

# Tracing Female Ancestors in America

## *Class 1: Finding Elusive Maiden Names*

Ann G. Lawthers, Genealogist

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



American Ancestors®  
by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

# Meet today's presenter



Ann G. Lawthers  
Genealogist

# OVERVIEW

- **Presentation** (60 mins.)
- **Q&A** (30 mins.)

# Finding the Maiden Name

## Marriage Record

Where and When  
Intentions  
Evidence of marriage

## Other Records

Woman's death record  
Children's records  
Census  
Military  
Other

## Learn About the Husband

FAN Club  
Migration  
Religion  
Occupation

## Local History

Settlement patterns  
Families in the neighborhood



*Voice of*  
**Ann Lawthers**  
*Genealogist*

# Finding the Marriage Record

- Where did the couple marry?
  - Often the town of the bride's family
  - Check old maps for boundary and community name changes
- When did the couple marry?
  - Record availability varies by time and place
- Is this a first, second, or third marriage?

# Types of Records Indicating a Marriage

- Evidence of intention to marry
  - Before mid-1800's
    - Intentions
    - Banns
    - Bonds
  - Replaced by
    - License
- Evidence of marriage
  - Certificates
  - Returns or Registers
  - Personal records

# Rochester, Massachusetts Intention

S<sup>v</sup> Mr. Lophaniah Sherman & Miss Waitstill  
Stevens both of Rochester entered May 4<sup>th</sup> &  
published May 20 1747  
Nathan Willis & Dawson Clerks

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published May 20 1747  
Nathan Willis & Dawson Clerks

“Town and vital records of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1673- 1893,” Family Search

# Marriage Bond, Virginia

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That we Erno McCoy &  
Lachariah Rivers

Hundred and Fifty Dollars; to the payment whereof well and truly to be made  
by the said Erno McCoy and his Successors in Office, we bind ourselves, our Heirs,

THE CONDITION of the above Obligation is such, that whereas a Marriage is  
shortly intended to be had and solemnized between the above bound  
Erno McCoy and My Elizabeth Burgess

Obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Erno McCoy  
Lachariah Rivers <sup>and</sup> Erno McCoy  
of E Burgess

“Marriage bonds, licenses, etc., 1797-1900,” Norfolk, Virginia

# Civil Marriage Register

- New England towns often recorded marriages before other vital events
- Vital Records to 1850 (Tan Books)
- Example from City of Cambridge, Mass., 1899

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MARRIAGES REGISTERED in the City of Cambridge, for the Year eighteen hundred and ninety-nine.

DATE AND PLACE OF MARRIAGE	DATE OF BIRTH	NAME AND RESIDENCE OF BRIDE	RESIDENCE OF GROOM AT MARRIAGE	AGE OF BRIDE	AGE OF GROOM	EDUCATION OF GROOM	PLACE OF BIRTH OF GROOM	NAME OF FATHER	NAME, RESIDENCE, AND OFFICIAL STATION OF MINISTER OF GOD'S WORD
12.15	1878	Elizabeth Wallace	Cambridge	21	24	College	Ireland	James Wallace	Rev. F. H. H. H. H.
12.16	1878	Elizabeth Wallace	Cambridge	21	24	College	Ireland	James Wallace	Rev. F. H. H. H.
12.17	1878	Elizabeth Wallace	Cambridge	21	24	College	Ireland	James Wallace	Rev. F. H. H. H.
12.18	1878	Elizabeth Wallace	Cambridge	21	24	College	Ireland	James Wallace	Rev. F. H. H. H.
12.19	1878	Elizabeth Wallace	Cambridge	21	24	College	Ireland	James Wallace	Rev. F. H. H. H.
12.20	1878	Elizabeth Wallace	Cambridge	21	24	College	Ireland	James Wallace	Rev. F. H. H. H.
12.21	1878	Elizabeth Wallace	Cambridge	21	24	College	Ireland	James Wallace	Rev. F. H. H. H.
12.22	1878	Elizabeth Wallace	Cambridge	21	24	College	Ireland	James Wallace	Rev. F. H. H. H.
12.23	1878	Elizabeth Wallace	Cambridge	21	24	College	Ireland	James Wallace	Rev. F. H. H. H.
12.24	1878	Elizabeth Wallace	Cambridge	21	24	College	Ireland	James Wallace	Rev. F. H. H. H.
12.25	1878	Elizabeth Wallace	Cambridge	21	24	College	Ireland	James Wallace	Rev. F. H. H. H.
12.26	1878	Elizabeth Wallace	Cambridge	21	24	College	Ireland	James Wallace	Rev. F. H. H. H.
12.27	1878	Elizabeth Wallace	Cambridge	21	24	College	Ireland	James Wallace	Rev. F. H. H. H.
12.28	1878	Elizabeth Wallace	Cambridge	21	24	College	Ireland	James Wallace	Rev. F. H. H. H.
12.29	1878	Elizabeth Wallace	Cambridge	21	24	College	Ireland	James Wallace	Rev. F. H. H. H.
12.30	1878	Elizabeth Wallace	Cambridge	21	24	College	Ireland	James Wallace	Rev. F. H. H. H.

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Feb. 15 April James Brothers 20 Trimunket 25 Carpenter Ireland James Margaret Henry " Rev. F. H. H. H. Minister  
 Boston Elizabeth Jane Wallace 20 Columbia 20 at Home Cambridge Joseph Mary Elizabeth W. Ireland " at Mumrocks Boston

# Vermont Town Clerk's Card

**MARRIAGE-BRIDE**

Name of Bride *Nancy Beaman*  
Name of Groom *Alanson Greenslit*  
Residence of Bride *Pownal*  
Date of Marriage *July 24 - 1817*  
Color \_\_\_\_\_ Age in Years \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Marriage \_\_\_\_\_ Widowed \_\_\_\_\_  
Divorced \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Birthplace \_\_\_\_\_  
Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Birthplace \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Party Officiating *O. Dunham - Justice of Peace*  
*May F. Sampson*  
Town *Pownal* Town Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

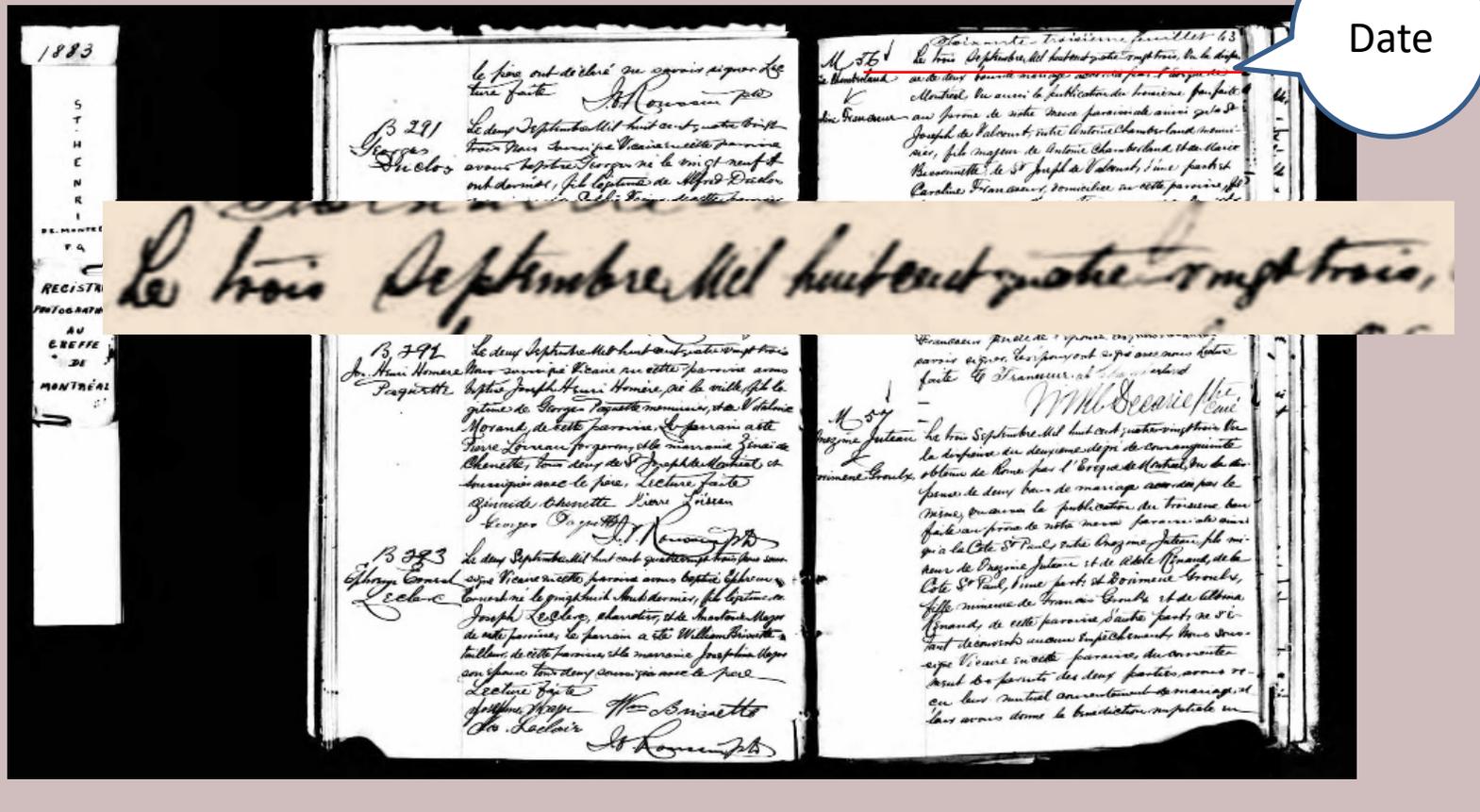
**MARRIAGE-GROOM**

Name of Groom *Alanson Greenslit*  
Name of Bride *Nancy Beaman*  
Residence of Groom *Bennington*  
Date of Marriage *July 24 - 1817*  
Color \_\_\_\_\_ Age in Years \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Marriage \_\_\_\_\_ Widowed \_\_\_\_\_  
Divorced \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Birthplace \_\_\_\_\_  
Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Birthplace \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Party Officiating *O. Dunham Justice of Peace*  
*May F. Sampson*  
Town *Pownal* Town Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

