack but also as a prison for horse thieves and livestock rustlers. In one case reported, two sheep stealers were flogged and held in the blockhouse.

One other HBC jail, a building at Fort Victoria in British Columbia, was photographed in 1870. Although it was constructed in a post-and-sill wood method like the jail at Fort Vancouver, it may have had a partitioned interior, unlike nearly every jail known in the early Pacific Northwest except that at Fort Vancouver.

JAIL HARDWARE

Over the course of two summers (1984 and 1985) there was an archeological exploration of Fort Vancouver in which I was a participant. Considering the primitive penology of the time, it was surprising that there was little in the way of hardware (e.g., chains, shackles, locks, etc.) found in any building excavated at Fort Vancouver. However, one artifact discovered there was likely used in incarceration. In the southeast excavations, which included the privy pits, a complete body shackle (known as jougs) was recovered. Archaeologist Lester Ross has commented: “For malcontents the HBC maintained a strict
policy of punishment ranging from public redress to public lashing to incarceration within a fort jail or ship’s brig. Articles utilized for such punishments were not listed by the Company on its invoices or inventories and presumably most were country made by the blacksmith versus imported. At Fort Vancouver the only article of this nature recovered was an iron shackle belt (jougs) used for transporting prisoners in chains.”

In his 1976 report, Ross goes on to identify the use of jougs; an old-time instrument of punishment or restraint most generally used in Scotland. In North Britain the jougs were usually fastened to a church door or tree and sometimes to prison doors. Jougs are simple in form, consisting of an iron ring, with a joint or hinge at the back to permit it being opened and closed, and in the front are loops for affixing a padlock. The relic found at Fort Vancouver was designed to encircle the waist rather than the neck.

When we began the archaeology of the Fort Vancouver jail we expected to find remnants of other penological artifacts, perhaps shackles of some type. The jail excavation had little to show for the use of the building. Of 19,239 artifacts, only two hardware items, a latch bar and a key, had possible use in jail operations. Nails and sherds of pottery dominated the fragments recovered, probably reflecting the fact that the building was most often used for storage or possibly as lodging for short-term visitors.

Simple holding cells, without the use of restrictive hardware were notoriously insecure as evidenced by this report about the Calaboose at San Francisco in 1847. The first jail there was an outdated log structure at Clay and Stockton streets. A resident recalled one incarceration:

“One night a man by the name of Pete, from Oregon, was put in the Calaboose for having cut the hair off the tails of five horses and shaved the stumps. When asked what he did it for he said he wanted to send them to England to be made into a brush, to brush the flies off the Queen’s dinner table. When the prisoner’s breakfast was late in coming, Pete presented himself to the jail keeper with the door of the Calaboose on his back and told him if his breakfast was not sent promptly he would take French leave. The jail keeper sent him his breakfast promptly.”

In the early Oregon Territory, town leaders would have welcomed the simple answers to penology for humble crimes like imbibing ardent spirits; jails that could be outfitted with shackles or jougs in one empty room where the prisoner could be chained and forgotten. But with an eastern society moving west, more complex incarceration would soon be in order.

“BEYOND ARDENT SPIRITS”

After the first jail in Oregon City was destroyed, there was no place to hold prisoners other than the Fort Vancouver facility. In his 1847 address to the territorial legislature, Governor Abernethy stated, “There is one thing, however, needed very much, in connection with it [the Judiciary], and that is a prison. Should an offender be sentenced to imprisonment by the judge, there is no place in the territory to confine him, and, consequently, he escapes the punishment his crimes justly merit. This should not be so, and I hope you will provide means during your present session for the erection of a jail.”

The means were provided in 1850; nevertheless, construction did not begin until 1853 after a site was selected on Front Street in Portland. The construction
and finances were mismanaged and prisoners were housed in Portland’s city jail. By 1860 only six cells had been constructed and these were wholly inadequate and poorly situated. The site actually spanned Front Street (which the city had no intention of rerouting) and was in a gully prone to flooding. A committee was appointed to investigate.\textsuperscript{16}

Based upon the committee’s investigation, Governor Whiteaker in his 1860 message to the legislature reported, "The following penitentiary statistics will help to make clearer the situation:

1853—Two convicts were reported to be in Clark County as the whole number that belonged in the Territorial Pentitentiary [sic] under the charge of the Penitentiary Board. So a keeper was appointed, but these convicts died before they could be delivered into his hands. Three were sentenced and received during this year.

1854—At the opening of the year three were in custody, one escaped — not recaptured; six were added, making the whole number eight. Of these three escaped but were recaptured.

1855—Year opened with eight in custody, five new ones were received, two were discharged, and two escaped.

1856—Year opened with nine in custody: three were discharged, and one was pardoned. Three were received, none died, and none escaped.

1857—Number increased from eight to eighteen; during the year two were discharged, one pardoned, and fourteen admitted: none died, and one escaped.

