

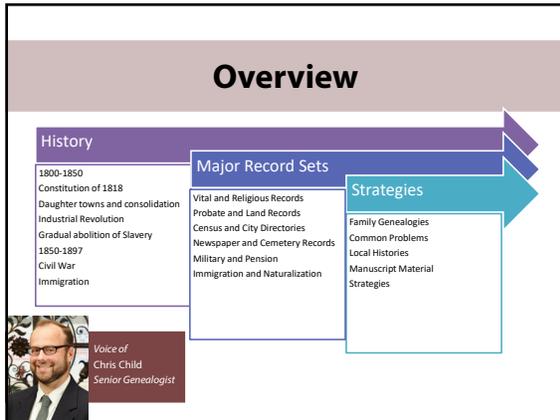
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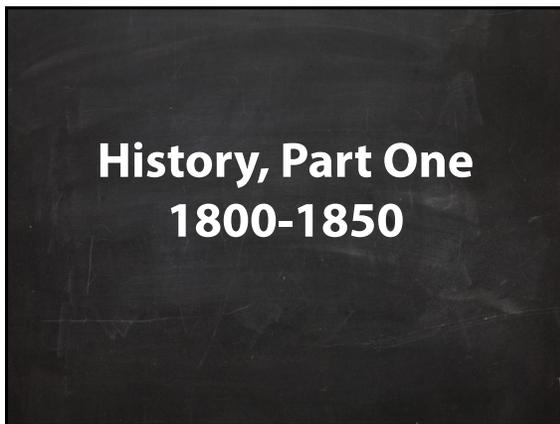
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3



4



5

Disestablishment

- State constitution of 1818 disestablished the Congregational Church and eliminated property ownership for voting
- While the church is still powerful, commerce is driving newer towns and cities



6

Thomaston

- 1780 - Ecclesiastical Societies in Waterbury of Northbury and Westbury incorporated as Watertown
- 1805 - Residents east of the Naugatuck River form Plymouth
- 1875 - western portion of Plymouth set off as Thomaston



7

Gradual Abolition of Slavery

8

Gradual Abolition of Slavery

- 1790 - 2764 enslaved persons (1.16%)
- 1800 - 951 enslaved persons (0.38%)
- 1810 - 310 enslaved persons (0.12%)
- 1820 - 97 enslaved persons (0.04%)
- 1830 - 25 enslaved persons (0.008%)
- 1840 - 8 enslaved persons (0.005%)

9

Nancy Toney of Windsor

- Born 1774
- Freed in 1848 by “An Act to Prevent Slavery”
- Died Windsor, Conn., 19 Dec. 1857



10

History, Part Two
1850-1897

11

The rise of mill towns

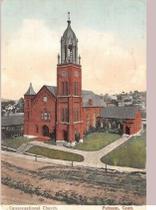
- Early 19th century textile mills
- Consolidation of towns
- Second Industrial Revolution in the mid 19th century results in greater levels of immigration



12

Putnam

- 1708 – Killingly established from “northern Plainfield”
- 1785 – “Thompson Parish” set off as its own town
- 1855 – Putnam created from Killingly, Thompson, and Pomfret (1713)



13

Information on Immigration

14

Data from the Census

- 1820 – how many foreign-born people “not naturalized” in each household
- 1830 – how many white “foreigners not naturalized” in each household
- 1850 – birthplace is asked for all individuals
- 1870 – “Is the person a male citizen of the United States of 21 years or upwards” asked of all people
- 1890 – naturalization status of foreign-born aged 21 or older

15

Census Data Relating to Immigration

- 1820 – 568 foreigners not naturalized (2.5%)
- 1850 – 38,518 foreign born (10.4%)
- 1860 – 80,696 (17.5%)
- 1870 – 113,169 (21.1%)
- 1880 – 129,992 (20.9%)
- 1890 – 183,601 (24.6%)

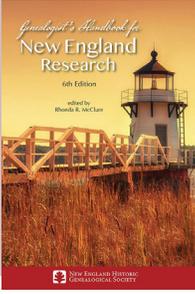
16



17

Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research

- Town and County Lists
- Detailed Maps
- Court Houses
- Library and Archives



New England Historic Genealogical Society

18

Connecticut Historical Collections

- Snapshot of Conn. through 1830
- Verbatim inscriptions of interesting gravestones
- Viewpoints of the town
- Statistical Tables from 1840 and 1850 census

19

New Towns 1838-1856

PUTNAM,
 Was incorporated a town in 1855. The township is triangular in shape, being formed from the north part of Killingly, south part of Thompson, and the N. E. section of Pomfret. The village, (formerly called Quinnebaug,) on the line of the Railroad and Quinnebaug River, is 41 miles E. from Hartford, 81 from New Haven, and 10 miles from Brooklyn, the County town. Cargill's grist-mill, the first in the village, was erected about the year 1776. This was repaired by Mr. Wilkison, in 1816, who first commenced the manufacturing business in the place.
 The village now contains 4 cotton mills, 560 looms, manufacturing 5,000,000 yards of cotton goods annually, valued at \$350,000; one woolen mill, one steam machine shop, 10 stores, and 4 shoe manufacturing establishments. Population of the village is estimated at upwards of 1,600, the township at upwards of 2,300.