“Vermont: Births, Marriages and Deaths, 1700-2008,” American Ancestors

# Church Marriage Register

- Example: Drouin collection, Quebec

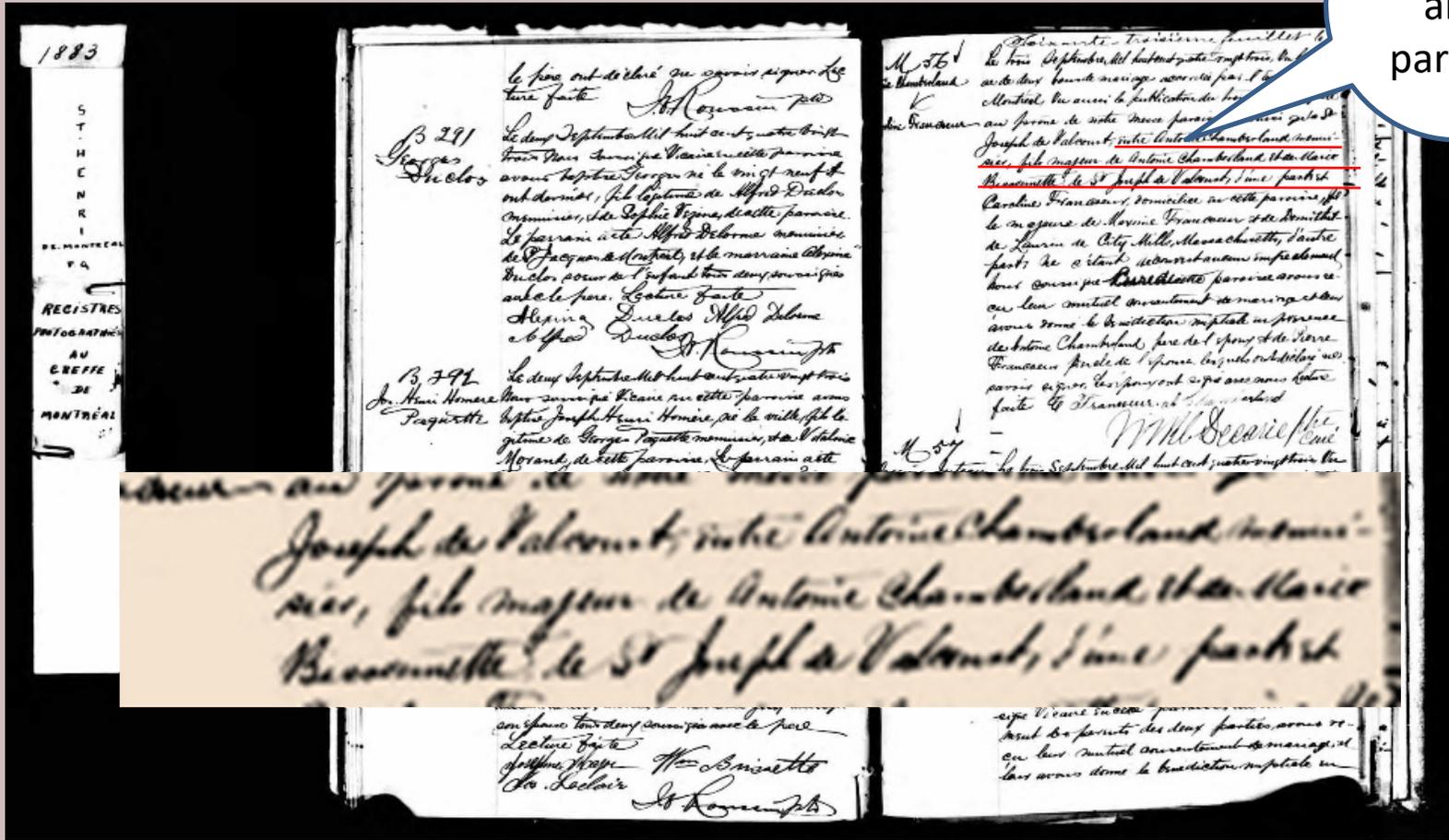


Date

“Quebec Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621-1967,” St. Henri, Ancestry.com

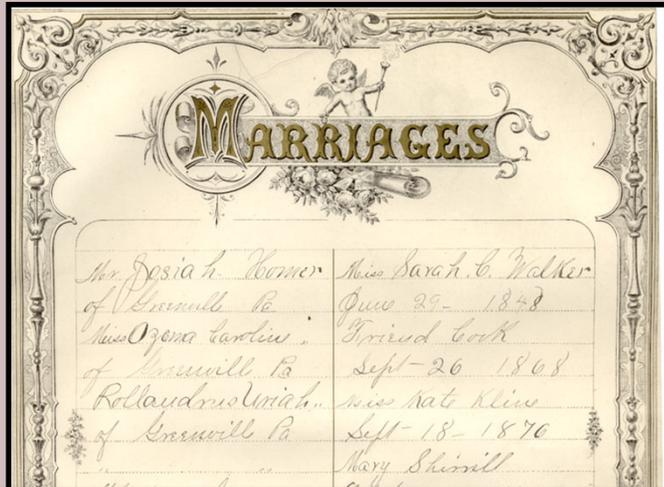
# Church Marriage Register

Groom  
and  
parents

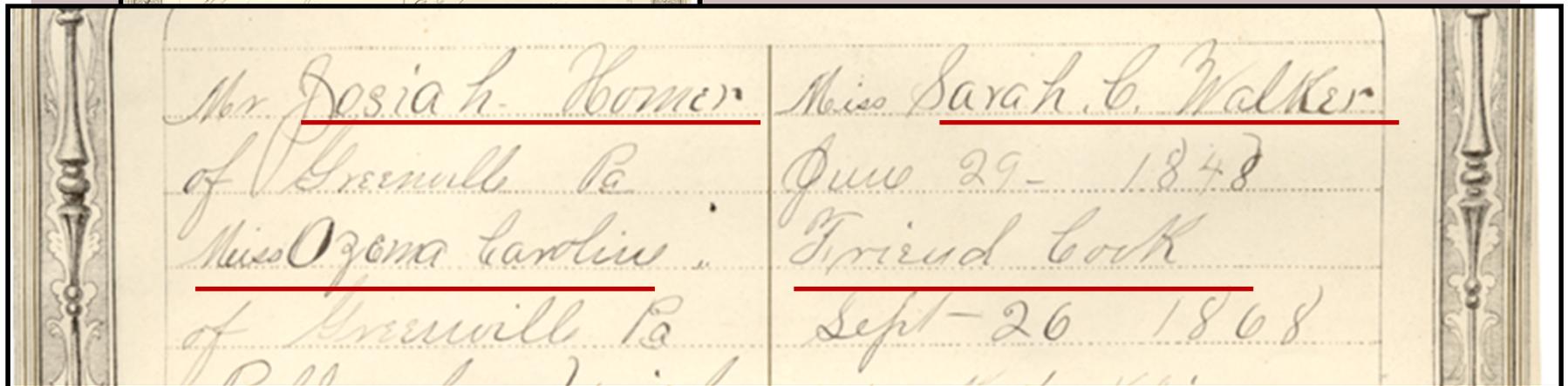




# Bible Marriage Record

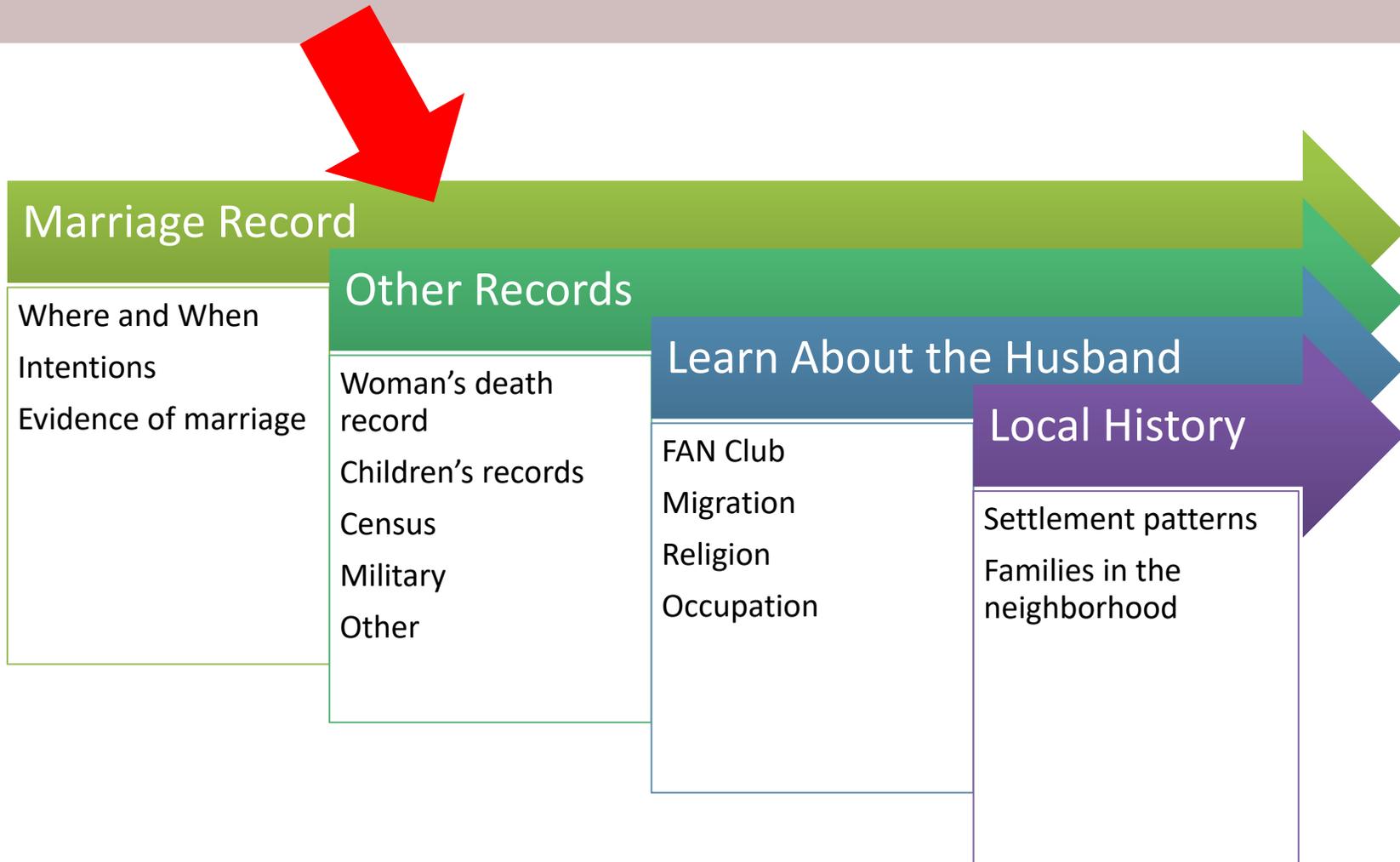


- Homer Family Bible
  - Josiah Homer and Sarah C. Walker
  - Ozema Caroline and Friend Cook



Bible Records in the possession of Judy Cook, California

# Finding the Maiden Name



# Other Original Documents with a Maiden Name

- Woman's death record
  - Parents named
- Children's birth, marriage and death records
  - Colonial records tend not to give the woman's maiden name on a birth record



# Woman's Death Record

- Pre-20th century, maiden name not often captured on a death record
- Death certificates in 20th century

19393  
 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
 BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS  
 CERTIFICATE OF DEATH  
 Registered No. 897