1858—During this year seventeen were admitted and three discharged. From June 22, 1859, to September 10, 1860, while the institution was in charge of a sub-lessee, twenty-two escaped." He further recommended that the facility be abandoned.\textsuperscript{17}

In 1866 the state penitentiary was moved to Salem. Warden J. C. Gardner decided to let the inmates build the new facility and in the process, he solved the overcrowding problem when every single prisoner escaped. Unfazed, Gardner responded by building construction shacks for the captured prisoners and fitting each man in a special type of shackles, first patented as the “Gardner Shackles” but soon called by everyone the Oregon Boot.

The boot consisted of a heavy iron or lead band that locked around the prisoner’s ankle. To this band of metal was welded or bolted a heavy iron support strap anchored to the heel of a heavy shoe or boot. It weighed 28 pounds and was attached to only one leg. The invention solved the problem of prisoner mobility, made Gardner wealthy, and was used by every jail and prison in the United States. After 50 years of systematic torture, the boot was outlawed in 1918.\textsuperscript{18}

The Oregon Boot is now a museum piece, and in the twentieth century jails became somewhat safer and saner. Ardent spirits continue to be readily available and remain one of the reasons for today’s jails.
ENDNOTES

1. The Oregon archives: including the journals, governors’ messages and public papers of Oregon, from the earliest attempt on the part of the people to form a government, down to, and inclusive of the session of the territorial legislature: held in the year 1849: collected and published pursuant to an act of the Legislative Assembly, passed Jan. 26, 1853 / by La Fayette Grover, commissioner, Salem, Oregon, Asahel Bush, Public Printer, 1853, p 162.

2. Ardent, from Latin “to burn” refers to strong alcoholic beverages made by distillation such as whiskey, brandy, and gin.


6. Much of this article is based on the final version of the archaeological site report entitled The 1984-1985 Jail Project Fort Vancouver National Historic Site—Washington, by Harvey Steele and Ronald G. Cummings, June 1996, U.S. Dept. of the Interior-National Park Service—Fort Vancouver. The excavation was over two summers, 1984 and 1985 and included 91 members of the Oregon Archaeological Society. Illustrations used were by Ron Cummings, Philip Schmitz, and Herb Beals.

7. Proceedings of a board of officers which convened at Fort Vancouver Washington Territory, June 15, 1860, MS in A. G. O., Oregon Department, Document Pile, 212- S- 1860, in War Records Division, the National Archives.


10. Fort Stikine was a fur trade post and fortification in what is now the Alaska Panhandle, at the site of present-day Wrangell, Alaska.


12. An unauthorized or unannounced departure; absence without permission.


14. The Oregon archives: including the journals, governors’ messages and public papers of Oregon, from the earliest attempt on the part of the people to form a government, down to, and inclusive of the session of the territorial legislature: held in the year 1849: collected and published pursuant to an act of the Legislative Assembly, passed Jan. 26, 1853 / by La Fayette Grover, commissioner, Salem, Oregon, Asahel Bush, Public Printer, 1853, p 208.


17. Ibid.


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Spotlight

Using Land Records at the Genealogical Forum of Oregon

Gerry Lenzen

When researching an ancestor or a person of interest (POI), many researchers examine land records in depth. Doing so can help put the POI in context, reveal the names of neighbors, and provide perspective about the land the person walked.

Editor’s note: For the reader with no Oregon ancestors or persons of interest, this article may still be relevant if you have an interest in the early Oregon land records for the property where you live.

For the person who wishes to do land research in the Pacific Northwest, the most important thing to determine is the Township (T) and Range (R) of the land parcel. This information may be obtained in several ways. If you have a deed, the property description will provide the Township, Range, and Section (S), i.e., T2S R2E S19. Oregon Donation Land Claims, and possibly Rejected Claims, will also give this data. This information may be found in GFO resources discussed in the March and June 2015 issues of the Bulletin. Additionally, the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management website allows a search of General Land Office Records by locality and a person’s name for public lands first purchased from the federal government. This will yield Township, Range, and Section for either warranted or patented lands in the Public Domain. Another possibility, if the geographic location is known, is to use the GFO’s locator map (discussed later.) However the Township and Range are discovered, it is important to understand this system to use it efficiently.

INTRODUCTION TO THE PUBLIC LAND SURVEY SYSTEM (PLSS)

Under the Federal Northwest Ordinance (Act of July 13, 1787) and several subsequent acts, all of the public lands west of the Ohio River were surveyed by the rectangular grid, or cadastral, survey of measurement. This was done as a means of subdividing and describing public domain land in the United States. At this link, you can view images of the Northwest Ordinance.

The key survey lines running north and south are called “meridians” and they were numbered or named starting at the Ohio River and going west. The “point of beginning” of the U.S. Public Land Survey System was where the Ohio River leaves Pennsylvania at the northeastern tip of West Virginia on the Ohio side of the river. This is now designated as a U.S. Historic Landmark.

A site in the west hills of Portland, Oregon, called the Willamette Stone, is the point from which all of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho (west of the Rocky Mountains) were surveyed. This location was established with measurements from the original site on the bank of the Ohio River. The Willamette Stone is now an Oregon State Heritage Site.
The Willamette Stone in Portland’s west hills.