BRIDGEWATER,
 Was incorporated a town in 1856. It was formed from the south-eastern section of New Milford, formerly called the 'Neck,' and more recently Bridgewater Society.

20

Overview

History 1800-1850 Constitution of 1818 Daughter towns and consolidation Industrial Revolution Gradual abolition of Slavery 1850-1897 Civil War Immigration Compendia	Major Record Sets Vital and Religious Records Probate and Land Records Census and City Directories Newspaper and Cemetery Military and Pension Immigration and Naturalization	Strategies Family Genealogies Common Problems Local Histories Manuscript Material Strategies
--	--	--

21

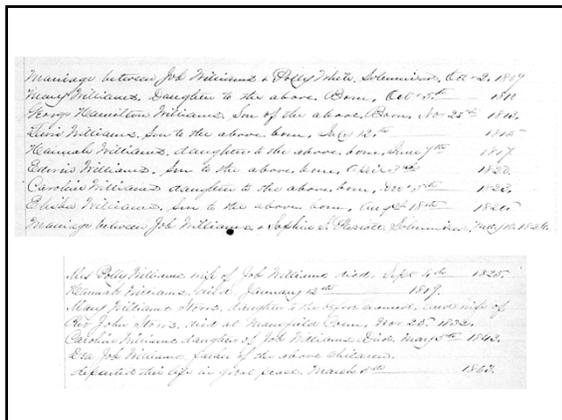


22

**Vital Records in the early
19th Century**

- Still being kept by families
- Record keeping getting a bit a lax

23



24

Changes in Record Keeping 1850s

- Births, along with marriages and deaths, being kept at the time of the event in sequential order
- Additional details about occupations of father, ages, and birthplaces of parents
- Additional information added in later years

25

Marriages 1852

Date	Name	Age	Birthplace	Spouse Name	Spouse Birthplace
Nov 2	Samuel Lyon	24	Wethersfield	Esther	Benford Ct
16	May & Well	24	Wethersfield	Esther	Benford Ct

from October 1st 1852 to December 31st 1852

Date	Name	Age	Birthplace	Spouse Name	Spouse Birthplace
Oct 1st	William	24	Wethersfield	Esther	Benford Ct
Nov 1st	William	24	Wethersfield	Esther	Benford Ct

26

1849 births

Date	Name	Sex	Age	Birthplace
Dec 1849	George	Male	1	Benford
Apr 1849	Samuel	Male	1	Benford
May 1849	Samuel	Male	1	Benford
May 1849	May & Well	Male	1	Benford

Name	Sex	Age	Birthplace
Samuel	Male	1	Benford
Samuel	Male	1	Benford
Samuel	Male	1	Benford

27

Is there anything more?

- Single page certificates for vital events (mostly marriages) began in some towns in the late 19th century
- Most relevant genealogical information from these certificates is stated in the index books available at Town Halls
- Main item often omitted is place of marriage.

28

Tip

If any FamilySearch Microfilm has births less than 100 years old, it cannot be made digitally available

29

Woodstock Vital Records, vols. 1-5

Subjects
 Locality Subjects
 United States, Connecticut, Windham, Woodstock - Vital records
 United States, Connecticut, Windham, Woodstock - Town records

Film/Digital Notes

Note	Location	Collection/Shell	Film	Image Group Number (DIGS)	Format
Births, marriages, deaths v. 1-4 1866-1867	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	1376372	7730721	Q, EB
Births, marriages, deaths v. 5 1867-1929	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	1376373	7730731	Q, EB

30

Divorce Records

- Original Divorce Records at Conn. State Library
- New London, Tolland, and Windham Counties, Indexed 1719-1910
- Hartford Counties Indexed 1740-1849
- Litchfield Counties Indexed 1752-1922
- New London County on FamilySearch 1719-1875

31

Divorce Index

PEABODY
 William of Stonington m. 16 May 1784 Rebeckah Brown of Stonington
 - adultery - appl. Stonington 7 Sept. 1791 - granted.

32

Divorce Records on FamilySearch

Search Results for FamilySearch Catalog

Notes
 New London County was created in 1666 (original county)
 Part of United States, Connecticut

Places within United States, Connecticut, New London ▶

- ▶ United States, Connecticut, New London - Biography (11)
- ▶ United States, Connecticut, New London - Business records and commerce (1)
- ▶ United States, Connecticut, New London - Cemeteries (3)
- ▶ United States, Connecticut, New London - Census - 1800 - Indexes (1)
- ▶ United States, Connecticut, New London - Church history (3)
- ▶ United States, Connecticut, New London - Church records (16)
- ▶ United States, Connecticut, New London - Court records (3)

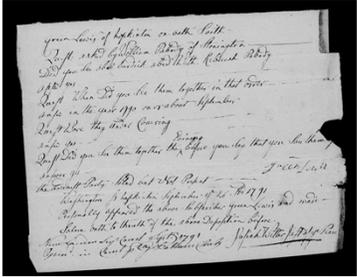
Connecticut divorces - Superior Court records for the counties of New London, Tolland & Windham, 1719-1910 Add
 Author: Knox, Grace Louise; Ferris, Barbara B.