1. PLACE OF DEATH:  
 (a) County Allegheny  
 (b) Township Pittsburgh  
 (c) Borough Pittsburgh  
 (d) City or town PITTSBURGH  
 (e) Name of hospital or institution SCHENLEY APARTMENTS  
 (f) Length of stay: (If not in hospital or inst. write street number or location)  
 In hospital or inst. (g) In this community

2. USUAL RESIDENCE OF DECEASED:  
 (a) State Penna. (b) County Allegheny  
 (c) City or town Pittsburgh  
 (d) Street No. 4000 Fifth Avenue  
 (e) If citizen of foreign country, name country

3. (a) FULL NAME MAUDE BELL PLOWMAN  
 (b) If U. S. Veteran, complete reverse side of certificate  
 (c) Social Security No. None

4. Sex F race W divorced Widowed  
 5. Color or 6. (a) Single, widowed, married, divorced

6. (b) Name of husband or wife George Taylor Plowman  
 6. (c) Age of husband or wife if alive years  
 that I last saw him alive on Dec. 4, 1947

7. Birth date of deceased May 30 1874  
 (Month) (Day) (Year)

8. AGE: Years 72 Months 8 Days 5  
 (If less than one day hr. min)

9. Birthplace Turkey (City, town, or county) (State or foreign country)

10. Usual occupation Retired

11. Industry or business

12. Name Rev. Newton Hervey Bell  
 13. Birthplace Iowa (City, town, or county) (State or foreign country)  
 14. Maiden name Emma Hall Curtis  
 15. Birthplace New York (City, town, or county) (State or foreign country)

16. (a) Informant's own signature *Frederic Plowman (R)*  
 (b) Date thereof 2-10-47 (Month) (Day) (Year)  
 (c) Place Homewood county Allegheny state Penna.  
 (d) Signature of funeral director *W. J. ...*

20. Date of death: Month Feb day 4 year 1947 hour 11 PM minute 30  
 21. I hereby certify that I attended the deceased from Dec 21 1947, to Dec 4 1947, and that death occurred on the date and hour stated above.  
 Immediate cause of death Central Nervous System  
 Cause of death Hypertension  
 Due to (Specify cause) From history  
 Other conditions (Include pregnancy within 3 months of death)  
 Major findings: (Specify cause to which death is attributed)  
 Of operations X  
 Of autopsy X  
 22. If death was due to external causes, fill in the following:  
 (a) (Probably) Accident, suicide, or homicide (specify)  
 (b) Date of occurrence X  
 (c) Where did injury occur? X  
 (d) Did injury occur in or about home, on farm, in industrial place, in public place? X  
 (Specify type of place)  
 (e) (Specify type of injury)  
 Date signed 2/10/47

WRITE PLAINLY WITH information should be carefully stated in full terms, so that it may be readily understood and accurately transcribed.

MOTHER FATHER } 11. Industry or business

12. Name Rev. Newton Hervey Bell

13. Birthplace Iowa  
 (City, town, or county) (State or foreign country)

14. Maiden name Emma Hall Curtis

15. Birthplace New York  
 (City, town, or county) (State or foreign country)

16. (a) Informant's own signature *Frederic Plowman (R)*

Other  
 Major Of o  
 Of a

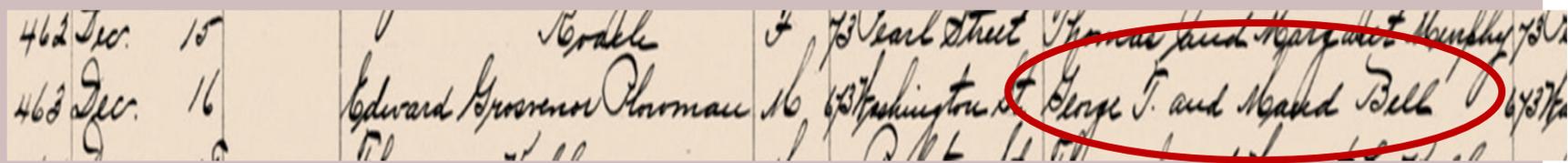
"Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1963," Ancestry.com

# Child Records That May Identify the Mother's Maiden Name

- Birth/baptism (civil and church)
- Marriage (civil and church)
- Death (civil)

BIRTHS REGISTERED in the town of Brookline for the Year eighteen hundred and ninety-nine.

No.	DATE OF BIRTH.	DATE OF BIRTH.	NAME AND SURNAME OF THE CHILD, AND SEX (If other than child).	AGE AND SEX OF MOTHER.	PLACE OF BIRTH.	NAMES OF PARENTS. (How named sons of males.)	RESIDENCE OF PARENTS.	OCCUPATION OF FATHER.	PLACE OF BIRTH OF FATHER.	PLACE OF BIRTH OF MOTHER.
452	Dec 9	1899	Harry Howard Holden	F	North St.	Joseph and Mary Howard	26 North St.	Carver	Pa.	Pa.
453	Dec 10	1900	Edgelynn Janet Penitels	F	100 Beacon St.	William and Letta Barnett	100 Beacon St.	Druggist	Mass.	Pa.
454	Dec 11		Frank Westmore	M	100 Beacon St.	George and Alice West	22 Hayes St.	Laborer	Mass.	Pa.
455	Dec 11		Mary Anne	F	100 Beacon St.	See Howard and Elizabeth West	22 Hayes St.	Laborer	Ireland	Ireland
456	Dec 11		Catherine Thomas	F	100 Beacon St.	John and Catherine Thomas	100 Beacon St.	Laborer	Ireland	Ireland
457	Dec 18		Thomas Francis Thomas	M	100 Beacon St.	Henry and Louisa Thomas	22 Dory St.	Laborer	Pa.	Pa.
458	Dec 18		Harold Arney Thomas	M	100 Beacon St.	Henry and Louisa Thomas	22 Dory St.	Laborer	Ireland	Ireland
459	Dec 18		Edgelynn Janet Penitels	F	100 Beacon St.	William and Letta Barnett	100 Beacon St.	Druggist	Pa.	Pa.
460	Dec 18		Edgelynn Janet Penitels	F	100 Beacon St.	William and Letta Barnett	100 Beacon St.	Druggist	Pa.	Pa.
461	Dec 18		Edgelynn Janet Penitels	F	100 Beacon St.	William and Letta Barnett	100 Beacon St.	Druggist	Pa.	Pa.
462	Dec 15		Edward Grosvenor Norman	M	100 Beacon St.	George F. and Mabel Bell	100 Beacon St.	Laborer	Ireland	Ireland
463	Dec 16		Edward Grosvenor Norman	M	100 Beacon St.	George F. and Mabel Bell	100 Beacon St.	Laborer	Ireland	Ireland



“Massachusetts: Vital Records, 1841-1910,” Town of Brookline, American Ancestors

# Case Study – Using Children’s Death Records

- Good strategy if the children died in the latter part of the 19th century or later
- Gustave and Frances (MNU) Dorsey
  - Martha Jane 1846-1912
  - Leonard Prindowell 1848-1921
  - Charles Allen 1854-1941
  - Francis E. 1856-1874
  - Alice P. 1858-1920
  - Gustavus Young 1863-1900
  - William 1867- Bef 1880

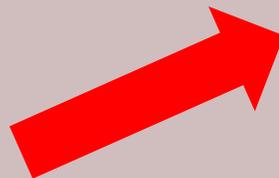
# Sort Death Years

Child	Death Year	Death State
Francis E.	1874	California
William	1880	Nevada
Gustavus Young	1900	Nevada
Martha Jane	1912	California
Martha Jane	1912	Nevada
Alice P.	1920	Nevada
Leonard Prindowell	1921	California
Charles Allen	1941	California

# Online Vital Records

## California

- California, County Birth and Death Records, 1800-1994 (FS)
- California, U.S., Death Index, 1940-1997 (Ancestry)



## Nevada

- Nevada County birth and death records : COLLECTION RECORD, 1871-1992 (FS)
- Nevada, U.S., Death Certificates, 1911-1965 (Ancestry)

# Results

Child	Death Year	Death State	Results
Francis E.	1874	California	No record
William	1880	Nevada	No record
Gustavus Young	1900	Nevada	No record
Martha Jane	1912	California	Index only
Alice P.	1920	Nevada	Online certificate
Leonard Prindowell	1921	California	Index only
Charles Allen	1941	California	Index only

# Alice P. Dorsey Pollack

**Nevada State Board of Health**  
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

State Index No. 47  
Legal Registered No. 11

**STANDARD DEATH CERTIFICATE**

1. PLACE OF DEATH  
County of Washoe  
Town of \_\_\_\_\_  
City of Sparks (No. 748-7 St. \_\_\_\_\_ Ward) [If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number, and fill out No. 18.]

2. FULL NAME Alice P. Pollack **20-00055**

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS			MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
3. SEX <u>Female</u>	4. COLOR OR RACE <u>White</u>	5. Single, Married, Widowed, or Divorced <u>Married</u>	16. DATE OF DEATH <u>Jan 23, 1920</u>	
6. DATE OF BIRTH <u>Nov-14-1858</u>			17. I HEREBY CERTIFY that I attended deceased from <u>Jan. 12, 1920</u> to <u>Jan. 23, 1920</u> that I last saw her alive on <u>Jan. 23, 1920</u> and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at <u>6 P. M.</u> The CAUSE OF DEATH* was as follows: <u>Acute Nephritis</u>	
7. AGE <u>61</u> years, <u>2</u> months, <u>8</u> days				
8. OCCUPATION (1) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work (2) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer) <u>at home</u>				
9. BIRTHPLACE (State or country) <u>Calif.</u>				
10. NAME OF FATHER <u>G. Y. Dorsey</u>				
11. BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or country) <u>Ky.</u>			Contraband (Secondary) _____	
12. MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER <u>Frances Redding</u>			(Duration) _____ yrs. _____ mos. _____ d.	
13. BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or country) <u>S. Carolina</u>			Contraband (Primary) _____	
13a. LENGTH OF RESIDENCE At place of death <u>16</u> years, _____ months In Nevada <u>28</u> years, _____ months			(Signed) <u>J. B. Harper</u> M.D. <u>Jan. 24, 1920</u> (Address) <u>Sparks</u>	
14. The above is true to the best of my knowledge. (Informant) <u>Alex Pollack</u> (Address) <u>Sparks, Nevada</u>			*State the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH, or, in death from VIOLENT CAUSES, state (1) MEANS OF INJURY; and (2) whether ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL, or HOMICIDAL.	
15. Filed <u>Feb 9, 1920</u> <u>W. L. Spitzer</u> Sub Registrar			18. SPECIAL INFORMATION only for Hospitals, Institutions, Transients, or Eminent Residents. Furner or usual residence _____ How long at place of death _____ days Where was disease contracted, if not at place of death? _____	
Filed _____, 191_			19. PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL <u>Removal</u> DATE OF BURIAL <u>1/26, 1920</u>	
Registrar or Deputy			20. UNDERTAKER <u>The Perkins Lullaby, Reno</u> ADDRESS _____	

6 000000-5000-12-28-18

“Nevada, Death Records, 1911-1965,” Ancestry.com

# Less well-known sources for the maiden name

- Census records
  - living with in-laws, elderly relative listed as “mother-in-law”
  - brothers or sisters living with couple
- Newspaper announcements
- Land records
- Military pension files
- Cemeteries
- Parent’s will
- County histories (use as a finding aid)



# Censuses That List Relationships

- Ancestry.com:
  - U.S. Census 1880 -1940
  - Canadian Censuses through 1921
  - 1841-1911 English Censuses
- FamilySearch.org
  - U.S. Census on FamilySearch.org
  - English and Canadian Census through 1911/1921

# Newspaper Marriage Notices

**ADVANCE ARGUS, NOVEMBER 21, 1895**

**NEWS OF MERCER.**

**Judge Harry Miller Holds Court**  
 -Kuder vs. Williams  
 Mercier Correspondence ADVANCE ARGUS.

Mercer, November 20—Court for the November term opened on Monday. Judge Harry White, of Indiana county, is presiding over the trial of some certified cases in the main court room, while Judge Miller occupies a side room in time not many cases have been tried from appearances this will be a short session.