From the Willamette Stone, a vertical (or longitudinal) line running north and south was established. This principal meridian was named the Willamette Meridian. Working from this meridian, additional vertical lines were surveyed east and west, and these were called Township (T) lines.

Again, using the Willamette Stone, a horizontal (or latitudinal) line was surveyed. This first line is called the Base Line. More horizontal lines were surveyed to the north and south of the Base Line creating Range (R) Lines.

All of the lines (both Township and Range) are approximately six miles apart. This means it is approximately six miles from one Township line to the next Township line and about six miles from each Range line to the next Range line. Each Township and Range is further subdivided into one-mile squares called Sections. There are 36 Sections, or 36 square miles, in each Township and Range. These units may be further subdivided into half, quarter, or eighth sections, or further subdivided into even smaller lots or parcels. The Township and Range designations are included in the description for any parcel of land owned by an individual.
Confusion sometimes arises with the use of the term “Township.” The term “Township” can designate either the vertical lines measured east and west from the Principal Meridian or it may refer to any six square mile land unit between the Township and Range lines. When reading land descriptions, one should take care to properly identify which use of “Township” is being used in a document.

LOCATING LAND RECORDS

When investigating Oregon Country land records, it is useful to study the formation of the various districts in existence through 1844. The Oregon Country ran north and south from the 42nd parallel (about the current California border) to the Skeena River at 54° 40’ in today’s British Columbia, Canada. The northern border was the 1844 treaty line with Russia. The Oregon Country ranged west to east from the Pacific Ocean to the summit of the Rocky Mountains. When the Provisional Government was created in 1844, the districts were replaced by counties and renamed in that year. In subsequent years, the counties were reduced in size as they were divided and new counties were formed from them.

When attempting to locate land records, it is important to understand where land records were filed and where those records are now kept. When land first passed from the federal government to private individuals, the records were held by the federal government, so federal records must be searched for those transactions. The document that gave the land from the federal government to an individual was called a patent. Later, when transfers of land between individuals occurred, transactions were recorded by the county. These later records were called deeds, and to find them it is crucial to know in what county the land was located at the time of the sale.

There are many resources to help determine the name of the county at the time of the original land grant or purchase. Maps in the following two references may provide the information needed.
The Bulletin

other information. The Oregon State Archives holds many of the oldest land records originally filed at the county level. Newer records will be among the counties’ holdings—usually at the county courthouse. Regular readers of the Bulletin may remember an article in the December 2014 issue (page 17) that featured information about the Newberry Library’s online interactive map resource. This tool allows the user to view the county boundary changes in each of the states at any specified time.

**USING THE GFO LOCATOR MAP**

If the researcher is unable to find the description of the land in existing records, but knows the geographic location of the parcel, the GFO has a large map of the state of Oregon on the west side of the red brick pillar in the center of the library that will help to determine Township and Range. Find the Willamette Meridian and Base Line, then locate the property of interest and count the Township and Range lines from the Willamette Meridian and the Base Line to the property location on the map.

![GFO map showing Township and Range Lines in Oregon](image)

Once the Township and Range are known, there are several other GFO resources that may be of value. Begin with the three locator maps hanging in the hallway just off the multi-purpose area. These maps will help to identify specific microfilm reels that may provide additional information about the property.

**OREGON TRACT (REGISTER) BOOKS**

These records will provide the name of the first purchaser and the date of the sale as well as the name of the patentee and additional information about the patent.

Use the Township and Range information and this map to determine the specific box number for the microfilm. For example, if the property is Township 2 South (T2S) and Range 2 West (R2W) it will be found in reel number 53. Begin at the Willamette Stone and count two spaces south or down, then count two spaces west or left. Likewise, if the site is T10E R2N, the record will be in reel number 11.

Retrieve the tract books microfilm from the drawers in the Oregon collection. It will be in a plain white box as are many others, so be careful to retrieve the correct film. Read the box cover very carefully to avoid lost research time due to retrieving the incorrect box. We recommend using a brown wooden block, located on the top of the cabinet, to mark the place where the film was removed so the microfilm can be put back in the correct location.

The actual Tract Books from which the images were taken are large two-page registers. This type of book was used in most states to record original entries from the federal government under land grant laws. The entry information is organized numerically by Section, regardless of the overall assembly of the books. The information on any individual film can be organized in two different ways. Usually the information is arranged by Township within a Range. Occasionally they are compiled by Range within Township. The first few frames of the film should be carefully reviewed to determine which system is used on a specific reel.

The left page of each tract book entry provides a description of the tract by Township, Range, and Section. It also gives the name of the purchaser and sometimes the number of acres. The information may be listed sequentially by the specific claim number in the specific Township/Range.
UNDERSTANDING NUMBERS

CLAIM NUMBER
• Not the same as ODLC certificate number
• Specific to each Township/Range
• May indicate parcels in more than one section in the same Township

NOTIFICATION NUMBER
• On the Oregon Plat Map
• Used on all forms relating to the claim prior to the time the ODLC number was issued

CERTIFICATE/ODLC NUMBER
• Also shown as the receipt or certificate of purchase number from Washington, D.C.