Divorce papers, 1719-1875 Add
 Author: Connecticut. Superior Court (New London County)

Records of trials, 1661-1700, in the county court of New London County, Connecticut Add
 Author: Connecticut. County Court (New London)

33

Witness Testimony



34

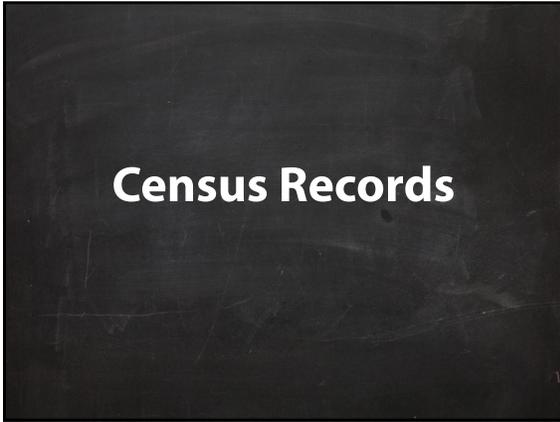
Religious Records

35

Shift in Congregations

- With the disestablishment of the Congregational Church, many more places of worship are erected, especially Catholic congregations after significant Irish immigration, and later immigration from Quebec, Italy, Poland, etc.
- Many religious records are at the Connecticut State Library and Catholic Archives
- Faiths besides Congregational and Catholic have less indexes

36



37

Census Records

- 1790-1840 – head of household only, and “tick marks”
- 1850-1870 – all individuals recorded
- 1880 forward – relationships between individuals

38

Absence of Native Americans 1860 – 3 Indians?

INDIAN.

1	New Haven	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	Tolland	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
3	Windsor	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total.....		3	3	0	3	3	3	3	3	3

39

Mostly to New York or Boston, but also Conn.

Name	Sex	Date of Birth	Place of Birth	Age	Color	Complexion	Height
John J. Wilson	♂	1860	Connecticut	38	White	Light	5-8
John J. Wilson	♂	1860	Connecticut	38	White	Light	5-8
John J. Wilson	♂	1860	Connecticut	38	White	Light	5-8
John J. Wilson	♂	1860	Connecticut	38	White	Light	5-8
John J. Wilson	♂	1860	Connecticut	38	White	Light	5-8
John J. Wilson	♂	1860	Connecticut	38	White	Light	5-8
John J. Wilson	♂	1860	Connecticut	38	White	Light	5-8
John J. Wilson	♂	1860	Connecticut	38	White	Light	5-8
John J. Wilson	♂	1860	Connecticut	38	White	Light	5-8
John J. Wilson	♂	1860	Connecticut	38	White	Light	5-8

46

Immigration Records

47

Naturalization and Declarations of Intent

- First Record – Intending to be a citizen
- Second Record Naturalization
- Unfortunately, often minimally detailed

48

Naturalization Records

- Former allegiance
- Year of immigration
- Witness (for declaration of intent)



49

Other Ways of Finding Origins

- Usually specific to country of origin
- *Search for Missing Friends*



50

Search for Missing Friends

MARY CUNNINGHAM, lately arrived at New Haven, from Carrickonellan, county Sligo, wants the address of her brother, John Cunningham; he is supposed to be a resident of New Orleans, La. Please address her, care of Thomas McGowan, Healy's Block, Congress Avenue, New Haven, Conn.

OF THOMAS A., and WILLIAM H. FENNING; Thomas was born at Salisbury, Conn., Aug. 6, 1850, and left Hartford, Conn., November, 1884; William was also born at Salisbury, Conn., March 10, 1853, and left Lime Rock, Conn., in the summer of 1885. Thomas has been heard from in the West; William has never been heard from. Any one knowing of them will please address their brother, Edw. S. Fenning, Hartford, Conn.; or John F. Conroy, 167 Main Street.

28 October 1892 MISSING FRIENDS

51

Jennie (Nelson) Sheldon

- Born Sweden, 1879
- Immigrated 1882 with parents and siblings
- Married Fred Sheldon in 1896 (of New England Yankee ancestry)
- While father John Nelson claims in 1910 he was naturalized, no naturalization record has been found (and name is quite common)

52

Swedish Emigrant Records

Jenny Ottilia Ellen Johannesdotter Nilsson
In The Swedes, Emigrants Registered in Church Books, 1783-1991

Detail	Source
Name	Jenny Ottilia Ellen Johannesdotter Nilsson
Gender	Kvinnor (Female)
Birth Date	7 Nov 1879
Birth Place	Jönköping, Gällaryd
Departure Date	6 Feb 1882
Departure Place	Jönköping, Gällaryd
Arrival Place	Northamptn
Marital Status	Unmarried (Single)
Notes	Traveled with family
Original Page	115