Judge White heard a case wherein J. J. Alexander sued Lev. Stoyer for an attorney fee and received a verdict for amount asked. It might have been cheaper to have settled this out of court but there are many people who like law suits. So goes the world.

Tuesday, Judge White heard the case of John Kuder vs. Mrs. A. J. Willard. Kuder lives at Turnersville, Crawford county, where he has a store. Mrs. Willard lives in Sharple and the action was brought to compel her to pay a balance of \$43.44 and interest, due on goods purchased of Kuder. Defendant claimed that most of the goods were bought without her order and some of the goods, she says, were not purchased at all. Plaintiff presented his books as testimony. Verdict this (Wednesday) forenoon for plaintiff for \$43.44.

To-day (Wednesday) will be devoted to a case wherein John Homer, of Delaware township, is one of the parties at interest in matters growing out of the Krems Milling Company's failure which, to many people's sorrow, seems to have no end. Many once prosperous farmers were not expecting. People had better learn a business before investing largely. This failure is a very good example of neglect so to do.

Messrs Caldwell Brothers, grocery men, here made an assignment on Thursday. We regret this as they were nice men and were doing a fair trade, but we presume, for want of more capital, were unable to continue and pay expenses.

The Mercer social circle gave a party, Tuesday evening, and had an enjoyable time and a good attendance.

Fresco painters are now at work on the new First U. P. church and are doing an excellent job.

C. M. Derickson, the stove and hardware dealer, has put in a new furnace in T. K. Adams new dwelling and it is proving a success and no doubt furnish ample heat during the coldest weather.

Fainters are busy painting the brick front of Judge Miller's three story brick and S. F. Thompson's adjoining building, and the block now presents the appearance of Milwaukee brick and has added much to the appearance of the property. The judge's building is occupied by the Messrs Carter with their mammoth cash store, while Mr. Thompson's building is occupied by the Farmers & Mechanics National Bank. The Dispatch Republican and J. D. Emery and A. B. Thompson's law office.

There are other buildings that some paint would help out but our people have done well this summer in improving their old buildings and erecting new ones.

The Penn Mutual Life Insurance Co. through their agent here, D. C. M. Evans, have lamed Mrs. Richards, widow of the late James B. Richards, the amount of policy issued on the deceased's life. This was done within a week from the time the claim was made out. The money comes to this worthy woman in an opportune time, for during almost the whole of the past three years the support of the family, beside the care of her in-

**ADDITIONAL PERSONS.**

Dr. M. B. COVITT, who has been practicing medicine here for nearly three years past, has accepted a position as medical examiner for the relief department of the Pennsylvania Railroad Co., with office at Pittsburg. The doctor is to be congratulated in receiving the appointment as it is one of trust as well as one requiring professional ability.

W. W. MORESON, of West Middlesex, who went to Providence, recently, to consult a physician with reference to a growth on his foot, has written that a specialist pronounces it a cancer and says that an operation will be the only remedy and that a doubtful one. Needless to say this news will be received with sorrow by his many friends.

Miss CLARA LAIRD and Mr. George Dorward were quietly married by Rev. Dr. Fradenburg, Thursday. The wedding was a quiet one, only near relatives of the bride and groom were present. They will make their home this winter at the residence of Lyons Dorward, South Mercer street. They are popular, young people and have many well-wishers.

ANNA MARIA, wife of John Gertz, died near Orangeville, November 9, at the advanced age of 83 years, 10 months, and 29 days. She was a faithful member of the Reformed church at Zion's, near Transfer, and was buried in the cemetery near the church. Funeral services were conducted by her pastor, Rev. Dr. Lady, assisted by Rev. Dressler of the Lutheran church.

A QUIET home wedding was that of Miss Jennie W. Sinson and Mr. Fred L. Homer, of Cleveland, last Thursday. The ceremony was performed by Rev. C. B. Wakefield at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Sarah Sinson, South M. in street. Only a few guests were present at the wedding. Mr. and Mrs. Homer left the same afternoon for their new home in Cleveland, followed by the best of good wishes of many friends.

COL. ALBERT W. JOHNSON, who died November 6, at the home of his son, Congressman Tom L. Johnson, of Cleveland, Ohio, left to his three sons \$1 each and to his widow the remainder of his estate, valued at \$24,977. Long ago it was understood among the sons that all their father's money should be left to their mother and used to cut them off with a dollar each. It might be added that the sons are not in actual want especially Tom L., several times a millionaire.

CHARLES R. WRAY has resigned his position in the First National bank, having purchased an interest in the Manhattan Life Insurance Company's agency at Pittsburg, which controls all of that company's business in the city of Pittsburg and Western Pennsylvania. While Mr. Wray is greatly bettering his condition, the departure of himself and wife will be a direct loss to the town in both a business and a social standpoint. They are people Greenville can not afford to lose and their removal is much regretted. Mr. and Mrs. Wray leave for the Iron City in a few weeks.

When you come to town call at Houmer & Bureau's insurance agency and learn what it will cost you to get a good up policy in the Old America North America. \$14.00.

**Heart Disease Cured**

...ter of the Lutheran church.

A QUIET home wedding was that of Miss Jennie W. Sinson and Mr. Fred L. Homer, of Cleveland, last Thursday. The ceremony was performed by Rev. C. B. Wakefield at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Sarah Sinson, South M. in street. Only a few guests were present at the wedding. Mr. and Mrs. Homer left the same afternoon for their new home in Cleveland, followed by the best of good wishes of many friends.

**THE**

**"PRICE**

**GRAT**

**BETTER V**

**THAN EYE**

**FOR THE**

Notices, Advance Argus (Greenville, Mercer, PA) November 21, 1895, page 8; viewed at Newspapers.com

# Newspaper Death Notices

DAILY INTELLIGENCER / MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECORD Monday, March 2, 1987 Page 13 C

## OBITUARIES

**Dorothy G. Heine**  
 Dorothy G. Heine of Southampton, formerly of Huntingdon Valley, died Thursday in Sellersville. She was 77.  
 She was the wife of the late H. Clair Heine.  
 Born in Flushing, N.Y., she was the daughter of the late John R. and Elsie Langenbach Grimshaw. Mrs. Heine was a resident of Huntingdon Valley for 35 years and lived in Southampton for nine years.  
 A graduate of Bucknell University, Mrs. Heine was a retired bookkeeper with the Fredericks Co. of Huntingdon Valley.  
 She was an active member of the Huntingdon Valley United Methodist Church for which she was the former choir director and church historian. She was president of the United Methodist Women and was a leader of the Youth Circle.  
 Mrs. Heine is survived by a son, Laurence, of Sellersville; two daughters, Dorothy H. Rudolf, of Quakertown and Eleanor L. Heine, of Paris, France; a brother, Edwin Grimshaw of Media; and seven grandchildren.  
 Services will be 10:30 a.m. today at the United Methodist Church of Huntingdon Valley, 3470 Huntingdon Pike, Huntingdon Valley, Pa. 19006.  
*John Stiles Funeral Home, Huntingdon Valley*

**Thelma N. Kirkner**  
 Thelma K. Kirkner of Center Square Towers, Doylestown, died Sunday at Doylestown Hospital. She was 79.  
 Born in Solebury Township, she was the daughter of the late George and Aida Williams Naylor. She was the wife of the late Wilbur T. Kirkner.  
 She moved to Doylestown many years ago and attended Doylestown High School.  
 Mrs. Kirkner worked as an assembler for the Neshaminy Electronics Co. in Furlong. She retired in 1965.  
 Mrs. Kirkner was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Buckingham Township. She was the past matron of the Morning Light Chapter 312, Order of the Eastern Star in Hatboro. She was a member of the Central Bucks Senior Citizens.  
 Mrs. Kirkner is survived by a son, James W. Hodges of Laporte, Sullivan County; a daughter, Marlan S. McVaugh of Doylestown; six grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.  
 Services will be 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at Trinity Episcopal Church, Buckingham.  
 Memorial contributions may be made to the Bucks County Association for the Blind, Route 413, Newtown, Pa. 18940.  
*Reed and Steinbach Funeral Home, Doylestown*

**Mabel C. Plowman**  
 Mabel C. Plowman of the Medical Center for the Aging at Doylestown died at the center in Doylestown Tuesday. She was 84.  
 Born in Kane, McKean County, she was the daughter of the late William H. and Annie Colwell Kristie.  
 She was the wife of the late Laurence C. Plowman.  
 Mrs. Plowman was a graduate of Sargent College in Boston at which she was a physical education major. She was a physical education teacher in the Scarsdale, N.Y., and Portland, Maine, school districts.  
 She was a real estate broker for many years in the Boston area.  
 Mrs. Plowman lived in San Francisco for many years until she moved to the Pine Run Community in Doylestown Township in 1964.  
 She is survived by a daughter, Anne P. Stevens of Doylestown; a sister, Ida M. Cristie of Lebanon County; four grandchildren and one great-grandson.  
 Private funeral services will be conducted at the convenience of the family.  
 Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.  
*Reed and Steinbach Funeral Home, Doylestown*

**Alice V. Rogan**  
 Alice V. O'Connell Melrose Park died Chalfont. She was 68.  
 She was the wife of Edward P. Rogan.  
 Mrs. Rogan was a typing teacher for 11 years at the Willow Grove Chalfont Live Again (TLA) School. She is survived by three sons, E. New Jersey, Kevin and Brian of Roslyn; a daughter, Neill O'Connell Jeffery.  
 A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Thursday at 10 a.m. at Holy Angels Roman Catholic Church, 70th Street and Old York Road, Philadelphia.  
*William K. May Funeral Home, Glenside*