Please note that this claim number is a different number from the ODLC certificate number, and may indicate parcels in more than one Section in the same Township. Other times the information may be entered strictly in Section number sequence, so the same claim number may appear in more than one Section. Because the claim number applies to the order in which claims within a Township/Range were made, there may be similar numbers in adjacent Townships/Ranges. Within any Township/Range, the numbers usually ranged from 1 to less than 100.

The right page of each tract book entry specifies the date of sale, the receipt/certificate number (which is also the ODLC number), the name of patentee, date of the patent, the volume and page in the Federal land register book in which the patent is recorded, and the federal act under which the patent was issued (i.e., ODLC, Homestead, etc.) Sometimes the patent was issued to someone other than the original warrant holder. The land warrant could be sold for whatever value the holder could receive. In turn, the new warrant owner would receive the patent in their name, in which case the patent may have an annotation providing the original warrantee’s name.

PROCESS FOR OBTAINING A LAND PATENT

WARRANT
• Issued as private application or for military service
• Gives the holder the right to claim land
• Restricts the right of others to claim the land
• Could be sold to another person or entity

The warrant holder (whether the original recipient or someone who had purchased it from the original holder) could file a claim at a land office. This claim would be surveyed to confirm the details and was sent to Washington, D.C. where a patent would be issued in the warrant holder’s name.

PATENT
A land patent is the initial transfer of a parcel of land from the federal government to an individual or private entity. These transfers of title may be the result of a Donation Land Claim, Military Warrant, Homestead, or Cash Entry.

OREGON PLAT (MAP) BOOKS
Researchers use these records to “see” the land being researched.

Use this map in the same manner as the Tract Book map. The locations in the previous example, T2S R2W, will be found on microfilm reel number 12, and T10E R2N will be found on the same reel. The plat books are also in plain white boxes, so care must be exercised to retrieve the correct microfilm.

On the microfilm, each Township is described by at least two maps. Typically, the first map shown was created in the 1860s after government-approved survey-
ors mapped the claims being made for all individuals under the Donation Land Act of 1850. Claims were given a number in the specific Township where the claim was located. This claim number applied only to that Township; not to any others.

This first map gives the number of each Section. It shows the outside boundaries of each claim in the Township. It details the length (in feet) of each survey run and the angles made at each turning point. Major geographic features such as rivers may be included, as well as the name of the claimant, number of acres claimed, claim number, and notification number. The notification number was taken to the U.S. Surveyor General’s Office by the field surveyor. The Office then issued a certificate number to the claimant. This certificate number is what we know as the Oregon Donation Land Claim number. (The notification number was used on all forms, such as affidavits and depositions from the claimant and his neighbors. These were included in the application prior to the time the ODLC number was issued).

The image of the surveyed ODLC on the first map may not conform to the grid survey lines because the claim was made before the lines were constructed. The outline resembles a metes and bounds type of survey as was done in the colonial states.

The second map for the Township on the plat book microfilm was drawn from the field notes made by the surveyors as they detailed each of the Oregon Donation Land Claims in any Township. It contains the original measurements on each line established for the Township grid according to the Willamette Meridian and Base Line. These numbers are usually of little interest to researchers as they were created to specifically locate the north/south and east/west boundary lines and the corners of each Section. The important items on this map are the physiographic and man-made features. Rivers and streams are named. Cross-hatching and dimpling was used to convey elevations and depressions. These in turn were named if they were major features. Roads, trails, farm plots, and orchards were sketched. Of most importance to researchers, individual houses were identified with the Oregon Donation Land claimant’s name if the house was in existence when the survey was made.

The microfilm may show additional maps for any given Township. Most of them describe details not otherwise shown on the first two maps. This may occur when an individual makes a claim that crosses into two separate Townships. There may be a small explanatory map in both Townships that show the relationship to the whole claim. However, there will be a separate claim number for the parcel in each Township. The notification number will apply to all parcels in all Townships, as will the certificate number that is issued as the ODLC number.

OREGON & CALIFORNIA (O&C) RAILROAD PLAT BOOKS

If your POI’s land claim has not been located in any other record, it is possible it may be located within the O&C Railroad microfilms. Purchases of land from the O&C are not found in either county or “special” federal records; however, there may be a notation in the Federal Tract Book regarding a registration in the O&C tract book records.

Use the O&C Plat Books locator map to determine the specific microfilm. Carefully retrieve the O&C Plat Books microfilm from the drawers in the Oregon collection. It is very easy to confuse the tract and plat boxes. There are several numbered Townships on each roll of microfilm.

These records provide an abbreviated survey record of the included lands; the Townships located only within the Willamette Valley and adjacent foothills or mountains to the east and west. Therefore, they begin at the Willamette Stone (T1) and go south to the California border (T41), and they include information only from Range 13 West to Range 7 East.