Suggested Re

- 1800 United St Jenny T Sheldon
- 1800 United St Jennie J Sheldon
- 1800 United St Jennie T Sheldon
- U.S., Social Se Index, 1898-20 Jenny T Nelson
- Sweden, Index Jenny Ottilia E
- 1800 United St Jenny T Sheldon
- U.S., Obituary Jenny Sheldon
- U.S., Find a Gr Jenny Ottilia E
- Massachusetts 1800 Jenny T E Nels
- 1800 United St Jenny T Sheldon

Household Members

- Hilja Vilho Johannesson Nilsson
- Henrik Vilho Johannesson Nilsson
- Johanna Ellen Johannesdotter Nilsson
- Ida Maria Johannesdotter Nilsson
- Jenny Ottilia Ellen Johannesdotter Nilsson
- Johannes Nilsson
- Kvinnor Johannesdotter

53

Tip

Cast a wide net. Use 20th-century records for finding 19th-century origins

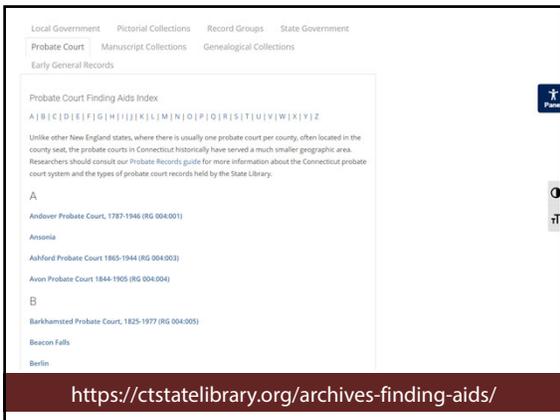
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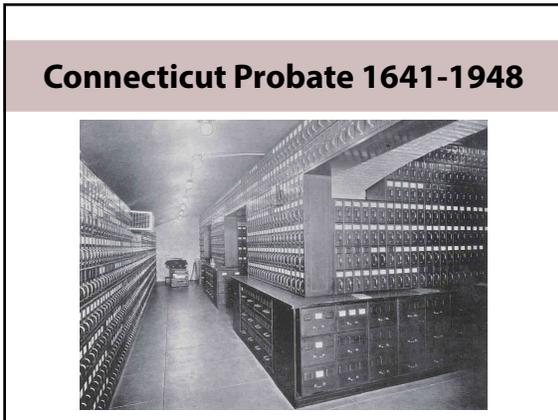
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56



57



Connecticut Probate 1641-1948

58

Locating Probate Records

- Connecticut State Library: books and loose papers
- Ancestry.com: "Connecticut, Wills and Probate Records, 1609-1999"

59

Connecticut, Wills and Probate Records, 1609-1999

Search Match all terms exactly

First & Middle Name(s) Last Name

Day Month Year Location

Probate Any Event

Keyword

Case Number

Search [Clear search](#)

Source Information

Browse this collection

To browse this image set, select from the options below.

County

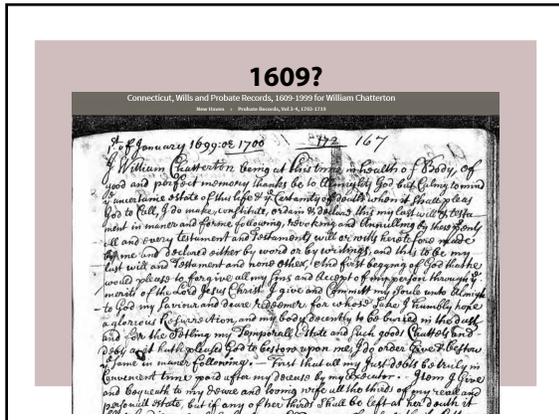
Notes

Related data collections

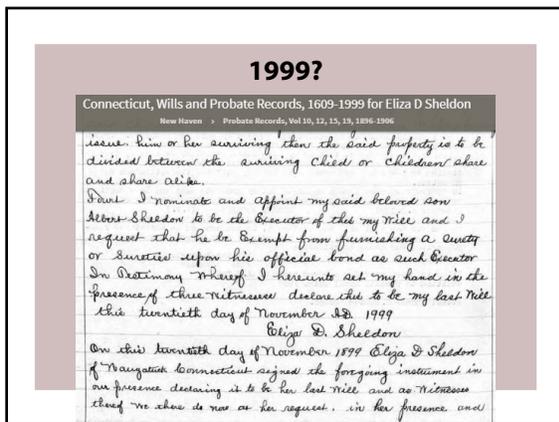
[U.S. Wills and Probates](#)
[U.S. Wills and Probates 1650-1934](#)
[Connecticut, Deaths and Burials Index, 1650-1934](#)
[Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2012](#)

Ancestry.com

60



61



62

Probate Chronology
Example: Woodstock

- 1686-1731, Suffolk County, Massachusetts
- 1731-1749, Worcester County, Massachusetts
- 1749-1752, Windham District
- 1752-1831, Pomfret District
- 1831-2011, Woodstock District
- 2011 - present, Northeast Probate District

63

Last Resort

- “Connecticut Archives” books:
 - Estates of Deceased Persons, 1640-1820
 - Estates of Incompetent Persons, 1711-1820
 - Estates of Minors, 1715-1820