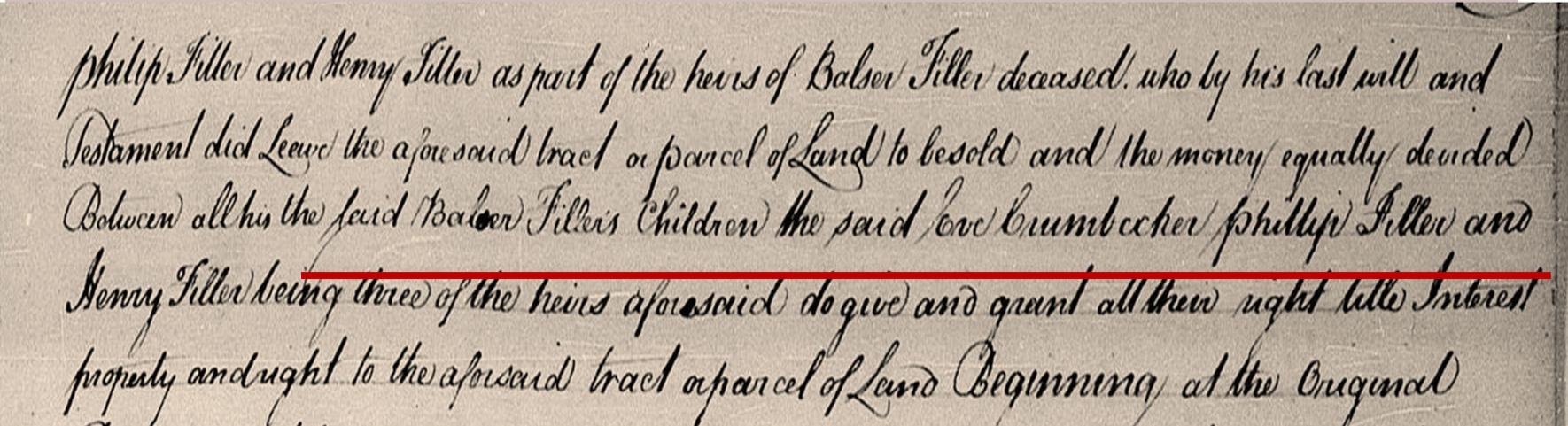
**Ruth T. Smith**  
 Ruth T. Smith, a resident of Dublin for the past six years, died Saturday at Doylestown Hospital. She was 86.  
 Born in Carnegie, Allegheny County, she was the wife of the late Charles L. Smith.  
 Mrs. Smith was a former resident of Pittsburgh.  
 She was a member of St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Dublin.  
 Mrs. Smith is survived by a daughter, Nancy S. Schmid of Pottsville; a son, Calvin T. of Prescott, Ariz.; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.  
 A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Dublin.  
 Memorial contributions may be made to St. Luke's Lutheran Church Memorial Fund, Route 313 and Quarry Road, Dublin, Pa. 18917.  
*John Haney Fox Funeral Home, Dublin*

Born in Kane, McKean County, she was the daughter of the late William H. and Annie Colwell Kristie.

Obituaries, Montgomery County Record (Pennsylvania) March 2, 1987

# Deeds

- An excellent source for proving relationships when VRs not available

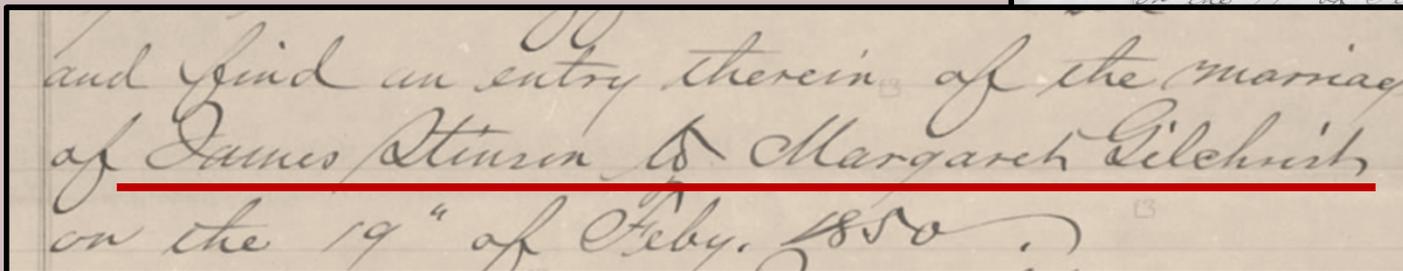
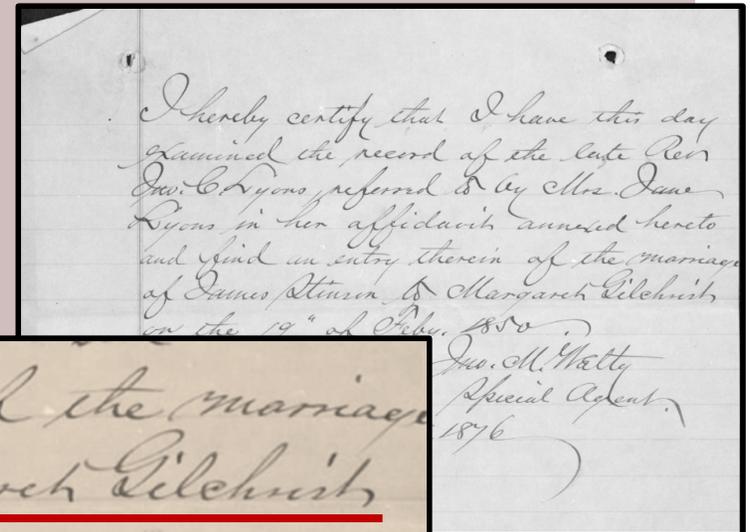


Philip Filler and Henry Filler as part of the heirs of Balser Filler deceased, who by his last will and Testament did Leave the aforesaid tract or parcel of Land to be sold and the money equally divided Between all his the said Balser Filler's Children the said one Crumbacher Phillip Filler and Henry Filler being three of the heirs aforesaid do give and grant all their right title Interest property and right to the aforesaid tract or parcel of Land Beginning at the Original

Frederick County, Maryland Land Deed, Filler to Filler 1796.

# Widow's military pension

- Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Mexican War, Civil War (Union), Indian Wars, Spanish-American War
- Originals at National Archives



Civil War 'Widows' Pensions, Pension of James Stinson, page 16, viewed at Fold3.com: accessed 29 May 2020

# Tombstones



# Parent's Will May Confirm Maiden Name

one dollar, to my grand Daughter, Deborah W. G. Curtis, wife  
of Erastus Curtis one feather bed and bedstead with an under bed  
and one dollar in money, to my son Ebenezer W. Grosvenor, one  
dollar, to my daughter Lucy W. Wright, wife of Joel Wright,  
one dollar, to my daughter Betsey S. Goddard, wife of Ashbel

523

and one dollar in money, to my son Ebenezer W. Grosvenor, one  
dollar, to my daughter Lucy W. Wright, wife of Joel Wright.  
fifty dollars, to my daughter Betsey S. Goddard, wife of Ashbel  
Goddard, fifty dollars, to my son Cyrus P. Grosvenor and  
to my son Moses G. Grosvenor, each one hundred dollars, also.  
Daughter Susan Allen, wife of Rev. Mr. W?

“Massachusetts, Wills and Probate Records, 1635-1991” will of Deborah Grosvenor probated 10 Mar 1841; online images, Ancestry.com, citing Worcester County Probate Records, Vol 84-85, 1839-1844; Image 285.

# Social Security Application

✓ Saved to [Chamberlain, Virginia Esther](#) in tree "Lawthers Higgins Plowman Crotty" [Remove](#)

 Index-only record

[Add alternate information](#)  
[Report issue](#)

Name: Virginia Esther Chamberlain  
[Virginia E Chamberlain]  
[Virg Chambe]

SSN: 102146663

Gender: Female

Race: White

Birth Date: 13 Jun 1907

Birth Place: Dedham Norfo, Massachusetts  
[Dedham, Massachusetts]

Father Name: Antoine Chamberlain

Mother Name: Caroline Francoeur

Death Date: 31 Jan 1999

Claim Date: 22 Mar 1966

Type of Claim: Original SSN.

Notes: Nov 1940: Name listed as VIRGINIA ESTHER CHAMBERLAIN; 14 Mar 1966: Name listed as VIRGINIA E CHAMBERLAIN; 13 Apr 1999: Name listed as VIRG

Suggested Records [?](#)

[U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014](#)  
Virg Chambe



Make a Connection

[Find others who are researching Virginia Esther Chamberlain in Public Member Trees](#)

Birth Place: **Dedham Norfo, Massachusetts**  
[Dedham, Massachusetts]

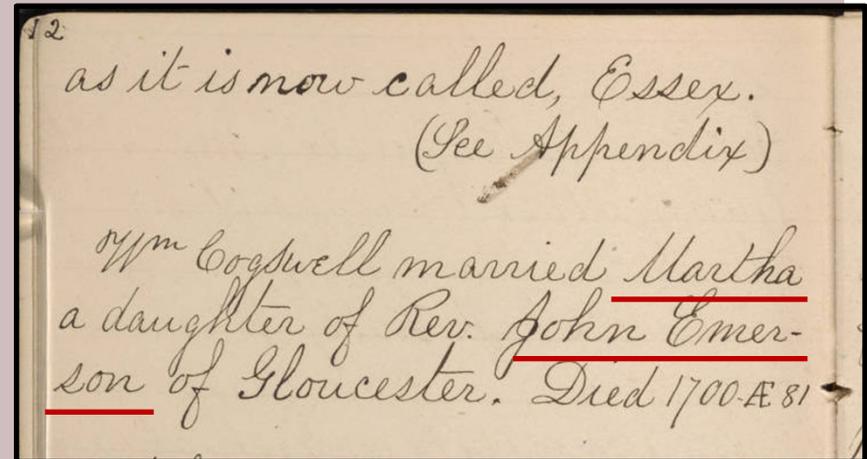
Father Name: **Antoine Chamberlain**

Mother Name: **Caroline Francoeur**

Death Date: **31 Jan 1999**

# Diaries and Letters

- Often part of manuscript collections
- Check local libraries and historical societies
- Large collection at NEHGS



E.R. Cogswell, *Facts etc. concerning the Cogswell family*, 1859, NEHGS, Mss 405



# QUESTIONS?

# Finding Aids

# Finding Aids

- *New England Marriages Prior to 1700* by Clarence Almon Torrey

*Torrey's New England Marriages*

1229

PRENTICE, Valentine<sup>1</sup> (~1633) & Alice B-, m/2 John WATSON 1634; 29 Jun 1696; Roxbury {Reg. 3:91, 14:55, 85:24; Warner-Baker 43; TAG 10:15, 28:86; Converse (1905) 722, 726; Williams (#16) 53; Prentice 271; Gen Mag. 6:98; Winthrop-Babcock 401; Webb Anc. 36; Crary-Dunham 55; Dixon-Williams 26; Phillimore: Essex Mar. 2:47}