The O&C Plat Books are “special” federal records that are much smaller and contain very little information. The title of this series of records implies that they are maps, but they are not. They are forms that contain spaces for entering the following information: Meridian, Township, Range, Section, part of section, number of acres, kind of land entry, number of entry, date of entry, name of patentee, and date of patent. Similar to other patents, the patent for some of the O&C lands may have
Genealogical Forum of Oregon

OREGON & CALIFORNIA RAILROAD LANDS

Construction began on the first railroad to connect Oregon to California in 1868. As an incentive to develop the region, the Oregon and California (O&C) Railroad was granted 3.7 million acres of land, laid out in a checkerboard plan and stretching in a 60 mile-wide swath from Portland to the California border. The grant required the O&C to sell the land to settlers for no more than $2.50 an acre. These lands were available for individual purchase in the 1860s and 1870s through the Homestead Act of 1862.

The O&C attempted to retain the property as long as possible for their own economic benefit. In Oregon, the obvious asset was the value of the timberland that fringed the valley on the east to the Cascade Mountains and covered the coast mountain range to the west. An announcement by the O&C in 1903, that they had no plans to sell any additional land brought about an appeal to the federal government by affected Oregon counties. In 1916 Congress terminated the grant rights and reclaimed over two million acres.

Before the termination, many individuals did purchase private patents to the O&C lands. As with purchases directly from the federal government, these transactions were not recorded in county records until such time as the individuals who purchased from the O&C then sold the property to someone else, at which time that transaction was (and subsequent transactions were) entered in the land records for the county in which the parcel was located. The lands purchased from the O&C are not found in the Federal records either. They can be found in the microfilm of the O&C Tract Books at the GFO library. The grants from the federal government gave the railroad the right and the responsibility to sell the land, although all of Sections 16 and 36 in each township were reserved to the local government, usually the county, for the use of public schools.

Note: Usually, this last microfiche is easier and quicker to view before attempting to load the microfilm for the plat books. However, there may be more maps on the Plat Books microfilm than appear on the Land Survey microfiche. Therefore, both should be investigated.
INDIVIDUAL ODLC SURVEYS

The microfiche cabinet also holds a small collection of ODLC surveys, each identified with the term “DLC” followed by a number in the upper left corner. This is the claim number that was issued to each applicant within a Township. Remember, the claim number was unique to each Township, so it is necessary to know the Township before attempting to locate a claim number in this collection. The claim number is usually abbreviated as a capital “C” or as “Cl” on the notes and maps. The Township and Range are also listed on each microfiche label. The records contain the complete survey for each of the claims and the name of the claimant; however, it does not appear that all claims are included in this record set.

MINING CLAIMS

The microfiche cabinet also contains records for the Oregon mining claims on file with the Bureau of Land Management. The GFO has no index for these files. They are organized by the name of the mining claim so it is necessary to know the specific name of a claim to be able to use this record set.

Author’s note: I would like to offer my thanks to Nanci Remington and all the Bulletin editors and proofreaders for their help with this article.

ENDNOTES

2. From the French, “cadastre,” which means “register.”
4. Meridians were numbered until the sixth Principal Meridian (Nebraska, Kansas, and Oklahoma). From there they were named for a feature or place, i.e. “Willamette Meridian,” which, for example, might have been about the 14th Principal Meridian.
6. http://publications.newberry.org/ahcbp/ As of 13 August 2015 the interactive map portion of this site is temporarily unavailable, but other elements are still functional.
7. The federal tract books in the GFO collection contain entries to about 1900 under the various federal land acts.

Avery Hill presents
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How can understanding the lives of our ancestors help us make sense of our own lives, even as we live them? Like a traditional photo album, the songs on this collection present musical snapshots of history: characters, stories and ideas that tap into universal themes of growing up, being brave, and finding purpose.

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Book Review


Reviewed by Mary Ellen Farr

Author: David Dobson
Publisher: Clearfield Company
Publication date: 2013
No. Pages: 101
Price: $19.50 + $5.50 shipping
Ordering: genealogical.com

Audience: This volume is a continuation of Clearfield Company’s series by David Dobson aimed at identifying Highlanders who emigrated to America. This is the second volume devoted to identifying Highlanders in Inverness-Shire. This book series is intended for people who trace their genealogy to Scottish Highlanders.

Purpose: Dobson recognizes the difficulty in obtaining accurate records of the Highland Scots during the eighteenth century. As Dobson notes, parish records are available from the Church of Scotland for the eighteenth century, but are mostly limited to the Lowland Scots. Dobson’s series makes available information from sources such as court records, estate papers, real property records, gravestones, testamentary records, and rent rolls. For each individual listed in the volume, Dobson includes a date, a location in Inverness, and, where available, members of the person’s family and occupation. Dobson provides a citation for each entry.

Author’s qualifications: David Dobson holds an MPhil from the University of St. Andrews and a Ph.D. from the University of Aberdeen. He is an Honorary Research Fellow at St. Andrews and has written extensively about Scottish history.