64

Land Records

65

Connecticut Deeds to 1900



66

Land Records

- Grantor can mention how he acquired the land
- Can sign his name with his wife
- Narrows down the chronology
- Land description can be compared to other deeds
- Provides clues:
 - Where someone lived and when
 - Origins and family migrations
 - Prove family relationships



67

Tip

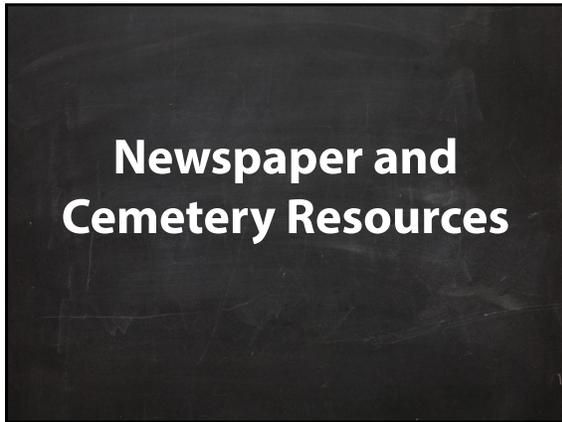
You ancestor did not need to reside in a community to own land there.

68

Tip

Remember not all deeds were recorded at the date of the sale.

69



70

Key Newspaper Sources

- Charles R. Hale Collection
- GenealogyBank
- Newspapers.com
- Connecticut State Library / Local Libraries and related websites

Marrriages.

CLARK-LEPPENS-In this city, Oct. 11, by the Rev. R. Marsh, C. A. Clark and Louise E. eldest daughter of T. Leppens, wd of this city.

TALCOTT-TALCOTT-in Talbotville, Oct. 4, by the Rev. Geo. A. Crick, Samuel A. Talcott of Talbotville, and Miss Rose J. Talcott of Talbotville, daughter of the late Hanson Haven W. Talcott.

Deaths.

STANCLIFF-In this city, Wednesday, Oct. 11, H. Jessie Stancliff, only daughter of J. W. Stancliff, of this city.

BAINWALD-In this city, Oct. 10, John Barnard, aged 64.

BUTLER-In Meriden, Oct. 10, Henry C. Butler, aged 54.

CORBIN-In Willington, Oct. 4, Henry H. Corbin, aged 75.

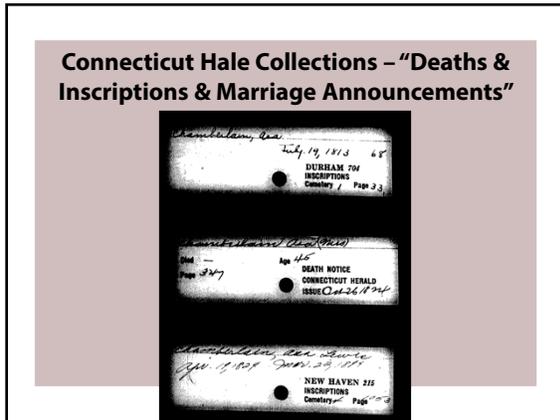
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Charles R. Hale Collection

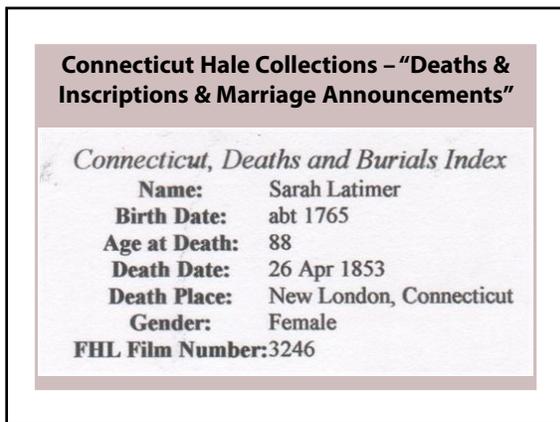
- Cemeteries: W.P.A. Project 1932-1935
- Gravestone inscriptions from 2,269 cemeteries
- Newspaper Project 1937-1941
- Newspapers, 1755-1866
- Danbury Times to 1900