PRESBURY, John (~1644?) & Catherine \_\_\_\_\_, m/2 Richard CHADWELL; ca 1639?; Sandwich {Martha's Vineyard 3:410; MD 14:169, 15:28; Gen. Adv. 3:76; TAG 31:53}

PRESBURY, John (~1679) & Dorcas [BESSEY]; by 1664; Sandwich/Salisbury/Saco, ME {Martha's Vineyard 3:410-11; GDMNH 567; TAG 30:69}

PRISBURY, Nathan/(Nathaniel wrong) & Elizabeth GANSON, m/2 Joseph LORD; 16 Feb 1698; Boston {Boston VR 244, Martha's Vineyard 3:411; GDMNH 567; TAG 31:53}

PRESBURY, Stephen (~1730) & Deborah [SKIFF] (1668-1743); ca 1693; Edgartown/Martha's Vineyard {Martha's Vineyard 3:411; Hazen Anc. 33; MD 29:71; West (#2) 4; Reg. 60:743; Bassett-Preston 256; GDMNH 567; Barnstable Co. Prob. 3:97}

PRESBURY, William (1664-) & Priscilla [RANDALL] (~1752); Beverly {Martha's Vineyard 3:411; GDMNH 568, 576}

PRESCOTT, James (1643-1728) & Mary [BOULTER] (1648-1705); by 1668; Hampton, NH {Hampton 613; Prescott 229; GDMNH 100, 568; Tinglev-Meyers 221}

PRESCOTT, Jonathan (1645/6?-1721) & 3/wf Rebecca (WHEELER) BULKELEY (1645-1717, 1718), w Peter; 18 Dec 1689; Concord {Stevens-Miller 60; Blake-Glidden 204; Warner-Harrington 525; Prescott 42; Fallass 130; Upton (1893) 169; Wheeler 573; R. Wheeler 7; Bulkeley 129; DePew 167; White Fam. Quar. 3:107; Gen. Adv. 1:122; Sibley's Harv. Grad. 2:171}

Bent Anc. 37; Tinglev-Meyers 196; Chickering Anc. (Chart) 7; Stevens-Miller 60, 143; Blake-Glidden 204; Warner-Harrington 525}

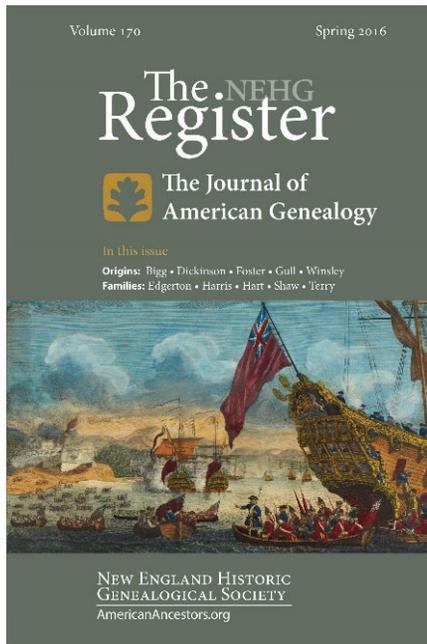
PRESCOTT, Jonas & Thankful WHEELER (1682-1716); 5 Oct 1699 at Concord; Groton {Concord VR; Prescott 47; Lowe 105; Fallass 132, 136; White Fam. Quar. 3:126; Chickering Anc. (Chart) 7; DePew 168}

PRESCOTT, Jonathan (1645/6?-1721) & 1/wf Dorothy [?WATERS/?HOALD] (~1674); 3 Aug 1670; Lancaster {Prescott 42; DePew 167; Upton (1893) 169; Fallass 30; White Fam. Quar. 3:107; Stevens-Miller 60; Blake-Glidden 204; Warner-Harrington 525}

PRESCOTT, Jonathan (1645/6?-1721) & 2/wf Elizabeth HOAR (ca 1650-1687); 23 Dec 1675; Concord {Blake-Glidden 204; Stevens-Miller 60; Warner-Harrington 525; Reg. 53:196, 98:423; Watertown 297; Prescott 42; Fallass 130; Hoare 23; DePew 167; Upton (1893) 169-70; White Fam. Quar. 3:107; EIHC 5:37; Sibley's Harv. Grad. 5:485}

PRESCOTT, Jonathan (1645/6?-1721) & 3/wf Rebecca (WHEELER) BULKELEY (1645-1717, 1718), w Peter; 18 Dec 1689; Concord {Stevens-Miller 60; Blake-Glidden 204; Warner-Harrington 525; Prescott 42; Fallass 130; Upton (1893) 169; Wheeler 573; R. Wheeler 7; Bulkeley 129; DePew 167; White Fam. Quar. 3:107; Gen. Adv. 1:122; Sibley's Harv. Grad. 2:171}

# Published Indexes



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e.g. Boston, Massachusetts

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# Finding Aids

- Periodical Source Index (PERSI)

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**Who**  
Last name  
 name variants

**Where** optional  
Enter a location  
e.g. Wells, Indiana, USA

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## PERiodical Source Index

A rich, exclusive collection of the world's best family history periodicals

D. Joshua Taylor, Lead Genealogist at findmypast

What is the PERiodical Source Index (PERSI)?

How do I get a copy of the full article?

[search.findmypast.com/search-world-records/periodical-source-index](https://search.findmypast.com/search-world-records/periodical-source-index)

# County Histories

- “Mug Books” or “Brag Books”
  - A much-maligned, but potentially very useful source
- Check
  - [Hathitrust.org](http://Hathitrust.org)
  - [Archive.org](http://Archive.org)
  - [Books.Google.com](http://Books.Google.com)



HISTORY  
 OF  
 MERCER COUNTY,  
 PENNSYLVANIA.  
 ITS PAST AND PRESENT.

1180

HISTORY OF MERCER COUNTY.

1878. They reared eight children: Samuel, Abraham K., John, Maria, Linus, Marvin, Madison and Ann, all residents of the county except Samuel, who lives in Michigan. Abraham K. was reared in his native township, and married June 10, 1836, Mrs. Sarah Smith, nee Lawton, a native of Yorkshire, England, who has borne him five children: Silas, Catharine (wife of Oscar Brockway), Peter, Daniel and Anna S., all living. Politically Mr. Harnist is a staunch Democrat, and one of the oldest native residents of the township.

JACOB HASENPLUG, farmer, post-office Greenville, was born in Centre County, Penn., October 20, 1830. His grandfather, Henry Haseupling, emigrated from Germany to America during the Revolution, and after the war married a Miss Sietold, of Union County, Penn. His father, Jacob Haseupling, was born in Union County July 16, 1796, there grew up and married Annie Lechtz, a native of the same county. They afterward removed to Centre County, where Jacob operated a tannery and brewery. In the fall of 1834 they removed to West Salem Township, Mercer County, and reared six children: George E., deceased; Elizabeth, wife of Jonathan Showers; Jacob; Maria, widow of William Dillon; John H. and Daniel. They settled in the forests of West Salem, in a hewed log house which Mr. Haseupling erected after coming.

**THE HOMMER FAMILY.**—Jacob Hommer, a native of Germany, and a Revolutionary soldier, was one of the early settlers of West Salem Township. He grew up in Maryland, and was twice married. His first wife was Mary Siler, who bore him three sons and four daughters: John, Joseph, Jacob, Polly, Lena, Susan and Elizabeth. The mother died in Maryland, and he married Mrs. Hannah (Booth) Schaffer, and with two sons, John and Jacob, and his four daughters, by his first marriage, immigrated to Mercer County in 1809 (Joseph remaining in Maryland), where he purchased and settled on a tract of land partly lying within the present limits of Greenville. Two daughters, Hannah and Rachel, were born of his second marriage. His cabin stood on the west side, where Samuel West now lives. The parents both spent the balance of their lives on this farm, upon which they were interred. John, the eldest son, married Catharine Harsh, in Maryland, and after coming to Mercer located at the Big Bend, in Delaware Township, where his father purchased him 100 acres. He died there, and his sons still live on the old homestead.

located at the Big Bend, in Delaware Township, where his father purchased him 100 acres. He died there, and his sons still live on the old homestead.

Joseph, the second son, was born in Maryland May 15, 1791, there learned the shoemaker's trade, and came to West Salem Township about two years after the rest of the family. He married Magdalena Everhart, who was born

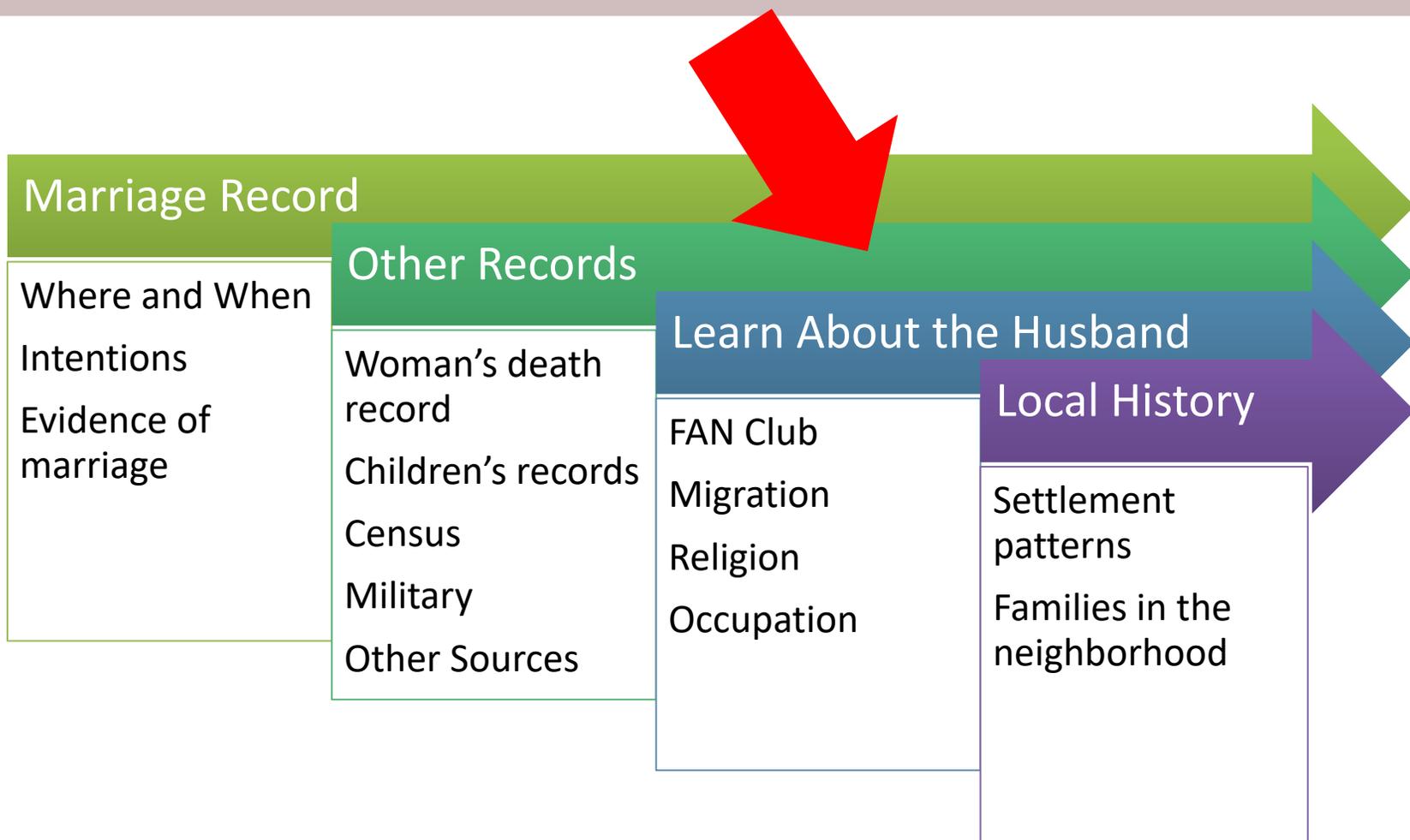
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# Naming Patterns