Content: The book contains a short introduction explaining the changes in Scottish Highland society that ultimately led to the Great Migration to America in the eighteenth century. Most of the book contains alphabetical identification of about 1,500 Inverness Scots, giving names, places where they lived within Inverness-Shire, a date associated with the record, and a citation for the information. The citations are useful in determining where Dobson found his information, but some, including The Scots Magazine and Transactions of the Gaelic Society of Inverness, are secondary sources themselves. The glossary that is provided to interpret the citations does not include all abbreviations which appear in the book.

Conclusion: This series of books provides useful resources for locating Scottish Highlanders; this volume identifies many who were in Inverness-Shire within the period from 1725 to 1775.
Book Review

Quicksheet: Your Stripped-Bare Guide to Citing Sources
Quicksheet: Your Stripped-Bare Guide to Historical “Proof”

Reviewed by Joan Galles

Author: Elizabeth Shown Mills
Publisher: Genealogical Publishing Company
Publication date: 2014
No. Pages: 2 each
Price: $7.95 each + $4.50 shipping for one, or $8.00 for both
Ordering: Genealogical.com

Audience and Purpose: The Genealogical Publishing Company produces many “how to” sheets. These two on Sources and Historical “Proof” assist the genealogist in understanding the necessary pieces of information needed to cite a source properly. Each is a laminated two-sided sheet.

Content: Quicksheet, Citing Sources is a Stripped-Bare Guide to citing any source. Providing a template, a chart, and a series of questions to ascertain the type of source, Mills demonstrates how easy it is to create a source citation. For example: from an article in a periodical, we must cite author, title, periodical name, volume number, and pages. The chart on the back helps organize the information from a specific source.

Quicksheet, Historical “Proof” explains that “proof” cannot come from one source and that only a thorough analysis can provide the researcher with “proof.” Using examples, Mills demonstrates how to evaluate the source, evaluate the information, and how to evaluate and process the evidence.

Summary: These two Quicksheets review all the relevant points necessary to compile a complete source citation, be it a census record or a summation of a body of information that suggests a conclusion.
Norris Family Bible
Nanci Remington

The Norris Family Bible came to the Genealogical Forum of Oregon from the Grant County Genealogical Society in Ephrata, Washington. Beverly Dell (mother of Bulletin editor Marti Dell) reports, “About 20 years ago, an older lady came into our society library where I was working and gave it to me. She said she had found it at a yard sale a few years earlier and did not know what to do with it. She could not bring herself to throw it away, so brought it to our library.” Beverly went on to say that she attempted to locate family members by doing research based on the information in the Bible, but they were unsuccessful.

The Bible is large, published in 1862. The front cover, which has the title Search the Scriptures, is detached. Otherwise the Bible is in fair condition with beautiful color prints.

The Bible appears to have been the property of Henry Norris and Derinda Wolford, as the records begin with their marriage and lists the births of their children. The marriage of son John and the deaths of some of the family are included and appear to be written in a different hand than the earlier entries.

Also found in the Bible were several papers. These include a printed Genealogy of the Family of John Knisely, Sen. (founder of New Philadelphia, Ohio), a hand-drawn map of the Western Hemisphere with the notations “Who will press for gold” and “Marcus Norris,” a note that appears to be related to a sermon, and a weekly report card for Alie Norris dated Jan 19, 1877. There is also a note about the death of Margaret Noris [sic] and a poem dated “December the 20th 1879” that appears to have been copied by Winnie Norris (the verses are from the poem Woman by George P. Morris2).

There is no information in the Bible about where this family lived or how the Bible ended up in Washington. However, Marti and her mother did some research and found that Henry and Derinda were both born in Ohio and died in Whitley County, Indiana. The couple must have moved to Indiana where they married on January 22, 1857. Henry was listed as a farmer on all census re-
cords. Of their seven children, only two outlived their father. Their oldest son John may have carried the Bible to Washington as his is the only other marriage noted. He died in Stevens County, Washington, in 1919.
MARRIAGES

Henry Norris
Derinda Wolford
Was Married
January 29 1857

John S Norris
and
Lottie C. Elmer
Married
July 3” 1891.

BIRTHS

Henry Norris Was born
February the first 1837
Derinda Wolford Was born
November the thirteen 1830

John S Norris
Was born February
the 21 1858

Francis E Norris
Was born April
the 10 1860

Mary A Norris
Was born October
the 3 1869

Delilah Norris
Was born december
the 2 1862

Lottie D Norris
Was born February
21 1875

Winnie M Norris
Was born May
the 5 1865
DEATHS

Margaret Noris Died May 20 1879
Aged 75 yrs 8 months and 17 days

Margaret Noris was born September the 3
A.D. 1803 and departed this life May 20 1879
aged 75 yrs 8 months and 17 days. She has been
a devout member of the Baptist church
for over 50 years

Delilah Norris
Died August
the 14 1864

Winnie M. Norris,
Died, April 5th 1886

Derinda Norris
Died, July, 18th 1891.

Lottie D. Norris,
Died, June 7th 1894.

Mary Alice Norris
Was killed by train
Jan. 19th 1895.

Frances E. Norris Griffith
Died Aug. 13, 1907.