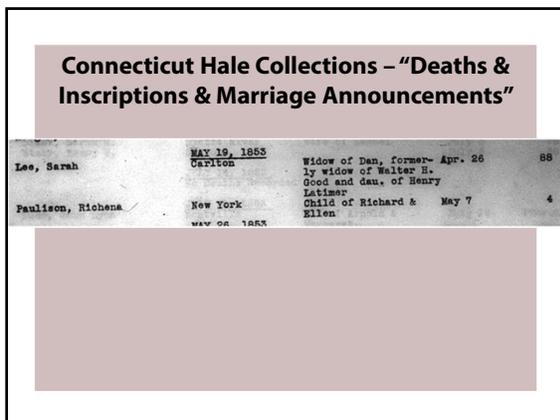
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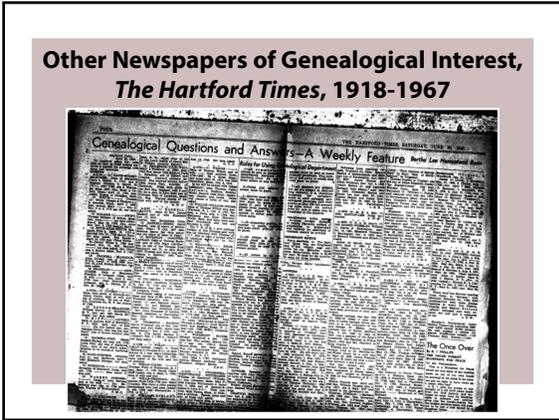
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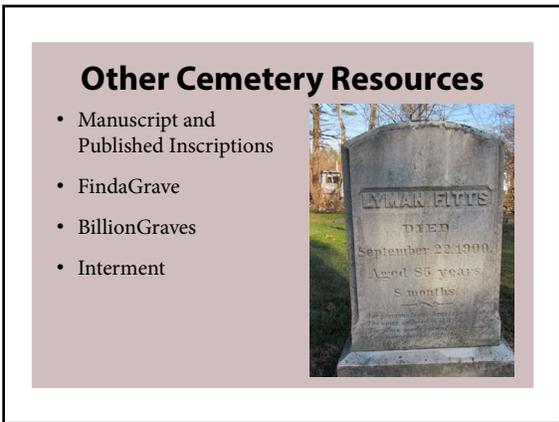
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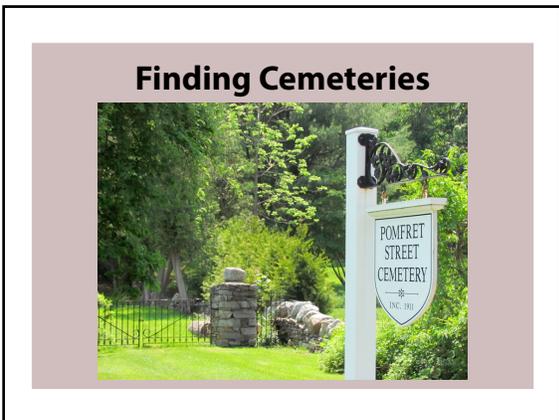
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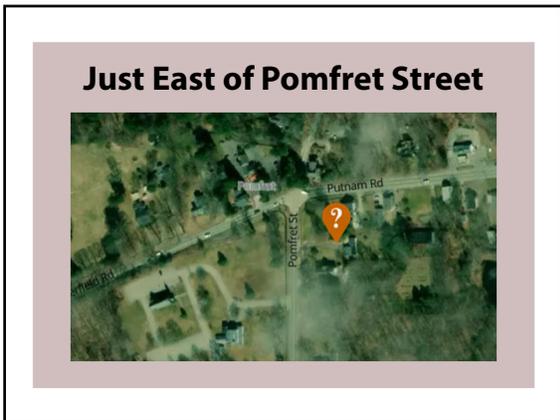
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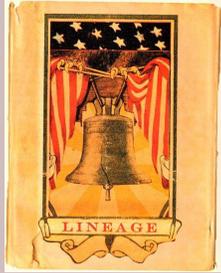
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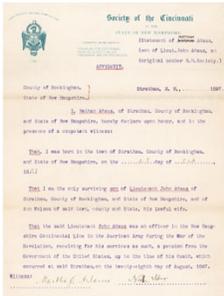
Lineage Societies

- Several emerge after the American Centennial in 1876 (SR, SAR, DAR)
- Genealogical Documentation less scrutinized
- Immediate generations *usually* more reliable



85

Affidavits of Descent



86

DAR Genealogical Research

Ancestor Member Descendants

CHILDS, WILLARD Ancestor # A021585

Service: CONNECTICUT Rank(s): PRIVATE
 Birth: 5-7-1758 WOODSTOCK CONNECTICUT
 Death: 11-5-1844 WOODSTOCK CONNECTICUT
 Pension Number: *S
 Service Description: 1) CAPT. NATHANIEL MOREY DANIELLYON
 2) PERLEY HOWE-COLLS DOUGLASS-WILLIAMS

SPOUSE	
Number	Name
1)	LYDIA MORSE
2)	SYLVIA CHILD

NOTE: Click on the member number to see

ASSOCIATED APPLICATIONS AND SUPPLEMENTALS						
App#	App Num	App Vol	Descs	Child	Spouse #	Spouse
	20160		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LUTHER	[1]	PAMELA CHILD