- Some families preserve the wife's maiden name as the child's middle name.
  - Margaret Lawthers Higgins  
(mother's maiden name)
  - Edward Grosvenor Plowman  
(maternal 2nd great grandmother)
  - Peter Carrington Lawthers  
(mother's great-grandmother)

# Finding the Maiden Name



# Learn About the Husband

- FAN Club – Family, Associates and Neighbors
- Migration pattern of family
- Religion/Church
- Occupation



# Clergyman's wife, Emma

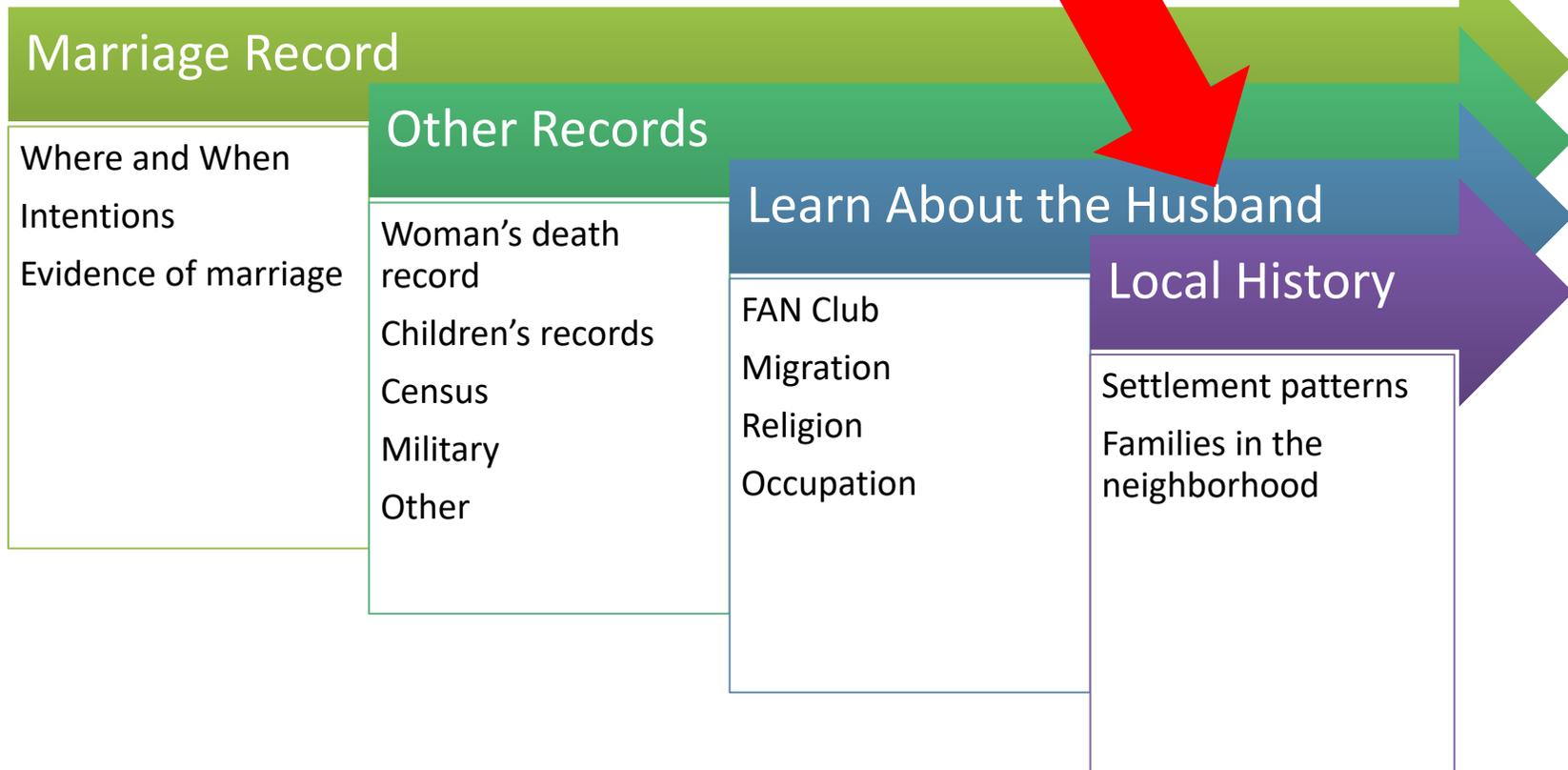
- Newton Hervey Bell was born in Kossuth, Iowa
- He married Emma, MNU before 1870 (per census)
- Newton attended Amherst College, graduating in 1866, then attended Princeton Theological Seminary and Bangor Theological Seminary

NEWTON HERVEY BELL, son of Peter B. and Harriet (Houston) Bell, was born in Kossuth, Ia., Apr. 22, 1841; fitted for college at Yellow Springs Coll., Ia., and at Denmark Academy, Ia. Princeton T. S., '66—'67; Bangor T. S., '67—'68; ordained at Stafford Springs, Ct., Aug. 5, 1868, and p., '68—'70; a. p., Winchester, Ind., '70—'71; a. p., Owatonna, Minn., '71—'73; in employ of A. B. C. F. M., Mardin, Turkey, '74—'76; s. s., Schroon Lake, N. Y., '77; s. s., Arcade, N. Y., '77—'80; p., First Presbyterian church, Nunda, N. Y., since '81. Married, Aug. 11, 1868, Emma H., dau. of Rev. Erastus Curtiss, of New Salem. Five children. P. O. address, Nunda, N. Y.



# QUESTIONS?

# Finding the Maiden Name



# Educate Yourself

- About early settlers
- About migrations in and out
- About boundary and name changes
- Families in the area by time period

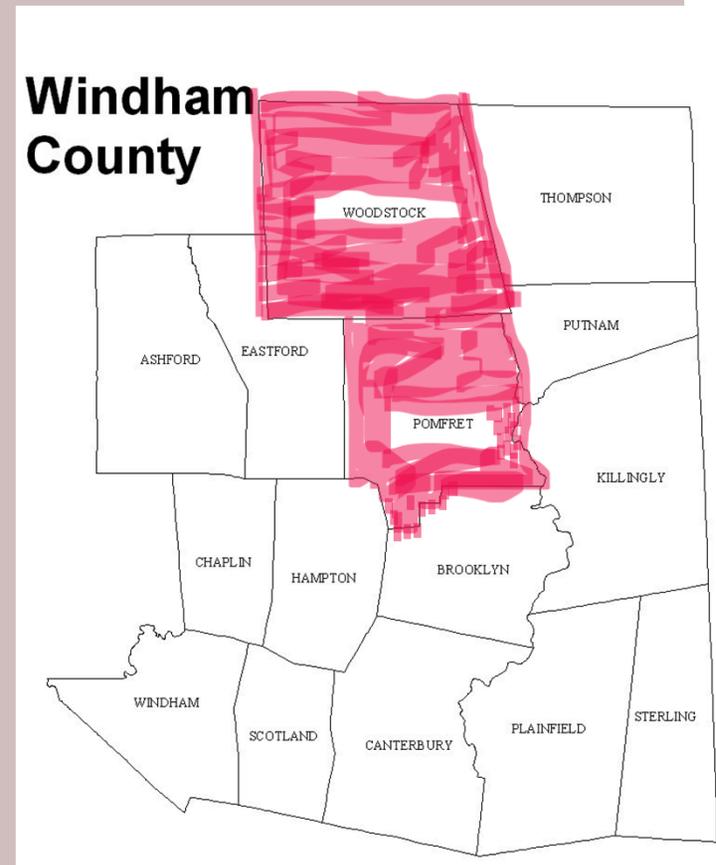
# Ann Grosvenor of Pomfret, Conn.

Here Lyes ye Body of Mrs Ann Grosvenor the widow of Mr Ebenezer Grosvenor she died July 30 1743 in ye 56<sup>th</sup> Year of her Age

- Born about 1687
- Married about 1707 based on birth of first child, but no marriage record
- Births of children listed as “d.” or “s.” of Ebenezer and Ann
- Ebenezer Grosvenor of Roxbury, came to Pomfret in 1700 with his mother, Esther (or Hester)

# Early Settlement

- Land in Pomfret was purchased in 1686 by 12 men from Roxbury, Massachusetts, but not settled until 1699
- Woodstock, just north of Pomfret, was purchased by 39 men from Roxbury at the same time and settled immediately (1686)



## **Births of Ann's in Roxbury (1685-1689)**

- Ann Baker, d. Robert and Mary, 8 June 1685
- Ann White, d. Benjamin, 4 July 1685
- Anna Lyon, d. Thomas and Abigail, 28 April 1689
- Anne Massey, d. John and Sarah, 11 October 1687

# Settlers of Woodstock (with ages)

- Aspinwall, Peter (22)
- Bacon, Joseph (20)
- Bacon, Thomas (28)
- Bowen, Henry (53)
- Bowen, John (24)
- Bugbee, John (21)
- Bugbee, Joseph (46)
- Butcher, John (23)
- Chandler, John (51)
- Chandler, John Jr. (21)
- Corbin, James (21)
- Craft, Samuel (49)
- Davis, Jonathan (21)
- Davis, Matthew (22)
- Frizzel, John (22)
- Garey, Nathaniel (23)
- Griggs, Benjamin (19)
- Griggs, George (25)
- Holmes, John (25)
- Johnson, Nathaniel (39)
- Leavens, John (46)
- Lyon, Thomas (38)
- Lyon, William Sr (65)
- Lyon, William Jr. (34)
- Marcy, John (24)
- May, Samuel (25)
- Morris, Ebenezer (22)
- Morris, Edward (56)
- Peacock, Samuel (29)
- Peake, Jonathan (49)
- Peake, Joseph (41)
- Sabin, Benjamin (40)
- Sanger, Nathan (34)
- Scarborough, Samuel (40)
- Watkins, Andrew (20)

# Births of Ann's in Roxbury Matched to Settlers

- Anna Lyon, d. Thomas and Abigail, 28 April 1689
- Anne Massey, d. John and Sarah, 11 October 1687