Henry Norris
Died Sept. 9, 1907

John Norris
died My 8, 1919

FROM ENCLOSURES:

Margaret Noris Died May 20 1879
Aged 75 yrs 8 months and 17 days

Margaret Noris was born September the 3
A.D. 1803 and departed this life May 20 1879
aged 75 yrs 8 months and 17 days. She has been
a devout member of the Baptist church
for over 50 years

(ENDNOTES)
In Memoriam

Ruth Chauncey Bishop
16 April 1945 to 28 May 2015

Judith Leppert and Stanley Clarke

Ruth Chauncey Bishop, the first Life Member of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon, passed away this spring. She joined the GFO in 1975 and made a significant impact. Publicly, she was known as the editor of the Bulletin (for 18 years), co-chair of the program group for the 1991 National Genealogical Society (NGS) Conference of the States, co-chair of the 2001 NGS Conference, and she devoted her efforts to many other GFO activities over the years. Privately, she stepped up a number of times to assist financially. Gerry Lenzen remembered her paying for new carpeting right after one of the GFO’s moves to a new building. Stan Clarke recalls this donation was made as a memorial to her father.

“People didn’t know she was in a lot of pain at times. Occasionally, then, she could be a bit short with people. They didn’t always understand because they didn’t know what she was experiencing. She never complained,” Lenzen stated, reminiscing about his colleague and friend.

Janice Healy echoed his thoughts. “Ruth was so involved and active that people didn’t realize her physical limitations. One of her best experiences was flying in a hot-air balloon with her sister on an African photographic safari. It came down rather hard (almost a controlled crash), and when they stepped out, Ruth remarked to the balloonist that she had two steel rods in her spine. ‘If I had known that,’ he said, ‘I wouldn’t have let her go up with us.’ It was a highlight of her life,” Healy recounted.

That is not to say Ruth’s life was in any way limited. She traveled in Europe and Africa; she loved sports and attended Trail Blazer games; she was a dedicated photographer and edited the Portland Photographic Society’s publication; her photos were displayed in many venues including county and state fairs.

Healy went on to say that Ruth Bishop was “sweet, kind, caring, generous, true, and a love.”

Ruth Chauncey Bishop
Ruth’s friend, Stanley Clarke, is working to finalize some of her genealogical work on her Bishop family. Janice Healy will be working on the Conner line. Clarke and Healy share lines with Ruth. Both of them mentioned vision problems that caused Ruth to prefer hard copies of her research. She chose not to digitize most of her work.

Although born in Portland, Oregon, to Charles Kay Bishop and wife Eloise Conner, Ruth Chauncey Bishop was reared in Washougal, Washington. She was well-acquainted with her father’s management position of the Pendleton Woolen Mills plant. Ruth attended high school at Annie Wright School in Tacoma and then college at Pacific University where she studied sociology and music, earning degrees in both. Advanced degrees in computer programming and accounting completed her formal education.

However, the genealogical bug had bitten! Ruth traced her family to New England and became active in the New England Historic Genealogical Society, the National Genealogical Society, and other groups. She attended workshops and seminars and found many friends in the genealogical community. Ruth entered the GFO’s Hall of Fame in 1995. She also collected masses of genealogical materials.

Ruth Chauncey Bishop’s final project was her library: The Conner-Bishop Library named for her parents. Originally planned for Portland, Oregon, the library has joined with the Arlene Eakle collection in Tremonton, Utah. The Genealogy Library Center, Inc. is being completed with this addition of approximately 70,000 volumes.

Ruth died on May 28, 2015, in Gladstone, Oregon, and was buried June 5, 2014, in City View Cemetery in Salem, Oregon. She is survived by her sister, Kay Eloise Bishop, and numerous cousins.

Thanks to Sue LeBlanc, Arlene Eakle, Dick Eastman, Stanley Clarke, and Janice Healy for contributing their memories of Ruth Chauncey Bishop. And many thanks to Ruth for all she has done for the Genealogical Forum of Oregon over many years!

Editor’s note: As we go to print, the GFO Endowment fund has received a generous contribution from Ruth Bishop’s estate. We are so grateful for Ruth’s friendship and longtime support.
CALL FOR ARTICLES

The Bulletin Editorial Group invites readers to submit articles to the Bulletin. We look for articles that are of interest to members of the GFO and those that encourage the sharing and research of family history. Possibilities include but are not limited to:

- memoirs and personal essays
- research articles and source guides
- how-to articles
- problem-solving articles
- articles on family history travel
- using technology

We also welcome book reviews, transcriptions or extractions from original sources, and posts from your blog. You are encouraged to attach photographs or other graphics.

Send submissions to bulletin@gfo.org. You may request a current “Instructions and Guidelines” by contacting us in writing or at the email address above. The information is also available at http://gfo.org/bulletin/index.htm.

Deadlines for submission to the Bulletin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>December 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>March 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>June 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>September 15</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Catch the Orange

Come and join the GFO at the grand opening of TriMet’s Orange Line that runs south to Milwaukie. This is the first day of operation, so TriMet is throwing a party at every new station with food, music, and MUCH, MUCH MORE.