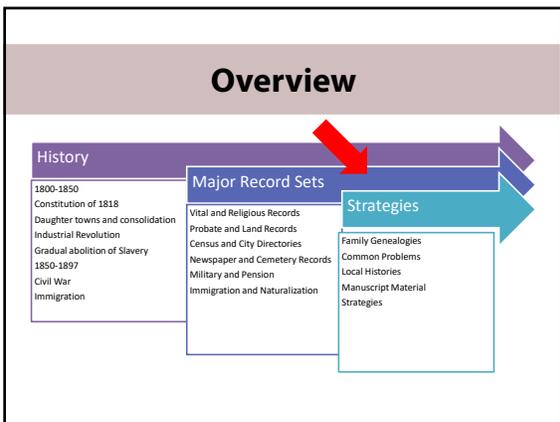
PURCHASE

https://services.dar.org/Public/DAR_Research/search

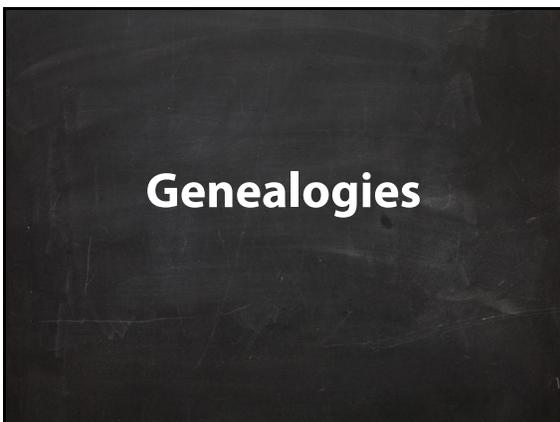
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88



89



90

Family Genealogies

- Starting in the mid 19th century, largely with a focus on the “male line”
- The 1864 Hyde Genealogy a notable exception to this trend
- May be the only source for recent events

VI. PERSA HYDE (1607, born at Franklin, Conn., 15 Dec., 1704, daughter of Joseph Hyde (178), by his second wife, Judith Abel (1672), was a great-granddaughter of Thomas Hyde (?) of the third generation. She m. 15 Dec., 1811, Charles Armstrong, b. 2 Aug., 1786, at Franklin, son of Lee Armstrong, and Ednah Smith of Franklin. He was a farmer, and they settled at Franklin, where she d. 25 Jan., 1841. He then m. the widow Emorie (Ripley) Tracy, and was living at Franklin in 1857, without issue by last.

His children by his first wife were:

4752 Henry Abel, b. 5 Jan., 1813, at Franklin. He m. 5 Jan., 1840, Sarah Ann Tate, born in New Hampshire, daughter of Christopher Tate of Franklin county, O. They settled at Perry, O., where they were living in 1860, and had three children:

91

Common Families, Common Problems

The chart illustrates several interconnected family lines. Key names include:

- Top Level:** Lucille Brown, Margaret Fleming, Mary Brown, Thomas Child, Margaret Brown, John Will.
- Second Level:** Henry Brown, Elizabeth Johnson, May Brown, Thomas Child, Joseph Will, Elizabeth Brown, John Will.
- Third Level:** Abigail Brown, Edward Johnson, John Child, Elizabeth White, Benjamin Child, Jr., John Will, Mary Child, Joseph Child, Elizabeth Brown, John May (IV), May Child, Joseph Child, Elizabeth Brown, John Will.
- Fourth Level:** Abigail Reynolds, John Child, Elizabeth Child, Elizabeth Child, John May (IV), May Child, Joseph Child, Elizabeth Brown, John Will, Elizabeth Brown, Daniel Brown, Robert Brown, Elizabeth Brown, John Will.
- Fifth Level:** Sarah Child, Judith Moore, Dorothy Child, Henry Child, Darius Child, Peter Child, Mary Child, Stephen May, Elizabeth Brown, Daniel Brown, Robert Brown, Elizabeth Brown, John Will.
- Sixth Level:** Lyle Moore, Wilbur Child, Luther Child, Pamela Child, Ann Thorton Child, Susanna Lynn, Henry Thorton Child, Bill Blue Fox, Elizabeth Brown, Daniel Brown, Robert Brown, Elizabeth Brown, John Will.
- Seventh Level:** William Chapin Child, Lucy Belle Brady, Henry Thorton Child (II), Elizabeth Paine Holden, William Chapin Child (II), Joy Dolores Childender, Christopher Childender Child, Adena Child.

92

Local Histories

93

Clarence Winthrop Bowen

- History of Woodstock
- Genealogies of Woodstock Families (vol. 2-6)
- Volumes 7 & 8
- Availability of Resources



94

Bowen's Manuscript

- 53 boxes (Mss 1007)
- Copies of daguerreotypes
- Letters
- Draft Genealogies
- More information than in published volumes

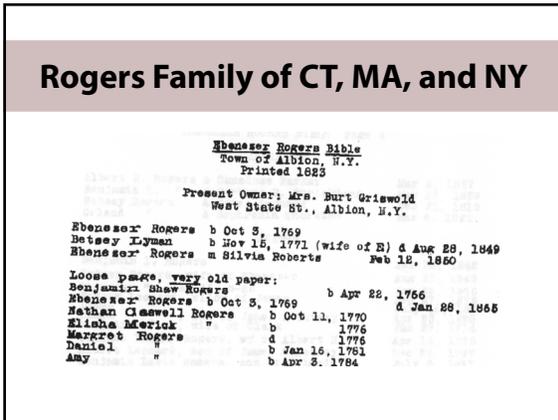


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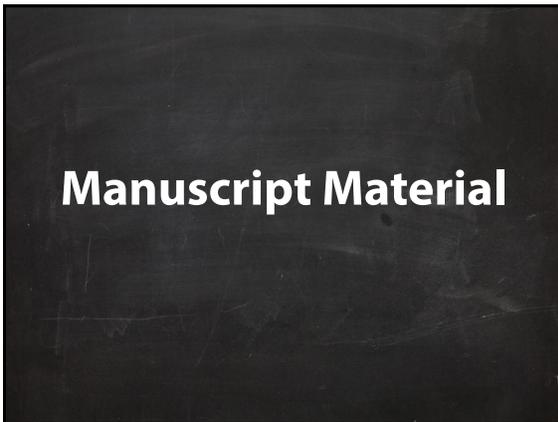
Tip