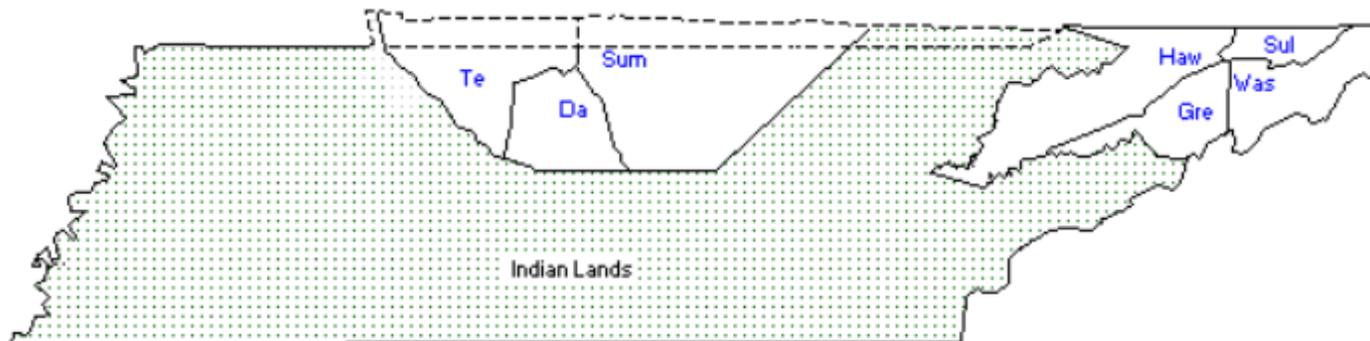
❖ Next steps, probate of fathers?

# Consider Boundary Changes

- Familiarize with the geography and county boundaries of a state; this dictates where to look for records
- Map of US
  - <https://www.mapofus.org/>
- Newbury Atlas of Historical County Boundaries
  - <https://digital.newberry.org/ahcb/>
- *Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research*, 6th Edition

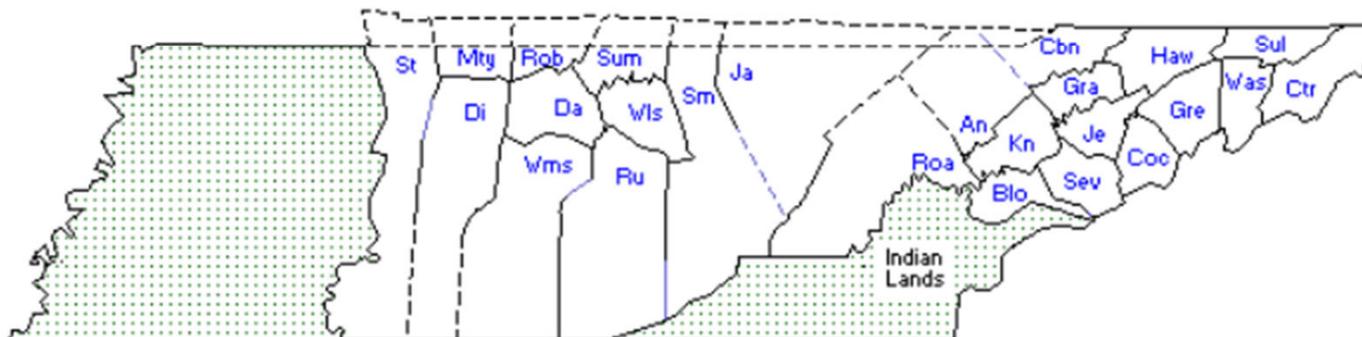
1790

North Carolina cedes western region,  
organized as Territory South of the Ohio River.



1803

Dickson from Montgomery, Robertson.  
Stewart from Montgomery.  
Rutherford from Davidson.  
Anderson, Roane gained from non-county area  
(Indian Lands). (date?)



[www.mapofus.org](http://www.mapofus.org)

# Record Dates – Two Counties

- Check Family Search Research Wiki for County specific dates ([www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org))

Country		Births	Marriages	Deaths
Davidson, Tennessee	Earliest	1881	1789	1881
	Statewide registration	1914	1914	1914
	General Compliance	1927	1927	1927
Berkshire, Massachusetts	Earliest	At town creation	At town creation	At town creation
	Statewide registration	1841	1841	1841
	General Compliance	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

# Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research, 6th Ed. – Town Pages

Town	Inc.	County	Parent Town(s)	Notes	VRs	CRs
Gosnold	1864	Dukes	Chilmark	Settled 1641. Formed from part of Chilmark called Elizabeth Islands.		
Grafton	1735	Worcester	Hassanamisco Plantation, Sutton, Shrewsbury	Settled 1718. Created from Hassanamisco Plantation. Aliases: A "Praying Indian" (Christian) town, Hassanamesit.	H, S	N
Granby	1768	Hampshire	South Hadley	Settled 1727.	C, H	N
Granville	1775	Hampden		Settled 1736. District formed from tract of land called Bedford Plantation 1754. Alias: Mather town. Daughter Town: Tolland.	H, S	N, T
Great Barrington	1761	Berkshire	Sheffield, Stockbridge	Settled 1726. Aliases: Hoplands, Upper Housatonic. Daughter Towns: Alford, Lee.	H, S	
Hadley	1661	Hampshire		Settled 1659. Formerly called "the new plantation near Northampton." Aliases: Hockanum, Norwottuck. Daughter Towns: Amherst, Hatfield, Northampton, South Hadley.	C	
Halifax	1734	Plymouth	Bridgewater, Middleborough, Pembroke, Plympton	Settled 1670. Alias: Monponsett. Daughter Town: East Bridgewater.	H, S	
Hamilton	1793	Essex	Ipswich	Settled 1638. Formed from part of Ipswich called Ipswich Hamlet.	H, S	
Hampden	1878	Hampden	Wilbraham	Settled 1741.	H, T	
Hancock	1776	Berkshire	Jericho Plantation	Settled 1767. Originally Jericho Plantation. Daughter Town: New Ashford.	C, H	
Hanover	1727	Plymouth	Abington, Scituate	Settled 1649.	H, S	K, N
Harwich	1694	Barnstable	Brewster	Settled 1670. Called Satucket to 1694. Annexed parts of Brewster 1848. Daughter Towns: Brewster, Eastham.	H, P	N
Hatfield	1670	Hampshire	Hadley	Settled 1661. Aliases: Hattfields, Norwottuck. Daughter Towns: Whately, Williamsburg.	C	
	1775	Franklin	Deerfield	Settled 1686. District formed from Deerfield 1753. Aliases: Green River, Piconegan. Daughter Towns: Bernardston, Gill.	H, S	N, W
	1655	Middlesex	Dunstable, Pepperell	Settled 1655. Formerly called Petapawoge. Aliases: Groaten, Petpauket, Squnnicook, Wabansconssett. Daughter Towns: Ayer, Dunstable, Harvard, Littleton, Pepperell, Shirley, Westford.	H, S	
	1850	Essex	Boxford, Bradford	Settled 1639.		
	1661	Hampshire		Settled 1659. Formerly called "the new plantation near Northampton." Aliases: Hockanum, Norwottuck. Daughter Towns: Amherst, Hatfield, Northampton, South Hadley.	C	
	1734	Plymouth	Bridgewater, Middleborough, Pembroke, Plympton	Settled 1670. Alias: Monponsett. Daughter Town: East Bridgewater.	H, S	
	1793	Essex	Ipswich	Settled 1638. Formed from part of Ipswich called Ipswich Hamlet.	H, S	
	1878	Hampden	Wilbraham	Settled 1741.	H, T	
	1776	Berkshire	Jericho Plantation	Settled 1767. Originally Jericho Plantation. Daughter Town: New Ashford.	C, H	
	1727	Plymouth	Abington, Scituate	Settled 1649.	H, S	K, N
	1820	Plymouth	Pembroke	Settled 1632. Alias: Pembroke West Parish.	H, S	N, W
	1739	Worcester	Greenwich, Hardwick Gore, Lambstown Plantation, New Braintree	Settled 1737. Originally Lambstown Plantation. Alias: Hardwick Gore. Daughter Towns: Dana, Greenwich, New Braintree.	H, S	
	1732	Worcester	Groton, Lancaster, Stow	Settled 1704. Daughter Town: Boxborough.	H, S	N

MA

# Finding the Neighbors

- Census
- Counties Histories

540

WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

and the industry of lumbering as well as farming. Some four hundred sheep are pastured annually, and as many as 17,000 pounds of delicious maple sugar were made for the past few years."

The present (1925) town officers in Florida are as follows: Selectmen, G. N. Thatcher, A. F. W. Newman and W. O. Ford; treasurer, G. W. Searle; town clerk, George Martin; assessors, G. N. Thatcher, J. Newman; tax-collector, G. N. Thatcher; auditor, H. L. Raycroft; overseer of the poor, A. F. W. Newman; superintendent of school, Charles C. Richardson.

The reports of the town treasurer for 1924 gives figures as follows: Receipts for year ending December 31, 1924, \$64,146; disbursements for the same period, \$52,945.

**Hancock Town**—This is the longest and narrowest sub-division of Berkshire county and is an agricultural section of the same. Its population in 1920 was 464. It has one-third of the State's boundary on New York, and in its early days was slower in settlement on account of the uncertainty of the state line which until adjusted was likely to cause much litigation as to land titles. Until 1787 the town was three-fourths of a mile wider than at present and in that portion the first settlements were effected. In the summer of 1767 Asa Douglass, Esq., made the first actual settlement. The first town meeting was held August 21, 1776 at the house of Asa Douglass, Esq. He was chosen to represent the town in the General Court of Massachusetts. "Voted that he should procure the incorporation of this town. That he should have a certificate of good character and standing," and 13thly voted, "That the title of 'Honorable' pertaining to this gentleman be annexed to their names who have wrote to the General Court of Massachusetts, a recommendation of Esq. Douglass." The names thus embalmed in public record as "Honorable" were: Captain Daniel Goodrich, Benjamin Baker, Eleazer Deming, Benijah McCaul, and Ensign Martin Townsend.

The Revolutionary War came on and the records show that in May, 1778, it was voted that the selectmen proceed to procure clothing for the soldiers according to the act of the General Court. Also that "\$300 be assessed and collected for hiring soldiers; that \$200 be used for the upper and \$100 for the lower company." The last named was at New Lebanon, then a part of Hancock town, the upper where now stands the village of Hancock. It was then voted that "there shall be no horse racing in this town." Squire Douglass had charge of the powder magazine which was an

## In conclusion . . .

- Remember – your ancestress had a life and a name prior to her marriage
- When she married, her family didn't “go away” – they probably lived in the area
- Search all existing records that might reveal the wife's maiden name

# QUESTIONS?

**Hire Research Services**

*research@nehgs.org*

**Chat with a Genealogist**

*AmericanAncestors.org/chat*



# THANK YOU!

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