GFO’s booth at the station will have a prize wheel—spin to win chances to enter the raffle and other prizes.

RAFFLE PRIZES INCLUDE: Genealogy Research Packages (2-10 hours each) • DNA test kits from Family Tree DNA and Ancestry DNA • Genetic Genealogy (book) • Eastman Plus Edition subscription • FindMyPast World subscription • Mocavo Gold subscription • Legacy Family Tree software • 1 year GFO e-memberships • Registration at the GFO Fall Seminar • Internet Genealogy subscription • Your Genealogy Today subscription • HistoryGeo subscription • GenealogyBank subscription • and more!

• PARKING IN THE AREA WILL BE DIFFICULT, BUT ALL TRIMET TRANSPORTATION IS FREE on the 12th! •
# GFO CALENDAR: SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER, 2015

**Library Work Parties ~ every month, all welcome**
Sundays 9 am–12 pm Map project on 2nd Sunday, other projects on remaining Sundays

## SEPTEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed  2</td>
<td>10am–12pm</td>
<td>Learn and Chat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1–2pm</td>
<td>DNA Q &amp; A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat  5</td>
<td>10am–12pm</td>
<td>Virginia Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1–3pm</td>
<td>German Group</td>
</tr>
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**Mon 7 Labor Day holiday—Library closed**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tues  8</td>
<td>6–8pm</td>
<td>Board meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed  9</td>
<td>10am–12pm</td>
<td>Learn and Chat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:30–2:30pm</td>
<td>Photoshop Elements Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7–8pm</td>
<td>Genealogy Book Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 12</td>
<td>9:30–11:30am</td>
<td>GFO @ Light Rail Opening Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11am–6pm</td>
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**Mon 14 Free to Non-Members**

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<thead>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed  16</td>
<td>1–2pm</td>
<td>DNA Q&amp;A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri  18</td>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>Back to Basics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat  19</td>
<td>9:30–11am</td>
<td>Hunting and Gathering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12–2pm</td>
<td>Irish Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2–4pm</td>
<td>Family History Crafts Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun  20</td>
<td>1–3pm</td>
<td>Family Tree Maker Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed  23</td>
<td>10am–12pm</td>
<td>Learn &amp; Chat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri  25</td>
<td>11am–12:30pm</td>
<td>Maps Tell Some of the Story for the African-Ancestored Genealogist–Live Webinar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat  26</td>
<td>1–3pm</td>
<td>British Group</td>
</tr>
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## OCTOBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed  2</td>
<td>10am–12pm</td>
<td>Virginia Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1–3pm</td>
<td>German Group</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Mon 5 Free to Non-Members**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed  7</td>
<td>10am–12pm</td>
<td>Learn &amp; Chat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1–2pm</td>
<td>DNA Q&amp;A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 10</td>
<td>9:30–11:30am</td>
<td>Illinois Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues  13</td>
<td>6–8pm</td>
<td>Board meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed  14</td>
<td>1:30–2:30pm</td>
<td>Photoshop Elements Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 17</td>
<td>9:30–11am</td>
<td>Hunting and Gathering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2–4pm</td>
<td>Program – Stamps, Postcards &amp; More!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun  18</td>
<td>1–3pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed  21</td>
<td>10am–12pm</td>
<td>Learn &amp; Chat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1–2pm</td>
<td>DNA Q&amp;A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 25</td>
<td>9am–4pm</td>
<td>Fall Seminar–Pam and Rick Sayre–Library Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun  26</td>
<td>9:30am–12pm</td>
<td>Maps! Wonderful Maps!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat  29</td>
<td>9am–12pm</td>
<td>DNA Group</td>
</tr>
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</table>

## NOVEMBER

**Mon 2 Free to Non-Members**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed  4</td>
<td>10am–12pm</td>
<td>Learn &amp; Chat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1–2pm</td>
<td>DNA Q&amp;A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat  7</td>
<td>10am–12pm</td>
<td>Virginia Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1–3pm</td>
<td>German Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues  10</td>
<td>6–8pm</td>
<td>Board meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 11</td>
<td>1:30–2:30pm</td>
<td>Photoshop Elements Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 14</td>
<td>9:30–11:30am</td>
<td>Illinois Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:45–12:45</td>
<td>Genealogy Book Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1–3pm</td>
<td>Writers’ Forum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun  15</td>
<td>1–3pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed  18</td>
<td>10am–12pm</td>
<td>Learn &amp; Chat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1–2pm</td>
<td>DNA Q&amp;A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 21</td>
<td>9:30–11am</td>
<td>Hunting and Gathering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12–2pm</td>
<td>Irish Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2–4pm</td>
<td>Program – Finding Jennie Fisher’s Family</td>
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**26 Thanksgiving – Library Closed**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat 28</td>
<td>12-2pm</td>
<td>Italian Group</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*See the GFO calendar at [http://www.gfo.org/calendar.htm](http://www.gfo.org/calendar.htm) for more details and Sunday work parties.*