Not all Connecticut Problems will be solved in Connecticut

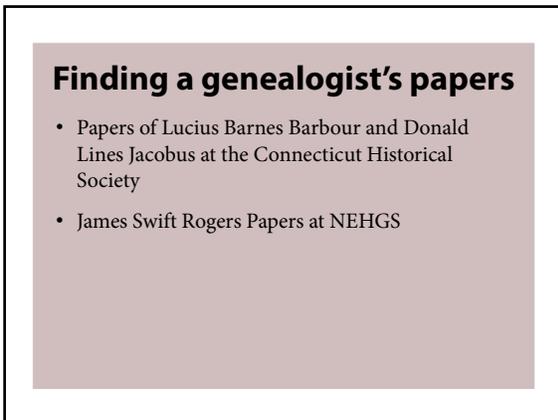
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98



99

Manuscript Papers

100

Manuscript Papers

101

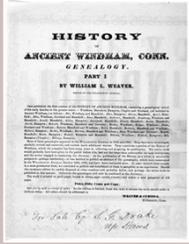
Manuscript Material by Locality

- Charles Dyer Parkhurst on the New London area
- “Family Records of Ancient Windham,” by Jonathan Clark (1802-1859) [only at Connecticut State Library]
- David Williams Patterson manuscript on families of East Haddam [only at Connecticut Historical Society]

102

Other genealogies in Newspapers

- William Weaver, *History of Ancient Windham, Connecticut, Part 1, A-Bil(lings)* (1864)
- Later articles in the *Willimantic Journal*

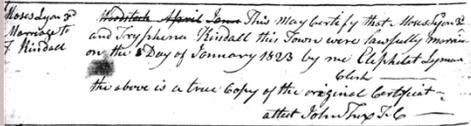


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Strategies

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Use of Suffixes
1823 Marriage of Moses Lyon 3rd



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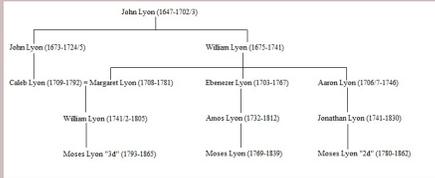
Moses Lyon 3rd (1793-1865)

- First Moses in Ancestral Line Moses⁶ Lyon (*William⁵, Caleb⁴, John³⁻², William¹*)
- Called “3d” from first marriage through the 1830s, then called “2d” until the early 1860s, then no suffix



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Third youngest in town



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The parents of Mrs. Tryphena Kendall Paine

- No birth or first marriage record, and no parents on 1849 death record
- First husband Eli Kendall dies 1808, marries secondly 1809, Amos Paine
- Parents given in 1932 genealogy



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Tryphena's brother

- In 1880 genealogy on her second husband's family, she is identified as a sister of General William Eaton (1764-1811),
- William was born at Woodstock, son of Nathaniel and Sarah
- Amos Paine published William's biography



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the husband of a sister of Gen. Eaton (1813)

THE COMPILER'S PREFACE.

—•••••

GEN. EATON expired, June 1st, 1811. Shortly after his decease, several gentlemen, who having a just, entertained a high opinion of his talents and services, expressed a wish to see a history of his life and achievements, believing that in his numerous manuscripts there were ample materials, by judicious selection, for a biography of his life and a relation of its principal events, that were worthy preservation: hoping at the same time that a volume might be published of sufficient interest to defray the expense of publication, and perhaps yield a profit that might do much towards educating his orphan children. Major AMOS PAINE of Woodstock, (Conn.) the husband of a sister of GEN. EATON, from regard to the family, and solely with a hope of rendering it a service, offered to risk the expense of publication. Having been intimately acquainted with EATON, and with

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Review

1. The 19th Century in Connecticut had a large shift in the overall population and in overall recordkeeping
2. Keep a wide net, see what other records are available for the families and towns you are interested in.

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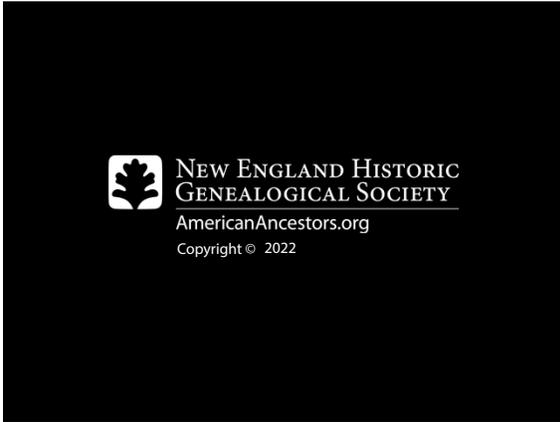
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